



MODEL AERONAUTICAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA



ANNUAL REPORT 2014



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Treasurer:

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



It is with pleasure that we present the 2014 MAAA Annual Report. This report is the first produced and is a result of our continual desire to keep members informed about the workings of the MAAA both administratively and financially.

This report is another way we can communicate directly with our members, one of the most important aims of our Strategic Plan.

The finances of the organisation are in a healthy position. Our financial strength allows us to provide more support to members. Some of this strength lies in our determination to maintain sufficient reserves so we can continue to deliver services and ensure financial stability into the future.

During my term as president I have striven to improve the MAAA communication processes to ensure the MAAA is seen by all members as an open organisation functioning to assist members and clubs both administratively and financially. The MAAA however is not alone in this endeavor; state associations, your associations, have also come on board and are moving in the same direction. By working together, we can all improve and promote aeromodelling in Australia.

As a national body, The MAAA has once again been appointed the Recognised Aviation Administrative Organisation (RAAO) for model aircraft and as such, liaison with CASA has been ongoing. We have been actively involved in the implementation of the new CASR 149 (regulations relating to self-administration) and the rewriting of CASR 101 in particular parts A, B, C and G which relate to model aircraft. Throughout the entire process, the MAAA has endeavored to ensure our members rights and current privileges and conditions are not eroded.

This year we also engaged a marketing company to assist in providing services to members. The MAAA conducted an online survey, and nearly 2000 members took part. The survey identified strengths and weaknesses of the organisation and gave the MAAA some valuable insight into our membership. As a result, we have amended our strategic plan to reflect our members' views. An ageing membership base was one of the major problems facing both the MAAA and state associations. However, this presents an opportunity for us to work together across the country to identify ways to attract younger members into the organisation; so this fantastic past time can continue. However, I am pleased to say the face of the MAAA Council is changing, and we can see the progress, with younger members being appointed to council positions. These members bring to the council fresh ideas and initiatives, injecting enthusiasm and helping the MAAA move forward.

In an effort to find efficient and cost effective ways of handling association business the second mid-year conference, involving Ordinary Member Presidents, was recently conducted in Melbourne. The conference proved to be a very productive way of handling Association business. I hope this is a way of the future. A number of initiatives were discussed including the addition of silver wings to the proficiency scheme. The introduction of the silver wings paves a way for aeromodellers, who chose to fly light foam models up to 2 kilograms, to participate in the proficiency scheme. This change to the system will be attractive to those new to aeromodelling and assist clubs in their recruitment processes. The introduction of low cost parkflyer models is a way of providing reduced entry costs for juniors and others new to the hobby. Obtaining bronze wings proficiency on these lighter models, provides an opportunity for further advancement.

As a promotional tool and to assist clubs with fund raising, 10,000 chuck gliders were purchased and will be distributed to associations and clubs free of charge on an application basis. Clubs may sell the gliders at fund raising events and utilised in education projects. Already a number of clubs have taken advantage of the offer. Some clubs have used the gliders to raise money; others have given them away as public relation items.

A number of our members have competed successfully in overseas championships and have done us proud. Several received FAI awards and for the first time a team represented the MAAA in the American IMAC Championships. On behalf of the MAAA, I congratulate all for their achievements. Competition is good for the hobby; it raises the profile of the sport and plays a significant role in improving the aeromodelling products we buy and use for our flying enjoyment. The amount of money spent on these activities, however must be kept in proportion to other services provided. As a condition, those who do compete and take advantage of federal and state support must assist by passing on what they learn to other members.

Judging is another aspect of aeromodelling competitions. This year, I also had the pleasure during the year to present Mrs. Joan McIntyre with the inaugural MAAA Service Medallion for her services to the MAAA over many years as an International Control Line Judge.

We have already begun planning for an exciting 2015, including the upcoming 68th Model Aircraft National Championships. We look forward to another challenging year and will be working towards providing more services and assistance to our members.

I thank you for your support over the past 12 months and look forward to serving you in the future.

