



NEWSBEAT

The official publication of the Malta Model Aircraft Flying Association
Website <http://www.mmafa.eu>
Postal Address PO Box 22 Balzan BZN 1000

Issue 1/2011
February

From the President

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

As indicated previously our Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 25 February at the Dolmen apart hotel in Bugibba starting at 6pm. The Agenda appears on the next page.

Eight nominations have been received by Members who wish to sit on this year's committee—these are

F. Zammit Haber
George Delicata

Stephen Warrington
Frank Mercieca

Emanuel Vella
Joe Filletti

Laurence Dalmas
Patrick Azzopardi

Motions/amendments

The Committee has received the following motion for amending the Statute. Proposed by Mr Henri Portelli and seconded by Mr Mario Micallef. The amendment consists of exempting Committee members from their membership fees as long as they form part of the committee, and will involve the rewording of Article 17.1 as follows:

17.1 Honorary and current Committee members shall not pay any membership fees.
(new text underlined)

Two other amendments are being presented by the President., and seconded by Stephen Warrington. These are being included to bring the Statute in line with procedures adopted by the Committee.

Amendment 1

Original 5.2 Persons under 18 years may join as Junior members.

Amendment 5.2 Persons under 18 years may join as Junior members. A legal guardian or parent must, however, be enrolled as a member, which person is to assume all responsibility for the junior member

Amendment 2

New Clause 17.6 New members may be enrolled during a current calendar year on a quarterly pro-rata membership basis

Members please note that

1. No new motion can be presented during the AGM. Only motions to amend the submitted motions can be discussed (called counter motions)

2. Unless there is no alternative solution to a particular situation during an AGM, motions for suspension of the rules should not be presented.

Barnstormers revival

On a personal initiative, in an effort to promote more flying activities, I have managed to acquire a number of ARF kits of a low wing tricycle undercarriage .46 powered sports model at a very good price with the intention of bringing back those times when we used to enjoy our flying immensely by flying a number of similar models at the same time. More to come.....

New membership cards Membership fees

You are urged to settle your membership fees for the current year. After the Annual General Meeting on the 25 February membership in the Association will expire, and you will no longer receive the Association's Newsletter and will not be covered by Insurance. Fees may be paid by cheque addressed to MMAFA PO Box 22 Balzan BZN 1000 or in cash by contacting any committee member at Ta' Qali.

A new format of the membership cards is being issued. This card should be carried with you when utilizing our site.

New Frequency Board

As can be seen, a new frequency Board has been placed at Ta' Qali. Frequency pegs are now magnetic and as previously said, **MUST BE RETURNED TO THE BOARD AFTER YOUR FLYING SESSION.**

Aviation Museum Donation

The Committee has unanimously agreed to donate the sum of Euro 100 to the Aviation Museum Foundation as a contribution towards the building of the New hangar at the Museum. For information, entrance to the Museum is free to all paid up members of the Association.

A copy of the Standing regulations and the Statute is being included. Please bring this copy with you for ease of reference.

Agenda Annual General Meeting Friday 25 February 2011

- 1. Reading of minutes of previous Annual General Meeting**
- 2. Matters Arising**
- 3. Other matters**
- 4. Report by the Association's treasurer**
- 5. Presidential address**
- 6. Motions / Statute amendments**
- 7. Election of Tellers and Auditors**
- 8. Election of new Committee**

For Sale

Trainer high wing model c/w
OS .46 engine, servos
Futaba 6 channel Tx and Rx, c/
w batteries
Aviomodelli Victor High wing
trainer c/w engine and servos
Morley Helicopter airframe, no
servos, gyro or receiver
Field box c/w starter, control
panel, fuel container, etc
Euro 600 or near offer for the
lot
Contact A Calleja on 99880083

