

MODEL AERONAUTICAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA



AWARD OF WINGS AND INSTRUCTOR RATING

MOP027

Amendments made to MOP027

Paragraph	Brief description of change	Change incorporated by
3.0 Definitions	Park Flier definition amended to include blade size for Multirotor	MAAA Secretary July 2014
4.3	New reference to multirotor wings.	
5.3	Additional instructor able to assess glider pilots	
5.5	New paragraph detailing the basis of determination of proficiency on a multirotor	
6.2.4	New paragraph stating conditions for the award of Multirotor Bronze Wings New Form MAAA041	
6.3.4	New paragraph stating conditions for the award of Multirotor Gold Wings New Form MAAA042	
3.0 Definitions	Delete reference to Park Flyer model size and dimensions. Add Solo Multirotor	MAAA Secretary May 2015
2.7	New paragraph indicating that forms for Proficiency Scheme are available from the MAAA website	
MOP	Silver Wings and reference to Silver Wings added where required	
5.1	Deleted. Referred to Park Flyers. Paragraphs renumbered	
10.0	Supply of Wings amended to include Silver Wings	
Annexes	To avoid confusion, the Annexes containing sample forms were removed. Refer to the MAAA website to view or download the relevant form.	
4.6	Paragraph 4.6 removed and renumbered ' <i>In the case of an additional discipline Instructor rating; the person must successfully complete an MAAA Instructor's course in the additional discipline</i> '.	MAAA Secretary Feb 2016
6.4.3	6.4.3 Amended as approved by the 2018 Council Conference.	MAAA Secretary May 2018
7.2	7.2 Added following the decision of the 2018 Council Conference	
7.0	7.3 Clause added as approved by the 2019 Council Conference	MAAA Secretary November 2023

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This Policy and/or Procedure forms part of the MAAA Manual of Procedures. This entire document is for the use of all classes of members of the MAAA in the conduct of activities associated with the MAAA and is not be used for any other purpose, in whole or in part, without the written approval of the MAAA Executive.

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GUIDELINES FOR THE AWARD OF MAAA WINGS

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this publication is to provide all affiliated members of the MAAA a documented standard and process for the award of MAAA Flight Proficiency Scheme Wings.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 The MAAA has a duty of care to Affiliate Members and clubs to specify conditions and regulations under which models are flown, so that a level of safety, that could reasonably be expected, is achieved.
- 2.2 The State Association is responsible for maintaining records of proficiency ratings of their Affiliate Members for Bronze Wings, Silver Wings, Gold Wings, MAAA Instructor and MAAA Rocketry Instructor ratings.
- 2.3 The State Association is responsible for updating the MAAA Membership System with any new proficiency ratings of their Affiliate Members.
- 2.4 The State Senior Flight Instructor is responsible for the issue of Gold Wings and/or Instructor ratings and for advising the State Association of the names of those Affiliate Members who attain the ratings.
- 2.5 The MAAA Secretary is responsible for advising the Affiliate Member's State Association of the Rocketry Instructor rating.
- 2.6 Clubs and/or Instructors shall advise the State Association/State Senior Flight Instructor the names of Affiliate Members who attain the Bronze, Silver and Gold Wings ratings.
- 2.7 Forms and documents for the MAAA Flight Proficiency Scheme are found on the MAAA Website at www.maaa.asn.au.

3. DEFINITIONS

- Affiliate Member** A person properly affiliated with a Club that is properly affiliated to an MAAA Ordinary Member.
- Instructor** An Affiliate Member who has been appointed or recognised by his/her Club and/or State Association to be competent to instruct Club members. See also the MAAA Instructor definition.
- MAAA** Model Aeronautical Association of Australia Inc.
- MAAA Instructor** An Affiliate Member who has successfully completed an MAAA Instructor training course.

MAAA Ordinary Member	A State Association properly affiliated with the MAAA Inc.
Ordinary Member	See MAAA Ordinary Member
Radio Controlled Model Aircraft	A non-man-carrying remote controlled device capable of sustained flight in the atmosphere not exceeding the weight limitations established in the MAAA Manual of Procedures. The operators of such devices shall maintain control without the assistance of onboard autopilots or navigation systems that would allow for autonomous flight. The operators of Radio Control devices shall maintain visual contact with the device during the entire flight operation.
Rocketry Instructor	A person who is authorised by the MAAA Executive to test Affiliate Members for Rocketry Wings.
State Association	See MAAA Ordinary Member.
Solo Fixed Wing	Safely taking off, flying and landing without the direct supervision of an instructor.
Solo Rotary Wing	Safely hovering at the minimum MAAA required distances from others without the oversight of an instructor.
Solo Multirotor	Safely taking off, flying and landing without the direct supervision of an instructor.
State Senior Flight Instructor	An Affiliate Member who has been appointed as the Senior Flight Instructor for that Ordinary Member in either a State or Territory. His title in the Ordinary Member's structure may vary from this title, such as State Chief Flying Instructor. It is normal for the appointee to be the Ordinary Member's representative on the MAAA Flight Training Working Group.