J. Neil Tank
President

SECRETARY'S REPORT



Namadgi Sports Flyers Club, located in the ACT, received funds from the MAAA's Club Assistance Scheme towards a shipping container and self-propelled mower

In 2013/14 year we started to roll out the actions contained in the MAAA's Strategic Plan, agreed to by the MAAA Council. This included items such as a Club Assistance Scheme and the implementation of the marketing plan.

The 2013 Club Assistance scheme provided funding to 17 clubs throughout Australia for projects to enhance the enjoyment for members while taking part in our sport. The MAAA Council agreed to make \$80,000 available for the assistance scheme for this year.

The engagement of Sustainable Marketing saw the creation of a new website, membership renewal packs, our eMagazine 'Wingspan' and the first member's survey. The reason these marketing has been so valuable is that it has created tools for us to engage directly with you, our members. And, we've been able to seek feedback the affects our future direction. The MAAA is committed to retaining its current marketing strategy, at least for the next three years so that we can see our Strategic Plan implemented and more positive results for aeromodelling across the country.

In other developments, our online membership system has now been operating for over a year and from all reports, has proven to be a great success. Future changes and additions to the system will enable our members to access and to edit their personal details. We'll also create an 'App' to provide an electronic membership 'card' for those electing to do so.

Our membership has expanded this year, in 2013/14 we welcomed a record 1177 new members, 976 seniors and 201 juniors, into the Association. New members joined with renewing MAAA members to create a very strong, consistent membership year.

On the international scene, as both Australian Delegate and Technical Secretary to FAI/CIAM, it is pleasing to see Australia so involved in international competitions. In 2013, Chris Callow and Roy Summersby became World Champions, with Chris also creating a new World record. MAAA currently has nine International Judges and eight Technical Experts appointed by FAI.

The FAI has announced that Parachuting, Paragliding, Paramotors and Aeromodelling are the sports to be proposed to the Indonesian Olympic Committee for the 2018 Asian Games to be held in Jakarta, Indonesia. The hope is that a successful participation in the Asian Games would lead to air sports being accepted onto the 2020 Olympic programme, at least as a demonstration sport.

A very successful 67th Nationals was run by VMAA in Albury at the beginning of 2014, which attracted a large number of competitors and spectators. The MAAA Executive was in attendance as one of our many pleasant duties performed throughout the year.



Participants at the 67th Nationals

We also facilitated a number of face to face meetings during the year, some requested by our State Associations, with CASA, ASAC and several other organisations. Our members certainly kept the Executive and in particular the President and Secretary on the move. We look forward to an equally busy 2014/15 encouraging our members to take flight and encouraging participation in our sport.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30TH 2014

At our 2014 Council Conference it was reported that the adjusted surplus for 2013/14 would be around \$140,073, however final reports record a surplus of \$91,377.90, this is \$146,862.52 less than the previous year. The reason is, in this year, the MAAA Council agreed to make \$80,000 available for club assistance, and the organisation engaged a marketing company and upgraded our membership system and website.

The Budget Income from Fees set at the May 2013 Council Conference was almost equal to what was received. These were based on a Membership of 10642 whereas we achieved 10701. When comparing fees against the budget, we must also account for the difference in the number of Members and the mix between Senior, Junior and Half Year, the resulted being a difference of \$386.93.

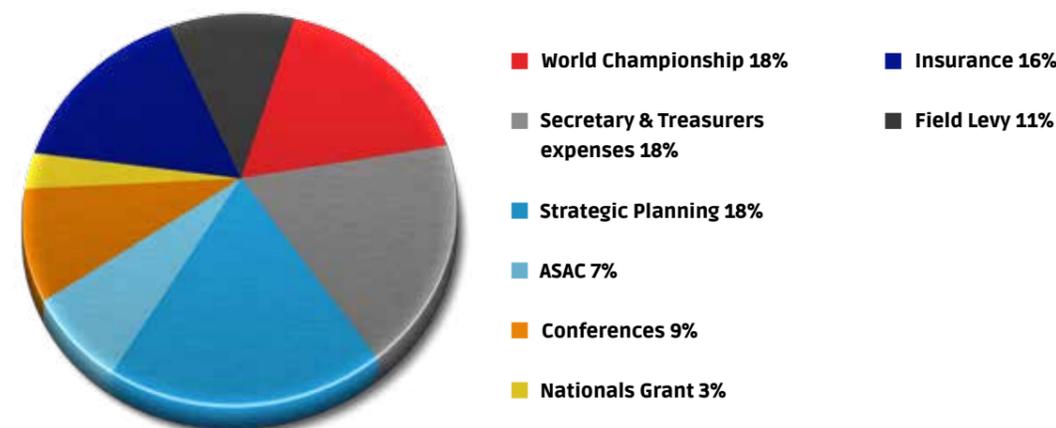
The Total Expenses were \$38,270.25 more than Budget. There were many small variations in actual expenses against the budget that contributes to this reduction, but the main item was the payment of club assistance.

