



MINUTES OF THE MAASA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010

Venue: The Lost Treasure (Stilfontein)

Date: 2010-04-22

Minutes by: Andre' Stockwell

1. Welcome

Kas welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that when it comes to voting only members may cast their vote and trusted that the voting will be done honestly.

2. Present

Kas Hamman (Chairman)	Roston Dugmore	Andre' Watchen
Burt Botha (Vice Chairman)	Neil Allen	Dean Grobbelaar
Christo Rust (Chief Judge)	Neil Collins	Derrick Grobbelaar
Danie Potgieter (Snr) (CD)	Danie Potgieter (Jnr.)	Timothy Hamman
John Brink (Int. PRO)	Marc Wolffe	Nick Vauquelin
F C Hamman (Nat. PRO)	Stuart Nix	Gerrie Maritz
Pierre Marais	Gregg Moss	Kobus Malan
Leon Pierre Coetzee	Nick Vauquelin	Calvin Schroll
Johan Britz	Danie Steyn	Siegfried Schroll
Walter van Huyssteen	Bertie Viljoen	Pierre Fouche'
Paul Hearn	Kobus Booysen	Stephanus Coetzee
Nico Erasmus	Ian Pepper	Gerhard Venter
Carl Nicholl	Jordan Pepper	John Clements
Mark Hubbard	Quintin Schroll	Sebastiano Sacca
Andre' Stockwell		

3. Apologies

Ivan Olivier	Stephan Coetzee	Chris Zurinkas
Rodney Potter (Treasurer)	Francois van Pletzen	Werner Venter
Bernus v/d Westhuizen (Secretary)	Neville Kahn	Rui Martins
Nazeem Harris		

4. Proxy Votes

Proxy Votes were received from:

Rui Martins, Stepan Coetzee, Francois van Pletzen and Lynton Milner.

5. Matter Arising from Previous Minutes

All relevant matters were included in the agenda

6. Acceptance of minutes of the Previous Minutes

Burt Botha proposed the minutes as read and seconded by Mark Hubbard.

7. Standing Items

7.1 Chairman's Report

Refer to Appendix A for the Chairman's report.

7.2 Treasurer's Report

Burt Botha presented an overview of the report.

Arial Concepts was thanked for its sponsorship towards the NATS.

The balance as at 7th April 2010 was approximately R35000. All costs for the NATS has already been paid.

The financial statements have not been audited as prescribed by the constitution.

Burt Botha suggested that the applicable paragraph in the Constitution be reviewed in order reduce costs.

Refer to Appendix B for the Treasurer's report.

8 Matters for Discussion

8.1 Proposed amendments to the Constitution.

8.1.1 Proposal 1 proposed by Andre' Stockwell

14. Association Meetings

a. The Annual General Meeting: will be held Annually at the National Championships. At this meeting, the Annual report will be presented; matters of importance will be discussed, Constitutional changes approved and the Management Committee appointed. A quorum for this meeting is 20members.

to be amended as follows:

a. The Annual General Meeting: will be held Annually at the National Championships. At this meeting, the Annual report will be presented; matters of importance will be discussed **and voted on (if required)**, Constitutional changes approved and the Management Committee appointed. A quorum for this meeting is 20 members.

Proposal accepted by majority vote.

8.1.2 Proposal 2 proposed by Andre' Stockwell

The proposal was to delete Paragraph 14b, seeing that it has never occurred and there seems to be no need for it.

14.b. Interim Meeting: a minimum of one per year will be arranged and held at a time and place convenient to the majority of the Association Members. Sporting Code quorum of this meeting is 10 members.

Proposal accepted by majority vote.

8.1.3 Proposal 3 proposed by Andre' Stockwell

Add "e-mail" to paragraph 18b

18. Amendment of Constitution

b. Notice specifying the nature of the contemplated amendment, alteration or

substitution shall be circulated to the Members of the Association, within a

reasonable time, to their last known **e-mail** address.

Proposal accepted by majority vote.

