



MINUTES OF A MAASA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 JANUARY 2009

Venue: Cape Gate, Cape Town
Date: 14 January 2009
Time: 19:00
Minutes by: Bernus vd Westhuizen

1. Welcome

Kas opened the meeting at 19:00 and bid everyone welcome to the first 2009 meeting of the MAASA Committee.

2. Present

Kas Hamman (Chairman)
Bernus van der Westhuizen (Secretary)
Rodney Potter (Treasurer)
Christo Rust (Chief Judge)
Stuart Nix (WP Regional Representative)

3. Apologies

John Brink (International PRO)

4. MAASA Committee

The resignations from the committee tendered by Pierre Marais and Paula Bester were duly accepted.

Posts currently vacant on committee are that of Vice Chairperson, PRO and Contest Director (currently filled by Danie Potgieter senior, on a co-opted basis)

Christo will update the MAASA website with the relevant information.

A new committee, except Christo Rust, will be elected at the 2009 AGM to be held in Port Elizabeth at the end of April.

5. Appointment of Christo Rust as a Judge at 2009 World Championships

Kas congratulated Christo Rust upon his appointment as a judge at the 2009 world championships in Portugal.

The list of F3A FAI judges for 2009/10 has been submitted to John Brink in November 2008 and will be available on the FAI website by May 2009. The names submitted were:

Christo Rust
Ivan Olivier
Kas Hamman
Paul Hearn

An amount of R5000 was allocated towards costs, by the committee, to allow a judges scribe to attend the 2007 world championships. This resulted in Christo Rust being elected as a judge for the 2009 world championships. The committee felt that it was R5000 well spent and decided to follow the same approach for the 2009 championships, in order to give feed back to our pilots.

6. WC F3A Team & Appointment of team Manager

The current status of the F3A pilots, eligible for the F3A team to the 2009 world championships, is available on the MAASA web site. In order to streamline the arrangements for the team, the committee felt it necessary to appoint a team manager rather earlier than later. Christo will approach the top pilots to get a commitment from them as to who is available for selection, after which the Committee will take a decision and Kas will report back to the members regarding the process that will be followed to appoint a team manager.

7. MAASA and SAAMA contributions to WC Team 2009

Kas will correspond with SAMAA regarding sponsorship of the 2009 team attending the world championships. Depending on the outcome of the SAMAA talks, the MAASA contribution to each pilot will be in the region of R5000, depending on available funds.

8. WC MAASA Scribe 2009

Following their decision to improve the quality of judging in South Africa, the committee decided to allocate R5000 (as they had done in 2007) for a local judge to attend the world championships as a scribe. The balance of the expenses will be for his/her own account.

Christo will discuss the matter with John Brink and report back. He will then send notifications to all judges with a rating of 3 and higher to apply.

9. Promotion of Sportsman and Advanced classes

The committee decided that a pilot in the sportsman or advanced category may be promoted to the next class if he or she ends the years' flying activities on an average of 60% or higher. An invitation to the SA Masters consequently indicates an automatic promotion to the next category for these two classes. Pilots that received invitations to participate in the 2008 SA Masters in

Sportsman & Advanced classes, will according to the new ruling have to compete in the next higher class during the 2009 season.

The criteria for promotion from Expert to F3A remain at 65%.

The decision will be implemented with immediate effect. The necessary changes will be made to the relevant documents (including the Sporting Code) and posted on the MAASA web site.

10. Progress with update of the constitution

Updates agreed on at the 2008 AGM have been implemented and posted on the web site. As per usual there will be an update of the constitution after the 2009 AGM in order to implement and legalise any new decisions taken.

11. Update of Sporting Code

Any suggestions received up until the end of January, will be communicated and discussed. Kas will then communicate with Burt Botha to go ahead to amend and finalise the Sporting Code.

12. Regional and other membership issues

Rodney mentioned that all membership fees are payable before the end of January 2009. Only the scores of pilots in good standing will be considered for the scoring register. It is the responsibility of the regional representatives to handle this matter.

In order to attract more pilots to the sport, the committee decided to allow non-members to compete in the Sportsman category at monthly and league competitions. For obvious reasons, the scores attained in this manner, by such non-members, will not be registered on the scoring register. It will however, allow a potential future member to become part of the aerobatic fraternity.

Through first hand competition flying experience such a pilot would be able to decide whether or not he/she wants to become a member of MAASA. To be eligible for competing in a provincial or national event however, he or she will have to join MAASA.

13. Development of new schedules for 2010/2011

André Stockwell was formally tasked with the development of the new schedules for 2010.

As Chief Judge, Christo Rust will evaluate and have the new schedules tested to ensure that the standard is on par and that time limits can be met. Ratification and final approval will take place at the 2009 Masters, after demo flights have been flown.

14. Training of Judges

Christo Rust, will look into the matter. It will be communicated with the regional representatives and judges in the different provinces.

Christo will also liase with Walter van Huysteen regarding the scoring program and its ability to analyse the judging as well.

15. Latest MAASA membership info

Rodney provided bank statements with regard to payments by members. Bernus was tasked with compiling a new membership list by the end of January and circulating the information to the regional representatives to follow up.

16. Scrapping of membership cards

The current system of issuing yearly membership cards will be terminated as from 2009 onwards. As soon as the new and updated membership register is completed, it will be posted on the MAASA web site. Additionally the Committee will investigate with the MAASA, SIG Committee if a MAASA members' number could be printed on his/her SAMAA card.

17. Process to update National scores and proficiency information

The process is up and running. Information, scores and individual positions are being posted on the web site on a regular basis.

18. Membership Fees

The Committee confirmed that, unless amended at the 2009 AGM, the MAASA membership fees for the 2009 season will be as follows:

Sportsman	-	R300
All other categories	-	R600
Pensioners	-	R150
Students	-	R100
Officials	-	R150

Joining fees are to be scrapped. The necessary changes will be made to the constitution at the 2009 AGM.

19. Progress report on arrangements for 2009 NATS

According to the organisers all the arrangements are according to plan.

The 2009 AGM will take place, together with the pilots briefing, the night before the competition starts. This arrangement will save money, as well as ensuring that all participating pilots are present.

Christo will shortly initiate the process of inviting judges to the 2009 NATS.

20. Agenda points for 2009 AGM

Kas will circulate an invitation to all members to submit topics to be discussed at the AGM.

21. Honorary Membership

Two applications were received for honorary membership. Both applications were turned down by the committee for not meeting the criteria as set out in the constitution.

22. Future handling of the MAASA web site

John Goodwin, Christo Rust and Stuart Nix are to finalise and formalise the web site. All regional representatives will be asked to provide information to John Goodwin in order to promote the sport through the web site as well.

Score and recording keeping is up and running. Information, scores and individual positions are being posted on the web site on a regular basis.

23. Closure of meeting

Kas thanked everyone for their contribution and attendance and closed the meeting at 20:45.