4. TYPE OF MAAA WINGS/RATINGS

4.1 Fixed Wing Powered Aircraft

MAAA Bronze, Silver and Gold Wings are awarded for demonstrated proficiency at specified levels in flying radio controlled fixed wing aircraft.

4.1.1 The standard the MAAA regards as being suitable for Solo Fixed Wing is Bronze Wings for models with a dry mass (excluding fuel, but including all

batteries if electric powered) of 2Kgs and under and Silver Wings for models with a dry mass (excluding fuel, but including all batteries if electric powered) over 2Kgs.

4.2 Fixed Wing Glider Aircraft

MAAA Bronze, Silver and Gold Wings are awarded for demonstrated proficiency to specified levels in flying radio controlled fixed wing glider aircraft. Glider Gold Wings proficiency may be demonstrated with either Thermal or Slope Soaring Manoeuvres.

4.2.1 The standard the MAAA regards as being suitable for Solo Fixed Wing is Bronze Wings for models with a dry mass (excluding fuel, but including all batteries if electric powered) of 2Kgs and under and Silver Wings for models with a dry mass (excluding fuel, but including all batteries if electric powered) over 2Kgs.

4.3 Helicopters and Multirotors

MAAA Bronze, Silver and Gold Wings are awarded for demonstrated proficiency to specified levels in flying radio controlled helicopters and multirotors.

4.3.1 The standard the MAAA regards as being suitable for Solo Rotary Wing is Bronze Wings for models with a dry mass (excluding fuel, but including all batteries if electric powered) of 2Kgs and under and Silver Wings for models with a dry mass (excluding fuel, but including all batteries if electric powered) over 2Kgs.

4.3.2 The standard the MAAA regards as being suitable for Solo Multirotors is Silver Wings for all models.

4.4 Rocketry

MAAA Bronze and Gold Wings are awarded for demonstrated proficiency to specified levels in preparation, launching and recovery of model rockets.

4.5 MAAA Instructor

The MAAA Instructor's rating is awarded for proven knowledge in instructional training as specified in the MAAA Instructor's Manual and knowledge of Rules and Regulations relating to the flying of model aircraft.

4.6 Rocketry Instructor

The MAAA Rocketry Instructor's rating is awarded for proven knowledge and experience of rocketry and knowledge of Rules and Regulations relating to model rockets. This position is conferred by the MAAA Executive on the recommendation of the MAAA Rocketry Subcommittee.

5. BASIS OF DETERMINATION OF PROFICIENCY

5.1 Fixed Wing Powered Aircraft

Proficiency in flying of radio controlled fixed wing powered aircraft is determined by an MAAA Instructor or the State Senior Flight Instructor assessing the way the pilot executes the procedures/manoeuvres listed on the "Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Fixed Wing Powered Bronze & Silver Wings", MAAA Form No. MAAA016, and "Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Fixed Wing Powered Gold Wings", MAAA Form No. MAAA017. See the MAAA website.

5.2 Glider Aircraft

Proficiency in flying of radio controlled glider aircraft is determined by an MAAA Instructor, or the State Senior Flight Instructor assessing the way the pilot executes the procedures/manoeuvres listed on the “Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheets - Glider Bronze & Silver Wings”, MAAA Form No. MAAA018, and “Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Glider Gold Wings”, MAAA Form No. MAAA019. See the MAAA website.

5.3 Helicopters

Proficiency in flying radio-controlled helicopters is determined by an MAAA Instructor or the State Senior Flight Instructor assessing the way the pilot executes the procedures/manoeuvres listed on the “Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Helicopter Bronze & Silver Wings”, MAAA Form No. MAAA020; “Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Helicopter Gold Wings”, MAAA Form No. MAAA021. See the MAAA website.

5.4 Multirotors

Proficiency in flying radio-controlled multirotors is determined by an MAAA Instructor, or the State Senior Flight Instructor assessing the way the pilot executes the procedures/manoeuvres listed on the “Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Multirotor Silver Wings”, MAAA Form No. MAAA041; “Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Multirotor Gold Wings”, MAAA Form No. MAAA042. See the MAAA website.