8.1.4 Proposal 4 proposed by Christo Rust

Subscriptions Paragraph 7c

Delete : " A joining fee as determined at the Annual General meeting will be payable when joining the association."

Reason: The joining fee has already been abolished but the constitution was not amended at the 2009 AGM. See also paragraph 18 of the MAASA minutes dated 14 January 2009 as well as the latest MAASA application form Issue 9.

Proposal accepted by majority vote.

8.1.5 Proposal 5 proposed by Pierre Marais:

Section 9: International, National and Provincial Championships

Please add; **League** events.

Proposal accepted by majority vote.

8.1.6 Proposal 6 proposed by Pierre Marais:

Section 10: Management Committee

10b The committee shall consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Judge, Contest Director, International PRO and National PRO - totalling 8

Please change Chief Judge to: Judge Official

Vote: 2 for proposal, Majority against

8.1.7 Proposal 7 proposed by Burt Botha:

Section 17: Auditor

Burt proposed that the wording be changed so that it is not necessary for a formal audit process. The MAASA committee has been given the mandate to formulate the appropriate wording and implement it.

8.2 Sporting Code changes

The MAASA committee has been given the mandate to deal with all Sporting code issues.

8.3 Membership Categories and Fees

The MAASA committee has been given the mandate to deal with all Sporting code issues.

9 Feedback and Information

9.1 Judging Clinics and Training Needs

The two Clinics at the end of 2009 in Gauteng and in Cape Town were well attended and it was a valuable learning experience for pilots and judges. Christo proposed to have a clinic at the KNZ provincial later this year. Dean gave feedback that the process followed at the GAA clinic in April worked well and can possibly be adopted in other regions. Two clinics per year are sufficient to ensure consistent judging and to enhance the flying skills of the pilots.

9.2 Improved Communication via the new MAASA Blog.

FC Hamman gave feedback regarding discussion with SAMAA to have a video made of RC flying in general. SAMAA supported the initiative but they don't have the funds to implement it.

MAASA will continue with the initiative with support from the industry and Arial Concepts.

FC has established a Pattern BLOG "wecanfly.co.za" where pattern related issues will be posted. Stuart Nix, Neil Allen and Pierre Fouche will assist FC Hamman in keeping and uploading relevant information on the BLOG.

The MAASA link on the SAMAA website will still be maintained as in the past.

9.3 New MAASA LOGO

Stuart Nix designed a new LOGO for MAASA. The new design will be circulated for comments and feedback after which the committee will make a final decision whether or not to change the LOGO and Branding of MAASA.

Once that decision is taken, Stuart Nix will design, shirts, Caps, Letter heads etc for MAASA.

Thanks to Stuart for the work done so far.

9.4 Membership database

The membership database has been updated and will be circulated to the regional representatives to verify that all the members are listed and that their personal details are correct. Thereafter it will be posted on the MAASA website and updated on a regular basis.

Ian Pepper requested that there should be more communication to new members when they join MAASA confirming that their entry fee was received, membership accepted and to welcome them to the association.

9.5 International News

John Brink serves as the SAMAA delegate to the CIAM for all aero modelling disciplines and also on the RC aerobatics sub-committee covering F3A, F3P & F3M.

John attended the CIAM plenary meeting in Switzerland in April. The P13 and P15 schedules have been finalized and are ready for distribution. The subcommittee is still working on the F13/F15 schedules.

The next World Championships is scheduled for July 2011, which means that your team selection process should be completed by the end of 2010.

John is busy looking at inviting a prominent overseas pilot to come out to SA before the World Championships to train pilots and judges and possibly compete in a National event.

The last F3A World Championships held in SA was in 1979. John's dream is that South Africa (MAASA and SAMAA) host a World Championships in 2013 or 2015. He has already identified a suitable venue for such an event. A tentative bid must be submitted by November .2010 and the final bid by November 2011. Such an event will have a budget of 1.5MR and will attract approximately 200 foreign visitors. It will require a team of approximately 50 people to organize and run the World Championships. Such an event can only be hosted if there is harmony within the association. John mentioned that there are a number of Open International contests where South African pilots can compete, should they want to get international exposure. One such a contest is the Asia Oceanic.

