

**MODEL AERONAUTICAL
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.**
N e w s l e t t e r
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March 1999 - From the Federal Secretary

Fees for 1999/2000.

At its Annual Conference held in February, the MAAA Council decided to introduce a half-year fee for new members who join in January or later. The same rate will apply to ex - members re-joining after a lapse of at least five years. The concessional fifteen-month membership for those joining in April will end once the half-year fee applies.

For 1999/2000, the MAAA component of fees are:

<u>TYPE OF MEMBER</u>	<u>ALL MEMBERS EXCEPT RCAS[NSW]</u>		<u>RCAS[NSW] MEMBERS</u>	
	<u>FULL YEAR 1st JULY - 30th JUNE</u>	<u>HALF YEAR 1st JAN - 30th JUNE</u>	<u>FULL YEAR 1st JULY - 30th JUNE</u>	<u>HALF YEAR 1st JAN - 30th JUNE</u>
<u>SHIP</u>				
<u>SENIOR</u>	\$35.00	\$17.50	\$30.70	\$15.35
<u>JUNIOR</u>	\$12.00	\$6.00	\$7.70	\$3.85
<u>PENSIONER</u>	\$31.00	\$15.50	\$26.70	\$13.35

It will be noticed that RCAS[NSW] members pay a lower fee than other members. This is a consequence of RCAS[NSW] declining to take out personal accident insurance for its members and Directors and Officers Liability Insurance for its affiliated clubs.

The Associations membership year is from the 1st July until the 30th June. However, the three insurance policies (Public Liability, Personal Accident and Directors and Officers Liability) expired on the 31st March. An attempt was made to obtain Personal Accident cover for the period 1st April - 30th June for RCAS[NSW] members but this was not possible. RCAS[NSW] has accepted that both types of cover ended for its members on the 31st March. RCAS[NSW] has indicated its member clubs will be given the opportunity at its Annual General Meeting to accept Directors and Officers cover.

When the policies were renewed, the period of insurance was extended until the 30th June 2000 to align with the end of the membership year.

Insurance

The Public Liability cover is for \$20M with an excess of \$1000.00 on property damage claims. The member is responsible for the first \$250.00 of any claim with the MAAA paying up to \$750.00 after the Underwriter has accepted the claim. Cover is extended to all State/Territory Associations, affiliated clubs, special interest groups, affiliated members and owners and landlords of flying fields. A copy of the policy is provided to the State/Territory Associations and will be provided to any club on request.

The Personal Accident cover provides compensation for loss of limb etc and also provides for loss of income resulting from injury arising from aeromodelling. The amount of 80% of the lost wages, up to \$500.00/week, is paid after one week for up to two years. There is no upper age limit. It covers all injury incurred from participation in aeromodelling including injury while travelling to and from meetings.

The Directors and Officers Liability provides cover for National, State Association and Club committees for liability arising from their carrying out their duties.

Should you be involved in an incident likely to give rise to a claim, you must not admit liability. An Incident Report form will be faxed or mailed to you on request.

R/C Frequency

The MAAA Council has accepted the recommendation of the R/C Frequency Sub committee that frequencies in the 40 MHz band other than those currently used (40.665 and 40.995) for the radio control of models not be approved. The increase in bandwidth authorised for industrial, scientific and medical (ISM) use would have

allowed the use of additional channels. However, equipment on the ISM band may use up to ten times the power permitted for R/C equipment and there is no limit on bandwidth. The future risk of interference was considered to be too great.

The R/C Frequency Sub committee has again been tasked with reviewing operation at 10 kHz and also at 450/460 kHz separation. It should be noted that, if everyone used double-conversion (or equivalent) receivers, there would be no problem with operation at 450/460 kHz separation. However, there are very many "old" receivers still in use.

Nationals

The 53rd National Championships will be hosted by NSW and will be held at Nowra starting on the 26th April 2000. Any event requiring a pilot and a mechanic/caller will require team entry with both paying an entry fee. The team members must be identified on the entry form; it will not be acceptable for a pilot to wait until just before the event to nominate a mechanic/caller.

The 54th Nationals will be held in Western Australia, probably about Easter 2001.

Other Council Decisions

The 1999 Council Conference decided that:

- AUS numbers could not be transferred;
- members need not affiliate through the State Body of their state of residence;
- that clubs need not affiliate to the State Body of the State in which their flying fields were located but should advise that State Body as should any club with a flying field adjacent to a state border;
- the MASA membership program be the program of choice for State Associations;
- the RCAS[NSW] R/C Glider proficiency scheme would be adopted;
- with the retirement of the current Secretary/Treasurer, the position not be combined;
- the option of a distance less than 4 km between transmitter operating sites not be available for new field registrations. and
- that a new class of membership be accepted "in principle" with a decision to be made at the 2000 conference

The following proposals were withdrawn or referred to the relevant Sub committee:

- that the MAAA fund the holding of the National Championships (to Sub committee);

- that any employment by the MAAA be on a casual basis;
- that the MAAA recognise only one body in any State;
- that all delegates be allowed equal speaking time;
- qualifications for appointment as a Gas Turbine Inspector (to Sub committee); and
- the assumption by a national special interest group of sub committee duties;

Some proposals were lost or lapsed for want of a seconder:

- that the \$1000.00 grant to organisers of National Championships be discontinued;
- guidelines for the granting of Life Membership;
- revision of the voting system; and
- the introduction of "silver" wings

World Championships

Australia is to host two World Championships in 2001. That for Free Flight (Glider, Rubber and Power) will be held near Wagga Wagga from the 18th - 24th April while R/C Pylon will probably be held at Townsville in July

2001 World Air Games.

The following aeromodelling events will be held as part of the year 2001 World Air Games in Spain as World Air Games Championships:

Control Line Speed (F2A), Aerobatics (F2B), Team Race (F2C) and Combat (F2D). They will also be the European Championships but Open entry will be permitted. European winners will be titled "European" Champion. Prominence will be given to F2C and F2D.

R/C Scale will combine the European R/C Scale (F4C) and Large Scale. Entries will be "open" The final round of F4C will be flown with the Large Scale models. The F4C models will be flown singly; the Large Scale from up to four flight lines.

Fixed wing and helicopters will "Artistic Aerobatics" to the Japanese International Air Meet Rules. The intention with all events is to attract spectators and the media.

CIAM Plenary Meeting

The recent CIAM Plenary meeting decided to increase the weight of F4C models to 12 kg with effect 2001 and agreed to delete the rules for Large Scale Models at a date to be determined. The meeting elected a new Secretary - Luco Gialanella of Italy.