5.5 Rocketry

Proficiency in preparation, launching and recovery of model rockets is determined by an MAAA Instructor assessing the way the Affiliate Member executes the procedures/manoeuvres listed on the “Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Rocketry Bronze Wings”, MAAA Form No. MAAA034; and “Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Rocketry Gold Wings”, MAAA Form No. MAAA035. See the MAAA website.

6. AWARD OF WINGS

Note: The “one week between tests” does not apply if a session is interrupted or ended by weather or other circumstances beyond the candidate's control.

6.1 General

Following the successful completion of the test the examining Instructor (see paragraphs 5.1 – 5.6) shall ensure that the appropriate “Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet” form or the form provided in the Trainee Pilot Logbook is completed, signed and sent to the State/Territory Association to enable the maintenance of records and distribution of the Wings.

6.2 Bronze Wings & Silver

6.2.1 Fixed Wing Powered Aircraft

Bronze or Silver Wings are awarded when the Affiliate Member demonstrates in the course of one session, which shall include the theory and flight requirements, that he/she has the skills to perform in a competent manner and to the required standard, the manoeuvres listed in the “Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Fixed Wing Powered Bronze & Silver Wings”, MAAA Form No. MAAA016. See the MAAA website.

At least one week must elapse between consecutive tests of a candidate for Bronze & Silver Wings.

6.2.2 Glider Aircraft

Bronze or Silver Wings are awarded when the Affiliate Member demonstrates in the course of one session, which shall include the theory and flight requirements, that he/she has the skills to perform in a competent manner and to the required standard, the manoeuvres listed in the "Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Glider Bronze & Silver Wings", MAAA Form No. MAAA018. See the MAAA website.

At least one week must elapse between consecutive tests of a candidate for Bronze & Silver Wings.

6.2.3 Helicopters

Bronze or Silver Wings are awarded when the Affiliate Member demonstrates in the course of one session, which shall include the theory and flight requirements, that he/she has the skills to perform in a competent manner and to the required standard, the manoeuvres listed in the "Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Helicopter Bronze & Silver Wings", MAAA Form No. MAAA020. See the MAAA website.

At least one week must elapse between consecutive tests of a candidate for Bronze & Silver Wings.

6.2.4 Multirotors

Silver Wings are awarded when the Affiliate Member demonstrates in the course of one session, which shall include the theory and flight requirements, that he/she has the skills to perform in a competent manner and to the required standard, the manoeuvres listed in the "Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Multirotor Silver Wings", MAAA Form No. MAAA041. See the MAAA website.

At least one week must elapse between consecutive tests of a candidate for Silver Wings.

6.2.5 Rockets

Bronze Wings are awarded by an MAAA Rocketry Instructor when the Affiliate Member demonstrates in the course of one session, which shall include the theory, launch and flight requirements, that he/she has the skills and knowledge to perform in a competent manner and to the required standard, to satisfy the requirements listed in the "Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Rocketry Bronze Wings", MAAA Form No. MAAA034. See the MAAA website.

At least one week must elapse between consecutive tests of a candidate for Bronze Wings.

6.3 Gold Wings

6.3.1 Fixed Wing Powered Aircraft.

Gold Wings are awarded when the Affiliate Member demonstrates that he/she has the skills to perform in a competent manner and to the required standard, the manoeuvres listed in the "Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Fixed Wing Powered Gold Wings", MAAA Form No. MAAA017. See the MAAA website.

Procedures and manoeuvres common to all flights shall be assessed on every flight to confirm consistency of standard. (One good landing out of four would not be acceptable).

At least one week must elapse between testing sessions of a candidate.

6.3.2 Glider Aircraft

Gold Wings are awarded when the Affiliate Member demonstrates, in the course of one flying session comprising of up to four flights, that he/she has the skills to perform in a competent manner and to the required standard, the manoeuvres listed in the "Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheets - Glider Gold Wings", MAAA Form No. MAAA019. See the MAAA website.

At least one week must elapse between testing sessions of a candidate.

6.3.3 Helicopters

Gold Wings are awarded when the Affiliate Member demonstrates, in the course of one flying session, that he/she has the skills to perform in a competent manner and to the required standard, the manoeuvres listed in the "Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheets - Helicopter Gold Wings", MAAA Form No. MAAA021. See the MAAA website.

At least one week must elapse between testing sessions of a candidate.