10 General

10.1 Model Weight restrictions proposed by Marc Wolffe:

The maximum all up Weight limit for F3A be increased to 5500g (5.5Kg).

My supporting reasons are as follows: With the advent of electric power being the most common form of propulsion in this class (Internationally), it now requires a much bigger capital investment to compete with this form of propulsion. There are however many cheaper alliterative electric motors /speed controllers and battery combo's that would do just as good a job, but due to their excessive weight, they cannot be considered for use. If we were to increase the permissible flying weight, this in turn would allow these heavier, but cheaper items to be used, thereby lowering the bar for entry into electric powered aerobatics.

In line with this proposal, I would like to suggest that we place on the agenda for the MAASA AGM at Klerksdorp a request to increase the maximum limit of all "MASTERS" aircraft to 5.5Kg – so that we may benefit from the reduced costs for electric's in this category..

The matter was debated and Marc revised his proposal to the increased weight limit to be applicable to all classes except F3A.

The proposal was put to the vote to get a feel for the support for the proposal.

Two members opposed the proposal and the majority was in favour for it. The MAASA committee needs to finalize the matter.

10.2 Date and Venue for the Masters

The Proposed date for the Masters is the 23/24 October 2010 and venue Central Radio Flyers. The Venue still needs to be confirmed. Neil Collins requested that the date be moved one week earlier because of the large scale TOC scheduled for the 30 and 31st October. The committee will finalise the date in the near future and notify all members.

10.3 Lack of communication to members.

Ian Pepper indicated that he received no correspondence or membership cards regarding their membership application and state that it is important to welcome new members to the organization. This issue needs to be addressed by the new committee.

11 Election of the Office Bearers

A secret ballot voting process was followed to elect the following office bearers. Two independent people tallied the votes.

The nominees were:

11.1 Chairman

- John Brink
- Burt Botha

11.2 Vice Chairman

- Quintin Schroll
- Walter van Huysteen

11.3 Chief Judge

- Christo Rust
- Ivan Olivier

11.4 Treasurer

- Bertie Viljoen
- Derick Grobbelaar

11.5 Secretary

- Andre' Stockwell

11.6 CD

- Danie Potgieter (Snr)

The elected office bearers are:

- Chairman: John Brink
- Vice Chairman: Quintin Schroll
- Chief Judge: Christo Rust
- Treasurer: Bertie Viljoen
- Secretary: Andre' Stockwell
- CD: Danie Potgieter (Snr)

Kas Hamman thanked the outgoing committee members for the work they have done. John Brink welcomed the new committee and stated that it is a motivated and committed team.

The goals are to grow MAASA, make aerobatics more enjoyable and to elevate Pattern flying to the premier RC discipline. There will be focus on improved communication and to provide value for money to the members.

12 Closure

The meeting closed at 22:15.

APPENDIX A: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

During the past year the Committee's communication with the regional representatives and members, mostly via email, continued to be as effective as can be expected. During this reporting period the Committee had committee meetings in the Cape Town area in January and April. As now became custom, many "electronic" debates on various matters took place throughout the reporting period. In my view this method of debating issues works reasonably well provided the participating members keep their content and tone of communication constructive. On this point I would like to urge each and everyone of us to use this powerful form of communication wisely and constructively. Avoid using it when you are in conflict with someone, nine out of ten times it makes matters worse.

At last year's fantastic Nationals in Port Elizabeth we had 31 Participants. Cobus Malan, Chris Zurinkas, Bertie Viljoen, Chris Halgreen and Dave Lockhart respectively won Sportsman, Advanced, Expert and F3A and the F3A team selection classes. 23 invited pilots competed keenly in the prestigious 2009 SA Aerobatic Masters in Bloemfontein. Congratulations once again to Freddie Kotze, FC Hamman, Bertie Viljoen and André Stockwell who respectively took the honours in Sportsman, Advanced, Expert and F3A classes. As a result of several requests we decided to move the date for the Masters to 23 & 24 October.

