



# MAAQ



**"KEEPING YOU INFORMED"**

## *Bulletin 9*

June 2011

### **President**

As mentioned in my last Bulletin 2 senior executives and I attended the MAAA annual conference in Canberra during May. I cannot condense 2 days of talking into this Bulletin, but here are a few items that were discussed:

- The President and Secretary provided very comprehensive reports on their overseas trips which were well received by all Council members. In particular the AMA experience with providing park flyer membership as a separate entity, has proven to be a financial disaster and that we can learn from their experience.
- The membership system many of you are now using will be upgraded to enable online updates making it unnecessary for clubs to be running Access on their computers. This should be put into place within the next 2 years as funds have now been made available for this purpose. Once this system is operating efficiently I can envisage all clubs being invited to come on board with the gradual phasing out of paper based renewals saving time for club and State Registrars.
- The budget was discussed and finally approved with only minor changes; most notable was a salary increase for the Secretary as we all agreed his work load is increasing due to the large number of emails (this is happening at State level also). The largest increase was for World championships as we are all aware travel costs have been on the rise. The Nationals grant is now \$11000, an increase of \$1000.
- As you are now aware the insurance costs have not altered for individuals, but no one should be complacent as it only takes one major claim for that to change.
- The UAV draft MOP for discussion has identified a need for MAAA to differentiate from the rules covered under CASA part 1010 Sub Part F. They will now be referred to as Autonomous Model Aircraft (AMA) The draft policy refers to a return to home capability and is still being discussed by the States. More on this later.
- Flight training ,whilst being a highly important facet of our sport, has been elevated in importance by now having a budget for a National Conference on Flight Training and associated matters later this year to be attended by all State SFI's and chaired by the MAAA CFI Michael Snabaitis. This will lead to a rewrite of some of the training manuals and establish an alignment in all states with a National curriculum. The Treasurer and I will also attend as this is an important step in bringing all of Australia under one system. Other Flight Training matters arising from the May MAAA Conference will be circulated in due course for member input.
- Park flyers were discussed in great detail after a proposal was put forward by WA to engage these people. It was decided to give WA 12 months to put their plan into action and report to Council next year. A separate insurance will cover Park Flyers so as not to put at risk the good record we currently have.

- A lengthy discussion was also had as to the relevance of Sub Committees if they do not consult with State bodies. In future our State will be more proactive in this area by asking that all personnel involved with Sub Committees must consult with the State body before offering up changes to rules and procedures otherwise they risk being stood down from these positions.
- The proposal to lift the heavy model rating from 7kg to 10kgs did not get up and my thoughts are that it probably will not be addressed any time soon, so out with those scales and have your model certified if it is over 7kg.
- If you own a dog, it now must be on a lead if at the flying field.
- Paul Winter the Vice President was re elected for another term and Brian Howie is now Treasurer due to the retirement of Garry Anderson.
- Finally we listened to a passionate speech by the NSWFFS for the MAAA to have a permanent home on a large acreage so that we can have a centre of excellence for all modellers in Australia, a little ambitious perhaps but a dream has to start somewhere and I applaud the sentiment, because the MAAQ also needs a permanent home.

As mentioned above, emails are becoming an issue at both State and National level with the numbers increasing each year. Investigations have uncovered questions being raised at National level by some club Secretaries and Presidents which could easily have been answered at State level, and with that in mind I ask all clubs to contact the State with all queries because they usually end up back on the MAAQ Secretary's desk. Sometimes a phone call to the MAAQ can provide a quick resolution rather than an email. I personally am available 7 days per week and I know other executives are also available on a daily basis. MOPS are often a bone of contention with some people, and whilst every affiliate has the right to contact the National Secretary, it is not going to change any rules; this must be done through your State body.

If you have difficulty in reading and comprehending these rules and procedures, then please contact the State Secretary for an explanation.

Remember all clubs are MAAQ members and it is the States who are members of the MAAA.

On the Monday following the conference I spent the day with the President of RSSF Jim Henry and member Garry Thornton viewing flying at their regular field and then visiting the slope site at One Tree Hill.

This is a wonderful slope site and brought back memories of my younger days lying on my back in the sun whilst flying the model backwards and forwards from a slope in the lakes area of Mount Gambier in SA. I also met Bob Wait one of the original flyers at this site responsible for clearing the trees to make it suitable to fly off. In those days' members from as far away as Tingalpa Club used the slope. Unfortunately this site is under a cloud as the owner wants to sell which would be a great pity considering the history and current usage.

Thank you Jim and Garry it was a most enjoyable day. Also thank you to those members who made a special effort to visit the field on my behalf and I commend you for your safe flying practices.

The Secretary has requested that I inform all clubs to make sure all forms are filled out with a quality black ink pen as some forms being scanned and emailed are almost impossible to read making it necessary to contact people for clarification.

For an interesting read, click on the link below for an article from America, about large fast models.  
[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304066504576341780810193932.html?mod=WSJ\\_hpp\\_RIGHTTopCarousel\\_1](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304066504576341780810193932.html?mod=WSJ_hpp_RIGHTTopCarousel_1)

Robin Klau.

We are now a member of QORF [www.qorf.org.au](http://www.qorf.org.au) to view our listing.

## FREE FLIGHT

Unfortunately I missed the last Bulletin as I was away holidaying.

Not a lot to report this time apart from the fact the weather gods have not been kind to the free flight fraternity this year and some club and State title competitions were either shortened or postponed due to wind or rain or both in some cases.

However a contingent of members of BFFS trekked south to Narrandera for the AFFS Free Flight Championships after Easter. These Championships are run in conjunction with the Southern Cross Cup which is part of the Free Flight World Cup series and usually attracts a number of competitors from around the world. This year however there was only one competitor from Switzerland to provide competition for the Aussies, as most overseas flyers were heading to the World Champs in Argentina. Narrandera is considered to be the best free flight field in Australia by most people who attend there every year. Competition was fierce as usual but once again rain forced the cancellation of the last two day's events.

BFFS members who competed were Adrian Bryant, Albert Fathers, Malcolm Campbell, Des Slattery, Graham Maynard and Ted Burfein

Malcolm Campbell won Open Power and came second in F1H. I do not have other placings at this time, but can say that Albert Fathers was very unlucky to have a Safety peg break or come out whist winding a high powered rubber model. This accident required a trip to the hospital to have 6 stitches to a wound in his hand.

Competitions which were postponed should be held at Coominya field over the next few weeks, so hopefully the weather will be better this time.

Indoor Free Flight resumes at 3PM at BSHS Gym on 9th July (not the 2<sup>nd</sup>, due to maintenance being carried out on floor) thereafter on the usual first Saturday of the month.

All financial MAAQ members are invited to watch (FREE) or fly \$5 for 3 hour session.

The AGM of BFFS will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> July and I have advised members that I am intending to stand down from the Free Flight Administrator's position on MAAQ at the AGM in August.

Who is going to put up their hand?

John Taylor  
F/F Administrator

Winners are grinners! Mark McDermott with son Trent at the recent NSW CL State Champs.



Above, a great example of a Vintage A model.

Pilot Trent with Pitman Mark won the Bendix event in 7.51.47 setting a new Aust heat record of 3.15.25 Congratulations to both

“Does your fail safe **FAIL SAFE**”?