



M.M.A.F.A.

Official Newsletter of the Malta Model Aircraft Flying Association
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April 2020

Hello dear member,

It is practically impossible to write or talk to someone without mentioning the COVID 19 pandemic which has hit hard each and every one of us in many ways. Listening to the 12.30 News Conference by the Superintendent of Health has become the new important appointment for most of us. Staying in to avoid contagion has become the order of the day! New words and phrases which we never dreamt of like social and physical distancing, community spread and COVID-19 appeared in our daily vocabulary.

COVID-19 stands for the corona virus disease of 2019, when it was first identified. Originally called the "2019 novel coronavirus," is a highly contagious disease spreading across the globe. It is believed to be spread primarily by respiratory droplets from infected people. Fever, cough and shortness of breath are hallmark symptoms. Currently there is no vaccine or proven treatment for the virus that may cause severe respiratory disease, typically pneumonia, requiring hospital intensive care and which in some cases can be lethal.

In response to Government Notice issued on the 16th March 2020 ordering that with effect from Tuesday 17th March all gymnasiums, clubs, cinemas and tombola halls etc. must remain closed, the MMAFA had to close the Main Gate and Clubhouse. The lockdown came into effect on 17th March 2020.

Naturally the MMAFA Calendar of Events is suspended indefinitely. From now on, we have to follow instructions from the Health authority. However, the Committee can promise this: As soon as the Government 's partial lockdown is lifted, the temporary padlocks will be immediately removed from the gate and club house and the site will be opened 'for business' once again for all members to enjoy. It is also the wish and intention of the Committee to organize a Special Event to celebrate the victory over COVID-19 at the appropriate time. Details shall be issued at the opportune time.

Please take care and follow the instructions and directives of the Health Authorities. That is the way to get rid of this infamous virus in the shortest and safest possible time. Time to the better will and shall come. Be ready for a new beginning.



NOTICE BOARD

News from Committee:

Committee meetings are still taking place! Actually we 're meeting quite regularly on line. We 've been very busy keeping our house in order, managing issues and planning the way forward. Unfortunately we had to suspend the Calendar of Events indefinitely. Future events will be tailored according to future circumstances.

Work in progress and the vast maintenance and upgrade programme planned for this year also had to be postponed. The following is a short list of the repairs, improvements and embellishments which were approved by Committee prior the COVID-19 outbreak:

Luckily, runway maintenance, aluminium door and window were completed just in time. However the following list is still pending: New noticeboard was approved. Approval for refurbishment of benches. Safe Flying Barriers. 9 Nets in total. To start works on Start Up Areas. Implementation of Smoking Zone. Yellow Lines and No Parking Slot. To increase Internet Speed Connection. Door Ledge to be smoothed. CCTV to be taken care of.

Unfortunately all the above proposals and work in progress are now on hold. It is hoped that these improvements will be tackled as soon as the situation returns to normal.

Membership Fees: We understand that some cheques are still stuck at the Post Office Box as delivery / retrieval failed due to the pandemic. It is hoped that this will be sorted out soon and Membership Cards will be issued to all paid up members.

Meanwhile please do not send in your payments/correspondence by postal mail as this may cause delay. Preferably you may pay via a Bank Transfer for the time being. Later payments may be made on site when the field is reopened. Kindly contact the Committee on info@mmafataqali.com if you need any help or clarification.



Notice Board

Important Committee News

Reluctantly the Committee has to announce the resignation of Capt. Lino Xuereb. We would like to thank Lino for his very valuable and original contributions during his post on the MMAFA Committee. His work, energy and enthusiasm shall be greatly missed.

The vacated post of one Committee member is now filled by Mr. Ronald Carbonaro ; a bubbly and dynamic member who is very well known in model aircraft communities. We are confident that he will prove to be a big asset to the Association.

2019 Accounts

As promised earlier, you will also find a copy of the 2019 Final Accounts attached with this News Letter. The Accounts are signed and approved by Mr. Victor Saliba and Mario Micallef, missing the signature of Mr. Reuben Saliba in protest for Committee 's failing to mail the News Letter to members who do not have internet facility. His exact words are being reproduced here for transparency 's sake :

Quote: 'As I already had informed you (way back last year) I did not wish to audit the 2019 books . This is not a reflection of your handling of the accounts, as I do not doubt your integrity. This is merely a protest from my end since on many occasions I was assured by the committee that the club's newsletter would be sent to those paid club members who had no access to any internet facility. Despite the repetitive assurances given to me nothing had ever materialize ' . Unquote.

While thanking Mr. Reuben Saliba for his past contributions, the Committee together with Mr. Victor Saliba unanimously approve the Accounts as presented by the Hon. Treasurer who will be glad to give any explanation to each and every one of you if the need arises.

TAKE CARE STAY IN



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**Malta Model Aircraft Flying
Association**

Our first priority is safety and the well being of all Club members, third parties and property. This is closely followed by considerate behavior towards all fellow members. Respect the guidelines and regulations issued from time to time by the Committee. Same goes to directions by the Health Authority. The more we comply, the sooner we fly!

Regulations are there to protect you.
Let's do it together.

**Proud to form a part of Malta's Greatest
and Oldest Model Flying Club in Malta**

Take care

WE WILL PREVAIL