6.3.4 Multirotors

Gold Wings are awarded when the Affiliate Member demonstrates, in the course of one flying session, that he/she has the skills to perform in a competent manner and to the required standard, the manoeuvres listed in the "Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheets - Multirotor Gold Wings", MAAA Form No. MAAA042. See the MAAA website.

At least one week must elapse between testing sessions of a candidate.

6.3.5 Rockets

Gold Wings are awarded by an MAAA Rocketry Instructor when the Affiliate Member demonstrates that he/she has the skills and knowledge to perform in a competent manner and to the required standard, to satisfy the requirements listed in the "Flight Requirements & Test Check Sheet - Rocketry Gold Wings", MAAA Form No. MAAA035. See the MAAA website.

At least one week must elapse between testing sessions of a candidate.

6.4 MAAA Instructor Rating

6.4.1 The certification and testing of the MAAA Instructor Rating is supervised and controlled by the State Association's Senior Flight Instructor.

6.4.2 Instructor trainees shall have some previous instructional experience and be nominated by their club to attend the appropriate training course except in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the State SFI.

6.4.3 Trainee Instructors will successfully complete an MAAA Instructor's course that will include a written test based on Rules and Regulations and the MAAA Instructor's Handbook.

- 6.4.4 To be eligible to be considered for an MAAA Instructor rating the Trainee shall hold Gold Wings for the type of Instructor rating required. State Associations' Senior Flight Instructors need to be mindful of the fact that some pilots with Gold Wings may not have the necessary experience for an Instructor rating. It is necessary for Instructors to have a high standard of proficiency with the types of model on which members normally start their training.

6.5 Rocketry Instructor Rating

- 6.5.1 The recommendation of candidates for MAAA Rocketry Instructor is the responsibility of the State Association of the Affiliate Member.
- 6.5.2 The State Association shall submit the name of a candidate for Rocketry Instructor to the MAAA Rocketry Subcommittee for their consideration.
- 6.5.3 To be eligible to be considered for an MAAA Rocketry Instructor rating the candidate shall hold Rocketry Gold Wings unless authorised/allowed by the Rocketry Subcommittee Chairman.
- 6.5.4 The Chairman of the MAAA Rocketry Subcommittee shall, with the assistance his Subcommittee, consider the nomination. If the Subcommittee considers the nominee has the required skills and knowledge, the Chairman shall send the Subcommittee's recommendation for the conferring of Rocketry Instructor rating to the MAAA Secretary.
- 6.5.5 The MAAA Secretary shall place the recommendation on the agenda of the next MAAA Executive meeting. The Executive shall consider the recommendation and if the Executive agrees, they shall confer the rating of MAAA Rocketry Instructor on the nominee.
- 6.5.6 The MAAA Secretary shall then advise the Chairman of the Rocketry Subcommittee and the State Association of the Executive's decision.

7. AUTOMATIC LOSS OF WINGS AND INSTRUCTOR RATING

- 7.1 In the event that a holder of any class or level of MAAA Wings and/or Instructor Rating ceases to be an Affiliate Member of the MAAA for a period of three continuous years, then these qualifications lapse and have to be regained in accordance with this MOP.
- 7.2 If in the event that a holder of an MAAA Instructor Rating does not successfully complete a requalification course prior to 1st July 2020 and once every five years thereafter, the instructor rating will lapse.
- 7.3
- (a) In the event the committee of an affiliated club concludes an affiliated member's flying skills have deteriorated due to age, illness or other contributing factor, to the extent he/she endangers the safety of members, visitors or property the affiliated club may:
1. Require the member to undergo further training.
 2. Require the member to only fly at any MAAA flying site under the direction of an instructor.
 3. Require the member to be re-assessed by carrying out the appropriate

wing's examination.

4. In the event the Club committee decide to implement subsections (1), (2) or (3) above, the Club committee shall advise the Executive of the Ordinary Member. The Ordinary member may advise other affiliated clubs of the name of the member and action taken.

(b) If the affiliated club conclude the affiliate member should have his/her wings status removed, the Committee shall:

1. Refer the matter to the Ordinary member, together with all the appropriate written information, for an independent review of the ability of the affiliated member to continue to fly safely to the standard of the appropriate wings rating.
2. If the Ordinary member concludes the affiliate members should have his/her rating status reduced or removed, a full report shall be submitted to the MAAA Executive for a final decision.
3. Following a final decision by the MAAA Executive, the MAAA Executive shall cause the member's change of wings and or Instructor status to be recorded accordingly on the MAAA membership system.

