

7. Standing Items

7.1 Chairman's Report

Refer to Appendix A for the Chairman's report.

Sebastian Sacca thanked John Brink for his leadership and contribution to the Sport during his tenure.

7.2 Treasurer's Report

Bertie Viljoen presented the financial statements and Proposed Budget for 2012/13.

Refer to Appendix B for the detail Financial reports.

8 Matters for Discussion

8.1 Proposed amendments to the Constitution.

The following Constitutional amendments were tabled:

a. Membership (Typo correction)

Proposed by: John Brink

Paragraph 6b states "Membership is Constitutional on:".

It should read "Membership is Conditional on:".

Vote:

In favour: The Majority vote was in favour of the amendment.

b. Electronic Referendum

Proposed by: Grant Brook

Proposal 1a

Add the following clause under Item 14. Association meetings"

14 c Electronic referendum: will be arranged by the Committee when required or if so requested in writing by at least six members of the Association. The quorum for an electronic referendum will be 20 members.

An electronic referendum shall have a deadline of not more than 7 days from initial request. The referendum shall be forwarded to regional representatives for distribution. The referendum shall be an open ballot with the individual names and votes (for/against/abstain) to be published on the MAASA website (or distributed to regional representatives if no website exists) within 7 days of the closing date of the electronic referendum.

Motivation: The purpose of the change is to empower the committee to make changes by electronic media after due consultation with the membership in lieu of calling a special meeting. This change is in line with the current requirement for Special meetings.

Vote:

Members present: 28

Opposed: 7 Votes

In favour: 15 Votes

Vote % = $15/28 = 53.6\%$ which is less than the required 2/3 majority of members present as required per the Constitution paragraph 15b.

This proposed amendment shall not be implemented.

8.2 Sporting Code changes

8.2.1 Schedules Changes

Proposed by: Grant Brook

Proposal 1a:

"Sporting Code paragraph 16.7 At League events, F3A pilots may elect which schedules ("P" and /or "F") they want to fly and must make their preference known before the start of the contest."

Change to:

"16.7 At League events, including Provincial Championships, F3A pilots shall fly two "P" schedules followed by two "F" schedules as time permits (PPFF)"

Motivation: We should expect the highest standards from our F3A pilots and this should be synonymous with flying the F schedule. Flying the F schedule at Provincial and League events will assist to familiarise the judges with that schedule leading to a better standard of judging at Team Selection events. This will reduce the number of flights flown at Provincials and allow more pilots to compete. It will simplify the scheduling at Provincial and local competitions allowing all pilots to complete their rounds together.

Vote:

Opposed: 3 Votes

In favour: Majority Votes

Proposal 1b:

Failing the acceptance of proposal 1a the alternative proposal to change 16.7 as follows:

"16.7 At League events, including Provincial Championships, F3A pilots can either choose to fly a "P" schedule only (PPP(P)) or to fly a PPF(F) format. Pilots electing to fly the "P" schedule only format will automatically be graded below the pilots that elect to fly the PPF(F) format. Pilots electing to fly the "P" only format can qualify for Masters according to the laid down criteria. Pilots need to have flown the PPF(F) schedules in 3 consecutive masters qualifying events prior to a team selection event in order to be eligible to fly in fly-off rounds at team selection events.

Motivation: As above

Vote: Proposal 1a was accepted thus proposal 1b is not applicable.

Proposal 1c:

That if either proposal 1a or proposal 2b is approved that the approved proposal be implemented immediately after the 2012 National Championships.

Motivation: The changes can be made without affecting team selection events and have majority support.

In the event of the acceptance of either proposals 1a or 1b it will be necessary to make a few housekeeping changes and consideration can be given to amending other classes if supported by the meeting.

Vote:

In favour: Majority Votes

Proposal 2a:

Changes to Appendix A: defining the current schedules to be changed as follows:

"13 Classification at Provincial and National Competitions"

Change to

"13 Classification at Team Selection Events"

Motivation: This is the only place that mentions Provincial events and National Competitions together. Also, the format for Masters Competitions is not defined anywhere in the sporting code. This change will allow the existing fly-off schedules to be used at Nationals and Masters while allowing schedules for Provincial competitions to be simplified as previously approved.

Vote:

Not applicable as a result of the vote for proposal 1a.

Proposal 2b:

Subject to the approval of Proposal 1a:

It is proposed that the Masters class adopt the full "P" schedule.

Motivation: The "P" schedule will provide a platform for moving to F3A without having to learn two schedules at once.

Once a competitor feels comfortable with the "P" schedule he/she can start learning the F schedule with the intention of competing in F3A.

Vote:

Opposed: 8 Votes

In favour: Majority Votes

Proposal 2c:

Subject to the approval of proposal 2b:

Advanced schedules to be replaced by the A12 schedule.

Motivation: The main reason for doing this is to make space for the P schedule to be flown in the Masters class. At first look the A12 schedule may look daunting but on closer inspection the elements in the A12 are very similar to those in the current Advanced schedule. A triangle loop with a full roll at the top (K3) becomes a triangle loop with a full roll at the bottom (k4). An end manoeuvre with an up line snap (k3) turns into a centre manoeuvre with an up line snap (k4), etc.