Surplus declared in the Reports	\$91,377.90
Less Interest on Loans designated to Special Purpose Accounts	\$65,903.79
Field Levy transferred to Field Loan Account	\$64,206.00
Rents transferred to Field Loan Account	\$495.53
Adjusted Deficit	\$(39,227.42)

As MAAA self-insures with an excess of \$5,000 on any one claim (subsidised to members), costs were incurred of \$4,554.14 for claims settled during the year.

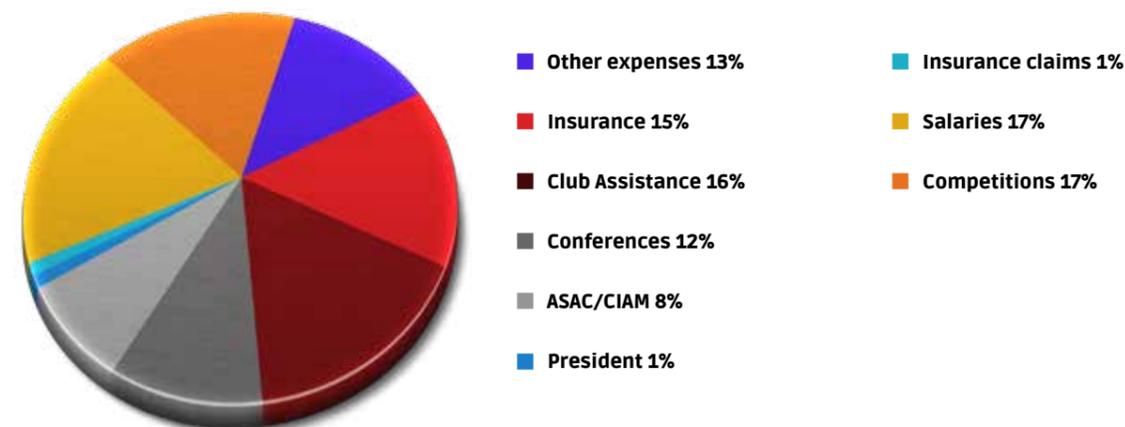
Respectfully submitted,
Brian Dowie | MAAA Treasurer

Breakdown of Members' fees



This is a breakdown of the \$60.00 MAAA fee paid by each member less the GST Component.

Total expenses by category



The above is the actual expenditure in more detail for this reporting year.

STATE ASSOCIATION REPORTS



ACTAA

Have held several displays during the year and are investigating the possible purchase through MAAA of a suitable property for a State Flying Field

ANT

Hosted the 2014 Council Conference and its members are very active with IMAC competitions.

AWA

Have a new Executive and are reviewing the AWA bylaws with the view of aligning them more with the MAAA MOPs. They are also actively engaged in the preparation for the 2016 F2 World Championships.

CLAS

Ran their State control line championships in June and have a busy 2015 ahead.



MAAQ

New Executive engaged in moving forward from previous years and organising the 68th Nationals.

MASA

Ran a successful display day for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Has implemented quarterly meetings of Country Clubs via teleconferencing and moved completely to an electronic Newsletter.

MAS NSW

Building on strong ties with clubs especially those in the country areas. Have held a successful 'flyin' in the Sydney area which also included members from CLAS.

NSWFFS

Private purchase of the field at West Wyalong and arranging for the host club to be resident at the field.



TMAA

The only problem voiced is they are experiencing long delays with CASA with both actions and communications.

VMAA

Operating normally and currently negotiating for a member to fill the Vice President position.