(c) During all enquiries and reviews the procedures outlined in MOP 028 (Disciplining of Affiliate Members Procedure) shall be complied with; the affiliated member the subject of the enquiry shall be advised of the enquiry and reasons for the investigation and shall have a right of reply. The rules of natural justice shall prevail

8. DEREGISTRATION OF AN MAAA INSTRUCTOR (DISCIPLINARY)

- 8.1 Any financial Affiliate Member of the MAAA who considers that an MAAA Instructor is in breach of the requirements of the MAAA Manual of Procedures, or otherwise has failed to carry out their duties as required under the Manual of Procedures, may submit in writing to the MAAA Ordinary Member through which the MAAA Instructor is affiliated, full details of the occasions and/or extent giving rise to such submission.

- 8.2 Persons who lodge submissions under 8.1 do not have the right to determine what course of disciplinary action may be undertaken.
- 8.3 The Executive of the Ordinary Member (State/Territory Executive) is to consider any submission under 8.1 and must, within thirty days of receipt of the submission, hold a secret ballot of their Executive to determine whether the submission lodged under 8.1 be dismissed on the grounds that the evidence and/or material included in the submission is anecdotal or otherwise unsuitable for further action, or that further action on the submission is required.
- 8.4 The MAAA Instructor identified in the submission shall receive a copy of the submission and of the procedures of the Executive. If the Executive secret ballot has determined that action on the submission is required, the MAAA Instructor identified in the submission, must receive thirty days notice, from the date of the secret ballot, within which to prepare a response and/or rebuttal and must have the opportunity to elect to be heard at either a general meeting or executive meeting of the Ordinary Member so convened to hear details of the submission and rebuttal.
- 8.5 If the meeting convened under 9.4 finds the MAAA Instructor being the subject of the submission under 9.1 has been in breach of their duties under the MAAA Manual of Procedures, then the Executive of the Ordinary Member shall determine within thirty days that:
1. the aforementioned MAAA Instructor be counselled or
 2. the MAAA Instructor shall be deregistered by the Executive of the Ordinary Member or
 3. the MAAA Instructor shall be suspended for a period specified by the Executive of the Ordinary Member.
- 8.6 If the "MAAA Instructor" is suspended or deregistered, the Ordinary Member shall advise the MAAA Secretary of the details, who shall then update the MAAA database.
- 8.7 If the "MAAA Instructor" is deregistered or suspended, the Ordinary Member shall request that the Affiliate Member returns the endorsed MAAA membership card and shall take the necessary action to have a "new" MAAA Membership card printed without the endorsement as an MAAA Instructor and sent to the person. The database shall also be updated.
- 8.8 If the "MAAA Instructor" has been suspended, the Ordinary Member shall send the MAAA Membership Card with endorsement of MAAA Instructor back to the person at the completion of their suspension.

9. REGISTRATION OF AN MAAA INSTRUCTOR FOLLOWING DEREGISTRATION

- 9.1 Where an MAAA Instructor has been deregistered, that person may make an application to be reappointed as an MAAA Instructor at any time in accordance with the normal rules and requirements for the position. Their application shall be processed under the normal procedures operating at the time of the application.

10. SUPPLY OF WINGS

The MAAA Secretary retains stocks of wings for State Associations to access.

10.1 Bronze Wings

Bronze Wings may be supplied by the MAAA through the State Association to a club for distribution to their members, or directly by the State Association, at nil cost. A levy may not be charged for testing for Bronze Wings proficiency, nor are wings to be sold.

A cost may be imposed for the supply of a replacement set of Bronze Wings.

10.2 Silver Wings

Silver Wings may be supplied by the MAAA through the State Association to a club for distribution to their members, or directly by the State Association, at nil cost. A levy may not be charged for testing for Silver Wings proficiency, nor are wings to be sold.

A cost may be imposed for the supply of a replacement set of Silver Wings.

10.3 Gold Wings

Gold Wings are distributed by the State Senior Flying Instructor. Gold Wings shall be supplied to the State Associations at nil cost. The wings may not be sold.

A cost may be imposed for the supply of a replacement set of Gold Wings.

10.4 MAAA Instructor Wings

MAAA Instructor Wings are distributed by the State Senior Flying Instructor. MAAA Instructor Wings shall be supplied to the State Associations at nil cost. The wings may not be sold.

A cost may be imposed for the supply of a replacement set of Instructor Wings.

10.5 MAAA Rocketry Instructor Wings

MAAA Rocketry Instructor Wings are distributed by the MAAA Secretary. The wings may not be sold.

A cost may be imposed for the supply of a replacement set of Instructor Wings.