STANDING REGULATIONS AT TA' QALI

1. **The Malta Model Aircraft Flying Association consists of a majority of members flying radio controlled fixed wing aircraft and a minority of members flying rotary wing aircraft, or helicopters. IT IS AN ESTABLISHED SAFETY PRINCIPLE THAT FIXED AND ROTARY WING FLYING DO NOT MIX. A member flying helicopters must therefore seek a slot with fixed wing flyers of at least 15 minutes every hour if this is found to be necessary.**
2. Upon arrival at Ta' Qali members should park their cars in the marked parking docks on the Club House side and the models and equipment should be taken on the pits area behind the railings. Members' children and the public are strictly forbidden to enter the pits area. Identify yourself with fellow members and determine the pilots' positioning according to wind direction. On departure, the last member to leave the flying site should ensure that the Club House, Toilet and the Gate are closed. Membership proof for the current year and a valid R/C licence (if applicable) must be shown to any Committee member on demand.
3. Before commencing flying every member utilizing the 35 and 41 Mhz band must pick up his frequency tag from the frequency Board. Members caught flying on these frequencies without a frequency tag will be penalized. Only internationally approved spot frequencies are allowed—these are the 35Mhz, the 41 Mhz band and the recently introduced 2.4 Ghz band. When using the 35 and 41 Mhz, the frequency tag must be placed in a prominent position on the flight box. Beginners /new members are to note that they can only occupy the Channels numbers 81 to 90 on the 35 Mhz band. Beginners/new members will not be permitted to fly on their own before their competence is determined by a Committee member.

Beginners/new members may consequently request that the Committee allow them to use a different channel once they have acquired total flying skills. The Committee will consider this request and after ensuring that the member is sufficiently proficient, allocate another channel for their use. Any Frequency allocation, however, remains at the sole discretion of the Committee.
4. If the frequency tag is in use, await your turn until the corresponding transmitter is switched off and the tag returned. Each flying session must not exceed 30 minutes. It is strongly recommended that the principle of impounding transmitter between flyers using the same frequency is adopted. Transmitter antennae must be retracted (where applicable) while in the pits and while taxiing out.
5. Flyers are to coordinate their flying and group together in the predetermined spot, and within the marked yellow lines. Call your landings and take-offs. Clear the runway as quickly as possible after landing. Avoid crossing the runway unless absolutely necessary. Avoid flying low over transmitters whatever the frequency. Flying over the pits and spectator areas is strictly forbidden.
6. All flyers are to land immediately if a full size helicopter or microlight aircraft is seen approaching the area. Actual flying should be restricted to a radius of approximately 150 metres from the centre of the flying area. Avoid flying over any building within the area mentioned.
7. Running in of engines is to be performed away from the pits and flyers in the designated area. Effective silencers are compulsory on site. A maximum level of 85 dB at 7 metres is being imposed on all days of the week. No flying or starting of engines must take place before 0830 hours and not later than sundown on any day of the week.
8. **JET TURBINES AND ENGINES ABOVE 30CCS MUST NOT BE OPERATED (START OR SHUTDOWN) IN THE PIT AREA.**
9. The committee reserves the right to suspend any member of the Association should his actions or flying constitute a hazard to other members and the public.
10. Mobile phones must not be operated on the runway as they have been reported as causing interference to modern computerized transmitters.
11. Flyers teaching their sons/daughters to fly may use their own frequency until total proficiency is attained by the pupil in accordance with clause 5, after which the pupil will have to move to one of the beginners' frequencies. Responsibility in such cases falls on the parent.
12. **Keep in mind that the main objective of the Association is for recreational and educational purposes. Every effort should be made not to spoil other members' enjoyment by dangerous flying or in an unpleasant way.**
13. **Do not show off—fly safely!**

**The Committee
Malta Model Aircraft Flying Association**

Statute

Malta Model Aircraft Flying Association

(2009 update)

1. Name

1.1 The name of the Association shall be the Malta Model Aircraft Flying Association herein after called the MMAFA or the Association.

