

MODEL AERONAUTICAL
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.

Newsletter

NO. 03/2012

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Manual of Procedures

The Manual of Procedures is a "live" document and is continually being updated. Please check the MAAA web site from time to time to ensure that you are aware of the latest editions of the documents. The MAAA has recently released the following new and amended documents in the Manual of Procedures:

MOP057 – Insurance Conditions. Amended to reflect the operations of FPV and SGMA's. In addition, details of the amount of Insurance excess were included.

MOP066 First Person View (FPV) Policy and MOP067 SGMA Policy. Amendment to the definition of 'Visual Line of Sight'.

MOP058 2.4GHz Equipment. Acceptance of Futaba and Align S-FHSS Radio Systems technology.

Form MAAA 011 Incident Investigation Form. To eliminate the need to request additional standard information following an Incident, the form was amended to include the necessary items of information required.

Membership Renewals and Cards

The 2012/13 Membership renewal period started at a rapid pace and has remained that way with over of 70% of renewals, based on last year's figures, completed as of the end of July.

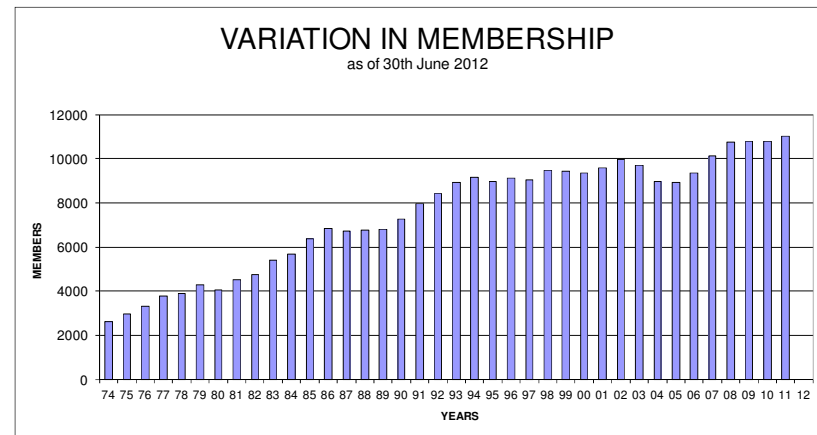
The membership cards currently being used are the last of a batch of 20,000 pre-printed cards, with approximately 1,100 cards remaining to be used over the next month. This batch of cards still indicates that the Insurance excess payable by a member for any one Public Liability claim is \$250.00. This figure was increased to \$500.00 at the 2011 Council Conference prior to the 2011/12 membership period.

Notice of this change was contained in the Council Minutes and published in the MAAA Newsletter.

The Insurance excess is reviewed each year by Council and at the 2012 Council Conference it was agreed that the Insurance excess of \$500.00 would be retained. The subject of the remaining membership cards was raised and Council elected to use the remaining cards rather than discard them. The re-drafting of the new membership cards, to be printed in August 2012, has been completed and all monetary amounts have been removed from the text of the card.

Information regarding the Insurance excess is now contained in MOP057 Insurance Conditions which is available on the MAAA website at www.maaa.asn.au

MAAA Membership at the end of the 2011/12 period – 11,014.



Outcomes from Reported Incidents

Details from the latest Incident reports indicate a rise in propeller strikes to fingers, arms and legs. Electric models tend to be the largest contributor to these incidents. A simple check that the throttle is fully closed before arming an electric model would have eliminated the pain experienced by a few of our members.

In addition:

- Be alert when operating a new, larger model with an increased diameter propeller. It has been suggested that painting the propeller tips may help reduce this type of propeller strike, however continued vigilance is also needed in these circumstances.
- Please don't attempt to stop running engines by bending over and grasping the spinner.

These are some of the actions which have caused serious injuries recently.

Due to the increase in propeller related accidents, the MAAA Executive have adopted a past safety theme for the next three months, "Spinning Propellers are Dangerous".

