



MAAQ



"KEEPING YOU INFORMED"

Bulletin 14

November 2011

President

The MAAQ has been very busy since my last Bulletin, beginning with the SFI Conference I mentioned last month. I attended as an observer supporting the State SFI Michael Snabaitis who also chaired the meeting in his capacity as Chairman of the Flight Training Committee. I must say it was a new experience being relegated to the back stalls and having to ask for permission to speak and not able to vote. However I must congratulate Michael for running a professional meeting and for getting positive outcomes. I do not wish to steal Michael's thunder so please read his report is below.

The web site now has club listings and locations back on line, but there will still be a need to edit some locations.

Late last month I met with the Manager of the Qld Education School Sport unit to assist with updating the listing of flying model aircraft on their web site as a suggested School Sport. This will lead to another link to the MAAQ further drawing attention to aeromodelling in this State.

At the last meeting there was discussion on some aspects of the proposed rule changes which the Committee will look at and have ready for a final appraisal early next year, for a vote to be taken possibly at the February meeting. Following the Meeting the Secretary and I headed for Warwick where we met and had tea with the President, Secretary and their wives of the recently formed club Warwick Aero Modellers. This enabled them to get to know more of the role MAAQ plays and our role as members of the MAAA Council. The following morning we traveled to their new field location on part of the drag strip at Morgan Park. This is a great location offering both grass and bitumen as well as no noise or over fly restrictions. There was a race in progress on the adjoining race circuit whilst we were there making our noise pale into insignificance. They are very fortunate indeed thanks to the efforts of President Geoff Nothdurft. Brian and I thank Geoff and Peter Earl for their hospitality.

From Warwick we traveled back to Jimboomba where Bruce Yorke and his friendly members had a Bbque lunch ready and waiting. This is a small club on private land with lots of space and a decent airstrip. What they lacked in other facilities was more than made up for by their friendliness and obvious enjoyment of flying their aircraft. Thank you Bruce and members we appreciated your effort on our behalf.

MAAQ recently nominated Chris and Kevin Callow our great achievers in Pylon for sports team of the year with QSPORT, but I am unhappy to announce they were not among the finalists. Perhaps not being recognised as a sport nationally may have had something to do with it, but we are all proud of Chris and Kevin's achievements.

Finally this month the new committee at Bundaberg Aeromodellers Club invited me to attend their Sunday Bbque for a meet and greet and to present wings recently attained. Recipients of Bronze were Graeme Moodie President, George Aplin Vice President, Neil Petersen, Pete Gracie and Allan Cumner (Gold). Congratulations to all.

The Treasurer Barry McDonald also attended and I have attached a photo of the occasion below, showing the President Graeme Moodie receiving his wings.

Our thanks to Graeme, Patti and all members present as it was a large roll up and you all made us welcome. Love that Spitfire Richard and its electric too!

Robin Klau

SFI

On the weekend of 22/23rd October MAAA conducted a Special State Flying Instructor Conference. This was conducted in Brisbane and all state bodies were represented. This was a much needed conference that allowed many of the issues from the Instructional area and the wings system to be discussed and brought up to date in a face to face situation.

A major need for this conference was that the Instructional system and the Wings system are national systems but administered by the various state bodies. Over the years the various state bodies have developed their own methods and definitions of the systems. The outcomes of the conference were that FTS have made decisions on how these two major systems work over the whole of Australia.

The conference made many decisions concerning the training system and the wings proficiency system. These cannot be implemented immediately but will be reviewed by the MAAA executive to ensure that they are not in conflict with any other MAAA policies or procedures and then ratified.

This conference has put into practice many of the ideas and suggestions that have been made by MAAQ members. Now that we have the system working you can be assured that we are listening to our members and willing to put in place policies and procedures that are relevant to the needs of our members and embrace the changes in technology of today and at the same time set up a framework that is able to be modified with changes of the future.

Decisions made at the Conference (yet to be ratified by the MAA executive) include:

- Definitions of the Purpose of Instruction
- Definition of the Role of MAAA Instructors
- Definition of the MAAA Wings Scheme
- Entry to Instructor Courses will be a holder of Gold Wings – Gold Wings Standard is no longer acceptable
- Entry to Instructor Course must be from the members club (Present MAAQ system)
- Current Instructors who wish to renew their knowledge, Club Executives and interested observers can self-nominate to the course.
- The Instructor Course is to become a National course structured on the principles of Teaching People how to Teach. Not assessing how you can fly. This will be based on the Instructional course developed by MAS NSW using resources from the ACTAA ,Qld and Victoria but will be an MAAA developed and owned system.
- A complete library of instructional aids will be developed and be available to all instructors via the web.

- The minimum size of models to be used in the wings system has been defined.
- The Glider Gold Wings will be from either the Slope or Thermal system – Not required to do both. The Glider Sub Committee have discussed at length adopting the LSF system. In discussion with LSF it has been pointed out that the LSF system is an attainment system and the MAAA wings system is a proficiency system. Both systems can and will exist together.
- Helicopter Gold Wings test changed to remove certain maneuvers
- If members do not maintain their membership to MAAA their Gold Wings and Instructor Status will expire after 3 years

This whole system will be developed and be introduced as an ongoing system with the total system to be revamped within two years.

There were other areas covered and will be published after we receive the minutes of the conference.

Following on from the SFI Conference, the Instructor Course held at Maryborough was conducted along the lines of the current MASNSW (which is quite similar to the MAAQ Course). An overwhelming 17 members attended. Many thanks to the Maryborough club members for the use of their facilities and many thanks to the club executives, existing Instructors and observers who attended.

The next MAAA Instructor Course will be conducted in Townsville on the 10th and 11th of March 2012.

Michael Snabaitis.