2. Definition

2.1 The Malta Model Aircraft Flying Association is a **non-profitable** Association of people who as a hobby enjoy building and/or flying model aircraft for pleasure and for participation in competitive events.

3. Aims

3.1 The aims of the Association are to foster friendship and understanding between model aircraft enthusiasts, young and old alike and also to promote a general interest in aviation especially the acquisition of a more intimate knowledge of the physics of flight, model aircraft engines, electronics and the operation of radio control equipment.

4. Legal Representation

4.1 The legal representation for the Association shall be vested upon the incumbent President.

5. Membership

5.1 Persons over 18 years of age may join the Association as Full members.

5.2 Persons under 18 years may join as Junior members.

5.3 New applicants shall be seconded by two Committee members.

5.4 The Committee has the right to refuse applications without giving reasons.

5.5 The Committee or members may from time to time propose that Full Members be given Honorary Membership.

5.6 The categories of membership are as follows:

- Honorary members
- Full members
- Junior members

6. Administration

6.1 The Association shall be governed by a Committee (also called the Council) elected by its members every year as set out in article 9.

6.2 The Committee shall consist of the following:

- A President
- A Vice-President
- A Secretary
- A Treasurer
- A Public Relations Officer
- Two members

7. Sub-Committees

7.1 The Committee may delegate work to sub-committees consisting of two or more full members, not necessarily Committee members.

8. Independent Competitions Commission

8.1 The Committee is to nominate an independent Commission for each competition and the members of the Commission cannot take part in that competition.

9. Elections

9.1 Unless there is a vote of no confidence in the Committee, there shall be one election every year during a General Meeting.

9.2 If during an election a tie between nominated members exists, a vote shall be taken to establish who is to sit on the Committee.

9.3 The President shall be elected by a majority vote during elections.

10. Nominations

10.1 No member can be nominated for election to the Committee if the said member forms part of the committee of any other modelling club. Likewise, no Committee member can seek election on the committee of any other modelling club.

10.2 A member can only be nominated to sit on the Committee if he has been a Full Member for at least two consecutive years.

10.3 Those members of the committee whose term of office has expired may be nominated again to serve a further term.

11. Complaints

11.1 A member who has any complaint shall inform the Committee in writing, and the matter will be brought up during the following Committee meeting.

11.2 When a member makes a protest to the Committee, the member has the right to be present when the protest is discussed at the Committee meeting.

11.3 For disputes arising during or after competitive events, an independent Commission of three members acceptable to both or all parties is to be nominated by the Committee to seek a just solution. The Commission's decision shall be final and binding.

12. Absenteeism

12.1 Every Committee member shall do his utmost to attend all meetings.

12.2 A Committee member who for valid reasons cannot attend a Committee meeting must inform the Secretary in advance. His apologies for absence will be recorded in the minutes book.

12.3 A Committee member who for invalid reasons is absent from three consecutive Committee meetings may be replaced by a newly elected member.

13. Resignations

13.1 If any Committee member wishes to resign, then he must submit his resignation in writing to the President or the Secretary.

13.2 In the event of resignations, a new Committee member will be appointed in the order of the number of votes obtained in the previous election. Should not such members be available, the committee shall exercise the right of co-opting a member of the association who is fully paid up and has been a member for at least 2 consecutive years or is an honorary member.

14. Committee meetings

14.1 These shall be held as and when required but not less than four times annually.

14.2 The Secretary shall keep a record of the minutes of every meeting and this record shall be read by the Secretary for approval by the Committee at the next meeting. If the secretary is absent, another Committee member nominated by the members present may take his place.

15. Other meetings

15.1 An Annual General Meeting must be held every year either in January or February. At this meeting the Treasurer shall present his report audited by two members appointed during the previous AGM. An up-to-date inventory of the Association's material assets shall also be presented.

15.2 An Extraordinary General meeting may be held at any time following a call by any member having the backing of at least one third of the members.