Heavy Model Aircraft Inspection

The MAAA single page Permit to Fly (MAAA038) has been in operation for well over a year now and used by FW and RW Inspectors. It is important to note that the Permit to Fly is the Certificate issued at the completion of a satisfactory inspection.

The inspection itself is carried out using the appropriate check list for the type of model. Each check list indicates items which need to be inspected at the time of the initial inspection and also those which must be actioned at the beginning of a flying session and before every flight.

Reports are occasionally received that Inspectors are not carrying out the inspections fully in accordance with the procedures and this could have implications in the event of a subsequent problem. It does not matter how good the model appears to be or who the owner is, it is important that Inspectors ensure they have used the appropriate check list for the model type when carrying out any inspection.

66th Nationals – NSW Associations

The 66th Nationals held in NSW during the 2012/13 period will be a split event.

Control Line events are being held in Albury from 28 December 2012 to 3 January 2013.

Free Flight events are being held at Narrandera from 3-8 January 2013. For more information contact the Nationals Free Flight and Control Line Coordinator, Brian Ether, at brianea@optusnet.com.au

Radio Control events are to be run by the R/C Special Interest groups who will coordinate their own individual events at various locations throughout the year. Details and advice will be available from MAS NSW when finalised.

Competition Rules Year

Members are reminded that 2012/13 is a Competition Rules year. Australian competition rules are available through the MAAA web site www.maaa.asn.au All disciplines are requested to review their particular section of the rules and make any suggested amendments through the relevant Subcommittee. Subcommittee members for the discipline should collectively review all amendments prior to submitting the final recommendations to the MAAA Secretary by February 2013. All received recommendations will be added to the MAAA agenda to be presented to the MAAA Rules Conference in May 2013.

2013 F3D Pylon Team Trials

AMPRA and the MAAA Pylon Subcommittee will be running the team selection process for the 2013 World Championships to be held in the Netherlands. The following team trial events will be held: State Championship events in Victoria or Queensland; these events are all scheduled to be run in the August to October 2012 period.

The third team trial will be a special trial event as a replacement for the Nationals at a suitable time to be held in Cohuna Vic, between September and November 2012. For full details see the AMPRA web site. ampra.org.au

2013 Free Flight Team Trials

The remaining events in the multi team trials are:
Queensland Dalby 20.23 September F1A, F1B, F1C
New South Wales State Championships
Springhurst 29 Sept-1 October F1A, F1B, F1C

World / Continental Championships and Trans Tasman Events Calendar

2012	
EVENT	Awarded to
F1D	Serbia – Belgrade Dates: 9 to 14 Aug
F2A, F2B, F2C, F2D	Bulgaria – Primorsko Dates: 25 Aug to 1 Sept
F3J	South Africa – Rustenburg Dates: 29 July – 5 August
F4C	Spain – Santa Cilia Airfield Dates: 3 – 12 August
F5B, F5D	Romania – Buzau Dates: 7 – 15 September
Space Models	Slovakia – Liptovsky Mikulas Dates: 31 August 9 September
F3A Asia – Oceanic	Philippines – Bacolod City Dates: 6 – 12 May
F3C Asia – Oceanic	Offers Invited
F1 Trans Tasman	Location Dates: Narrandera Easter 2012

2013	
EVENT	Awarded to
F1 A,B & C	France – Dates: 3 – 10 August
F3A	South Africa – Dates: 15 – 25 August
F3B	Germany – Dates: 1 – 11 August
F3C/N	Poland – Dates: TBA
F3D	Netherlands – Dates: TBA
F3K	Denmark

2014	
EVENT	Awarded to
F1D	Romania
F2 A,B,C &D	Poland
F3F	Slovakia
F3J	Slovakia
F4C	France
F5B & D	Austria
Space Models	Bulgaria
F3A Asia – Oceanic	Thailand
F3C Asia – Oceanic	Offers Invited

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