Vote:

Opposed: 0 Votes

In favour: Majority Votes

Note: The applicable schedule for 2013 will be the A14 schedule and not the A12 schedule.

Proposal 2d:

Subject to the approval of 2c above it is proposed that as a result of the change pilots be allowed to move from Masters class to Advanced/Expert class in order to continue flying the A12 schedule and that they should be allowed to keep any scores that they achieved in the Masters class before the proposed change.

Motivation: Allow existing Masters pilots to keep their masters qualification scores despite changes to the schedules.

Vote:

Not applicable as the change will only come into effect as from January 2013.

Proposal 2e:

The F3A schedule be amended to reflect the decision made in proposal 1.

Refer to Proposals 1a-c above.

Proposal 2f:

Each of the above proposals 2a to 2d (if approved) shall be considered for implementation immediately after the 2012 Nationals.

Vote:

Opposed: Majority (27) Votes

In favour: -

8.2.2 Model Weight – Sporting Code paragraph 4.4

Proposed by : Neil Allen

Current Rule:

In Para 4.4 of the sporting code the maximum weight be not as per current rules, which are 5000g for F3A class and 5500 for other pattern classes.

Proposed Amendment:

For F3A team selection counting events only, the maximum weight be 5000g.

For all other events in MAASA pattern the maximum weight be 7000g.

The 1% weighing allowance still applies.

Motivation

This is the exact wording of the rules flown by the GBRCAA, the UK Pattern authority. The reasons are clear. For team selection, all entrants must rigidly obey the FAI rules.

For all other classes we are trying to be INCLUSIVE of all prospective flyers, not EXCLUSIVE by finding nit picking

rules to throw people out of our event who do not buy expensive equipment.

Wolfgang Matt considers the ideal weight for an F3A plane to be 4500g. This means that the more over that weight a plane is, the bigger the handicap to the entrant. I have a friend who has an electric powered Genesis built from copy mouldings for the fus, and foam and balsa wings. It weighs 6300g. Why can he not fly it in Sportsman? He accepts the disadvantage of the higher weight, and will live with it until he can afford to upgrade to lighter plane. It actually flies smoothly, and would make a lovely pattern trainer for him.

In other words this proposal hurts no-one, and opens up Pattern to more new flyers, which can only be good.

Vote:

Opposed: Majority (35) Votes

In favour: 1

8.3 MAASA INCENTIVE SCHEME

Proposed by: Andre' Stockwell

The purpose of the incentive scheme is to promote Aerobatics in South Africa.

The incentive scheme is applicable to judges and the pilots.

Overview

Due to the fact that South African Sport is very isolated from international events, MAASA is proposing the following incentive scheme to change the situation.

The isolation is mainly due to our geographical position, our weak currency and the economic situation.

Goals for the Incentive Scheme are:

- i. To create an opportunity to improve the standard of flying and judging in South Africa.
- ii. To give recognition to pilots and judges for consistent good performance over a defined period.
- iii. To promote "South African" Aerobatics internationally. The 2013 World Champs, Bob Skinner being the CIAM President, Wolfgang Matt's participation in the 2011 Nats, Dave Lockhart participation are all factors working in our favour.

Proposal

MAASA propose to budget every alternate year (Non World Champs Year), an amount of R15000 (TBDL) to be shared between a judge and a pilot to be used to support the candidates to judge and participate at international events.

The nominations will be done on a rolling basis, which means that a candidate will not be nominated twice in a given period as an example 5 years (TBDL). Should a candidate not accept the nomination, the next candidate will be nominated.

Selection Process

Judge Nomination

1. The highest ranked Judge during a flying season will be nominated.
2. The selection criteria will be based on the following:
 - a. The number of National and Provincial events the judge has judged at.
 - b. The consistency of the judge while judging at the events. (The Chief Judge to extract the information from the judging analysis program)
 - c. The number of workshops / clinics the judge presented during the period.

or

- d. Nominated by the MAASA Committee.

Pilot Nomination

1. The highest ranked F3A pilot during a flying season will be nominated.
2. The selection criteria will be based on the following:

The preceding years Masters and the following year's Masters events scores will be added together to determine the ranking point. Thus the maximum ranking point will be 2000 points

Expectations

The candidates who made use of the incentive scheme must present workshops to share their experiences and knowledge obtained during their attendance at such events with the aerobatics fraternity.

Vote:

It was suggested that this proposal be further refined to also consider Junior pilots.

8.4 Membership Fees

Based on the 2012 budget, the current bank balance and the current membership count it was decided not to change the membership fees for the following year.

The chairman highlighted the fact that the membership fees remained unchanged for the last 3 years and that escalating costs of events need to be taken into account in future.

9 Election of the Office Bearers

Due to the fact that John Brink would like to focus on the 2013 F3A World Championships here in South Africa, he was not available for re-election.