15.3 An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called at any time by the Committee provided that the Secretary or his substitute mails the notice to all members at least seven days before the meeting.

16. Quorum

16.1 A quorum for Committee meetings shall consist of at least four members. The President or Vice-President must be present.

16.2 A quorum for General Meetings shall consist of 20 members including the members of the Committee.

17. Membership Fees

17.1 Honorary members shall not pay any membership fees.

Full members shall pay an annual fee of Euro 45

Senior members shall pay an annual fee of Euro 30

Junior members shall pay an annual fee of Euro 30

Family (more than one member from the same family, like father and son) shall pay an annual fee of Euro 65

Non flying members shall pay an annual fee of Euro 20.

17.2 New members, irrespective of category, shall pay an enrolment fee of Euro 20.

17.3 Fees must be paid by the end of February.

17.4 Fees include insurance cover for third party risks at Ta' Qali. Members not paying their fee by the end of February will have their membership terminated.

17.5 The Committee reserves the right to alter these fees if the need arises after approval by a General Meeting.

18. Finance

18.1 The Treasurer shall keep an up-to-date record of all income and expenditure incurred by the Association.

18.2 All the expenses incurred by the Association must have the approval of the Committee.

19. Rules

19.1 The Committee has the power to issue rules from time to time and every member must abide by these rules. Any rules so made must be communicated by circular to all members and every new member shall be given a copy by the secretary.

19.2 Every Committee member shall have the power to stop any member from flying at Ta' Qali if the latter's actions or equipment create a hazard to other members and the public.

19.3 The Committee is also empowered to suspend the membership of any member should circumstances so dictate.

19.4 Unless so suspended, a member is entitled to insurance coverage in the event of a claim and the Committee shall afford all assistance to support the claim.

20. Operation of R/C Equipment

20.1 No member shall be allowed to operate R/C equipment at Ta' Qali on the radio frequencies specified unless he is licensed to do so by the Chief Inspector of Wireless Telegraphy.

21. Limitation of use of site

21.1 The association has the lease from the Government of Malta of the flying site at Ta' Qali. The association binds itself not to make use of the site for any activity other than aeromodelling. Third parties will not be permitted to make use of the site for any activity whatsoever.

22. Dissolution

22.1 In the event of dissolution of the Association, all the property of the Association without any exception shall be liquidated and the proceeds distributed equally among all paid members.

23. Statute

23.1 A copy of the statute shall be given to every member of the Association.

23.2 For further details regarding procedures, the book "ABC of Chairmanship" by Lord Citrine shall apply.

24. Statute Amendments

24.1 The Statute may be amended only at Annual or Extraordinary General Meetings provided that two-thirds majority of the members present is obtained.

24.2 Proposed amendments are to be submitted in writing to the Secretary at least 14 days before the AGM.

24.3 In the event that an Extraordinary Meeting is called in order to change the Statute the proposed change is to be submitted along with the signed request by the proposer/s and one third of the paid up members.

Annual Dinner Pictures Friday 7 January



FOR SALE

Ys Yamada Fz120 four stroke supercharge, fuel injected, regulated and pressurized fuel system.

In mint condition. Selling due to change of project and needing a bigger Fourstroke.

Part exchange with a bigger four stroke engine considered. **Price 380 euro.**

Call John Cassar 79473200

FOR SALE

Boomerang Trainer model in good condition

Complete with OS 46 LA and all servos

Euro 160

Call Joe Filletti on 77942001

IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO

MMAFA PO Box 22 Balzan BZN1000

NEWSBEAT

The Official Newsletter of the
Malta Model Aircraft Flying Association

PLEASE SETTLE YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE

Make our Website your homepage so as to keep up to date with the Association's Activities
<http://www.mmafa.eu>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
FRIDAY 25 FEBRUARY
AT
THE TOPAZ APARTHOTEL
BUGIBBA
STARTING AT 6PM**