This Nationals is the first team selection event for the 2011 RC aerobatic world championships, so we are going to see some keen competition in the F3A team selection category over the next 4 days. The team manager will be chosen during this event. At the last AGM we added the new Novice class as a mechanism to introduce new interest and participation in the sport. Thus far it seems to work well. New schedules were introduced for all classes for the next two flying seasons and a special thank you to Andre' Stockwell and Christo Rust who assisted him to finalise these schedules. The old Expert class has been converted into the Masters class whereas those participating in F3A will focus mainly on participating in the team selection process.

At the banquet we plan to continue to award and update the SAMAA proficiencies for qualifying MAASA pilots. The MAASA proficiency criteria are on the SAMAA website and outline the qualifying requirements for Bronze, Silver, Gold and Instructor ratings. These proficiency ratings will be awarded to MAASA pilots according to achievements during the previous two years of participation at MAASA recognised national competitions.

It is my pleasure to remind you that this is the third year that Aerial Concepts is the main sponsor and partner for this event – hence the Aerial Concepts National Aerobatic Championships. In the difficult financial times we currently find ourselves in, this substantial sponsorship makes it possible for MAASA and its members to host the kind of high quality and professional event all of us are expecting to experience here in Klerksdorp. A special thank you to the KRF team namely Nico Erasmus, Quintin Schroll and their organising committee for all the hard work and effort that went into making this event a resounding success.

Due to our commitments for the two national competitions, including an additional mid-year team selection event this year, we will have to look very carefully at our finances. The treasurer's Report will address this matter in more detail. In my view we can state with confidence that MAASA is certainly making progress in fulfilling its mandate as a SAMAA, SIG namely to actively promote radio controlled model aircraft aerobatic competition in the interest of the sport and all its members.

A huge thank you to the current but partly outgoing MAASA committee, namely Rodney Potter, Bernus van der Westhuizen, Burt Botha and Danie Potgieter. Thank you also to John Brink, Christo Rust, FC Hamman, you all did a great job in an often unappreciative environment. Thank you also to our regional representatives for your support and hard work during the reporting period. I would like to thank all MAASA members for your interest, challenging debates and enthusiasm that contributed to making us without a doubt the most successful special interest group within the SAMAA structure.

Lastly I would like to end my 3-year tenure as chairman of MAASA by wishing the new chairman and his committee everything of the very best for the hard work that lies ahead of them. Use this opportunity to build on the sound foundation that has been provided to grow and improve RC aerobatic competition in southern Africa for the benefit and enjoyment of everyone interested in this fantastic sport.

I thank you.

Kas Hamman
(Chairman: MAASA)

APPENDIX B : TREASURER'S REPORT

Firstly it is with great regret that I am unable to attend this years Nationals, to deliver my report personally and to participate in the event.

However I wish the Organisers, sponsors, officials, and especially all pilots, the very best and may it be enjoyed by all.

The MAASA bank account reflects a balance of R30 782.54. In my opinion, is not bad, considering what it was when the present committee took the reins.

However I would beg members and new Committee alike not to become complacent as we have been very fortunate in having had a great sponsorship from Aerial Concepts (Dean Grobbelaar) for the past 3 years (including this one) of R15 000.00 PA. Without this, our bank balance would either be in the red or our National event would have been a very mediocre one. So at this point I would like to thank, on behalf of all members, officials and organizers of this event, AERIAL CONCEPTS may they and their business always be blessed.

Although we have the Bank balance as indicated, we still have to cover the cost of the Mid Year Team selection event and the SA Masters event. Also we have to consider that the next World Champs in the USA comes up early in 2011.

My suggestion to the incoming committee is to increase fees from the start of 2011. As opposed to only doing it much later and then playing 'catch up' because a much bigger increase is then necessary.

I have sent a copy of bank statements from date of last report to this one on to Burt Botha who will have a look at it and have it posted on MAASA Web site if required. In closing I would like to thank all MAASA members and Committee members for their continued hard work and support and wish the incoming members all the very best and continue to take MAASA to greater Heights

Kind regards

Treasurer: Rodney Potter