The following vacancies had to be filled:

- Chairman.
- Vice Chairman (Arthur Eggar was co-opted as Vice Chairman for the interim.)
- Treasurer

The following nominations were received:

9.1 Chairman

- Arthur Eggar
- Burt Botha

The majority vote was in favour of Arthur Eggar.

9.2 Vice Chairman

- Andre' Stockwell

The majority vote was in favour of Andre' Stockwell.

9.3 Secretary

Due to Andre's nomination as Vice Chairman, the Secretary position became vacant.

- Richard Wiedemann

The majority vote was in favour of Richard Wiedemann.

9.4 Treasurer

- Nazeem Harris

The majority vote was in favour of Nazeem Harris.

The other MAASA management positions remained unchanged.

John thanked the outgoing committee members for the work they have done during their tenure.

10 General

10.1 International Participation at SA NATS and Masters.

In future the highest ranked South African F3A pilots will be awarded the "South African National Champion" award and should an international contestant win the F3A class, a separate "South African F3A Open Champion" award will be awarded (non floating trophy).

10.2 NATS and Masters Entry Fees

Rescind the decision taken at the 2008 AGM as contained in 8c of the minutes to restrict the entry fee to the Nationals and Masters to R350.

Reasons:

- a) The decision does not define what services the fee covers.
- b) It is unreasonable to bind organizers to an amount when there are factors such as inflation, cost of transport, judges expenses and remuneration, etc. to consider.

Vote:

In favour: Majority

- 10.2 Vintage and Classic Pattern - Marc Wolffe

Marc gave a brief overview what he would like to propose in terms of the Vintage and Classic Patter Class and how to integrate it into the MAASA program. Marc was tasked to formulate a proposal and distribute it for comments after which further actions will be taken.

11 Closure

The meeting closed at 18.20

Minutes Approval:

Name:

Name:

APPENDIX A: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Dear Members,

Once again it is my pleasure and privilege to report on the Committee's and my activity during the past year.

The year started on a high note following on Wolfgang's visit, the awarding of the 2013 World championship to South Africa and the selection of a strong team to represent us at the 2011 W/C's in the USA, where we represented on the judges panel by Christo. This event was reported on separately and need not be repeated except to note that the team conducted themselves in a professional manner, did their utmost to achieve a good placing against severe competition, and we can be proud of their dedication to our sport.

Following on this it was decided to place more emphasis on our judging standards and ability. To this end Ivan has worked tirelessly to recruit new judges, has held many clinics and training sessions in KZN and Gauteng. As finances permit this activity needs to be extended to the other provinces. Ivan has been invited to judge at the AOC Championship during September in the Philippines. There is a shortfall in our funding for this trip and additional finance is urgently required. Members are also invited to compete in this event and entries close at the end of this month.

During the year regular committee meetings were held, and the minutes were published, so there is no need to repeat them. With the new FAI schedules and revised Sporting Code, considerable work was done to update our Sporting Code to fall in line. A big thank you to Andre' for all his time and efforts in compiling this, and his ongoing secretarial work.

Also proposals were sought for our team selection program for 2013 and based upon the responses received the committee implemented the current process. In line with international practice we recommend that except for urgent reasons a rule freeze be applied that is only revised every two years in line with the FAI system.

At the October committee meeting I advised that due to a mounting workload relating to preparations for the 2013 World Championships, I would be standing down as Chairman from this year. At that time the vice-chairman decided to pursue other aviation interests.

Despite numerous requests this vacancy was only recently filled when we co-opted Arthur Eggar. Thank you Arthur for stepping in and I trust you will be available to continue.

Our treasurer has had extreme difficulty in obtaining older bank statements due to lack of co-operation from the previous treasurer. The incoming committee needs to apply itself to resolve this dilemma, so that up to date information on our financial situation is always available. This being said Bertie must be commended for his hard work in controlling our finances and ensuring we have a sound balance in the bank. Stuart has tackled his role as domestic PRO with enthusiasm, has maintained and updated the website and provided many graphic design services.

Thank you to Christo for maintaining the national scoring register and his contributions during the year.

Lastly but most importantly Oom Danie for his ever present CD duties at local, provincial and national competitions. He is a tireless organiser and worker and much of what you are enjoying at these Nationals is due to his efforts.

Internationally South African precision aerobatics has created an awareness with new found friends and supporters. This year we have the honour of Tom-Erik Sorensen judging our Nationals with a promise of Peter Uhlig judging at the Masters. This will ensure we are up to speed and in sync. with international standards. We have also been represented on the SAMAA Sig`s committee, which is using our constitution as a model for the other disciplines.

I would also like to thank the GAA for the manner they jumped in to assist with the organization of these Nationals, the efficiency with which they manage their association, and their dedication to improve and publicize our sport.

The KZN association, North West, Free State and Western province have run successful championships and need all our support to grow in their regions.

Finally a big thank you to all our sponsors, Aerial Concepts, Arthur Eggar, Iain Pepper, Pierre Fouche` and all those who have contributed time and effort enabling us to enjoy our sport.

Best regards, and happy flying.

John

APPENDIX B : TREASURER'S REPORT

Refer to the MAASA Website for the 2011-2012 financial statements and the Budget for 2013.