



Model Aerobatic Association
of South Africa

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

MODEL AEROBATIC ASSOCIATION

OF SOUTH AFRICA

(MAASA)

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CONSTITUTION OF THE MODEL AEROBATIC ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA (MAASA)

1. Name

The name of the Association shall be the Model Aerobatic Association of South Africa (MAASA). (Hereinafter referred to as the Association).

2. Affiliation

The Association may affiliate with any other legal entity having materially the same objects.

3. Objects

- a. To form an Association of Aero modelers, under the auspices of SAMAA who in turn are under the auspices of the FAI, CIAM and the South African National Aero Club of its equivalent and who in turn are officially representing all forms of aero modeling in South Africa.
- b. The Association has been formed to actively promote the construction and flying of aerobatic model aircraft.
- c. To foster comradeship amongst the members of the Association.
- d. To advance and protect the interest of all members of the association and persons engaged in the activities of the Association.
- e. To create competitive opportunities and to regulate or contribute to the regulations of such activities, at local, national and international level.
- f. To communicate and provide all relevant information on a regular basis to all members of the Association and, if applicable, the South African community as a whole.
- g. To establish links, relationships and to co-operate with National Interest Groups and model aircraft clubs, as well as international entities having the same objects.
- h. To promote the Association and aeromodelling in South Africa by organizing public displays, demonstrations and educational activities.
- i. To have as its guiding principal, the interest of the model enthusiast.

4. Legal Capacity

The Association shall be a body corporate not for gain, with perpetual succession and capacity to acquire rights and incur obligations independent of its members. All assets, funds or property of the Association shall be held or registered in the name of the Association as a corporation at law.

All income of the Association shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its objects and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly to any member(s), provided this shall not be construed to prohibit the bona-fide remuneration to any person or member of the Association for services rendered to the Association or the re-imburement to any member of the Association of reasonable costs incurred in pursuit of the objects of the Association.

5. Liability of Members

The liability of every member shall be limited to the amount of the relevant unpaid membership fee due by each member in terms of this Constitution and beyond this no member shall be personally liable for any debts or legal liability of the Association.

6. Membership

- a. The Association shall consist of at least 10 (members) and all future members that shall be admitted.
- b. Membership is Constitutional on:
 - b.1 Each member having a valid SAMAA membership.
 - b.2 Each member accepting and abiding by the Associations Rules and Regulations and the SAMAA rules and regulations.
- c. Members shall be classified as follow:
 - c.1 **Pensioner Member.** Any retired person substantially interested in model aircraft of any description shall be eligible for Pensioner Membership. Application shall always be made in writing accompanied by the relevant fee.
 - c.2 **Ordinary Member.** Any person substantially interested in model aircraft of any description shall be eligible for Ordinary Membership. Application shall always be made in writing accompanied by the relevant fee.
 - c.3 **Local Member.** Any person, as described in c.2, flying in the sportsman category who will only compete in his province of residence, may apply as in c.2.
 - c.4 **Dependent Member.** Any person, as described in c.2, who is financially dependant on parents, spouse, a pension, grant etc. may apply as in c.2. The committee may request confidential proof of such dependence for approval.
 - c.5 **Official Member.** Any person substantially interested in model aircraft of any description shall be eligible for Official Membership. Application shall always be made in writing accompanied by the relevant once off fee.
 - c.6 **Honorary Member.** In recognition of service or commitment to the association, Honorary membership of one years duration may be awarded.
 - c.7 **Honorary Life Member.** In recognition of meritorious service or potential influence in achieving the objects of the Association, any person may be recommended to the Management. The recommendation shall be submitted in writing and shall be co-signed by at least 20 members of the Association, who have held membership of the Association for at least two (2) years.
- d. The management Committee may refuse any application for membership without assigning any reasons therefore, whereupon all accompanying fees are refundable.
- e. Membership shall cease on the happening of any of the following events:
 - e.1 Failure to apply annual subscription within 30 days after the due date,
 - e.2 Upon receipt of written resignation,
 - e.3 Upon membership being terminated by the Management Committee in terms of this Constitution or any process instituted in terms thereof.
 - e.4 On the decease of a member.

- f. In the event of cessation of membership, all subscriptions and other fees paid shall be forfeited to the Association.

7. Subscriptions

- a. The annual subscriptions are due and payable to the Association on the 31th December of each year and payments are due within 30 days of this date. Should the Committee have determined that an increase is required, this increase may be approved by the members at the Annual General meeting or at a Special meeting.
- b. Subscriptions shall be determined for the categories of Pensioner Member, Ordinary Member, Local Member, Dependent Member and Official Member. A reduced rate in any Members joining the Association after the 1st July will be applicable for the balance of that particular association year. Such reduced rate shall be half of the normal annual subscription. No subscription shall be paid by an Honorary Life Member of the Association.
- c. A joining fee as determined at the Annual General meeting will be payable when joining the association.

8. Association year

The Association Financial year shall commence on the first day of January in each year and shall terminate on the last day of December of that year.

9. International, National and Provincial Championships

Only those members, who are good standing with the Association at the time of selection for and commencement of any Provincial, National or International Championship, shall be entitled to compete.

10. Management Committee

- a. All the business and related matters of the Association shall be managed, dealt with and finalized by the Management Committee of the Association (hereinafter referred to as the Committee).
- b. The Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Judge, Contest Director, International Public Relations Officer, National Public Relations Officer, totaling (8).
- c. The Chairman of the association shall be the Chairman of the Committee Meetings and in his absence the Vice-Chairman, and in the absence of both, the Committee shall elect a Chairman. The Chairman shall have a casting as well as deliberative vote and all decisions shall be carried by a simple majority of Committee members present.
- d. The Committee may co-opt additional members from time to time.
- e. All members of the Committee shall be SAMAA members.

11. Election of Members of the Management Committee

- a. The members to be elected in terms of Section. 10(b) shall be nominated and voted in by the members present at the AGM.
- b. Every member of the Association shall be entitled to attend and vote at any AGM, special meeting and interim meetings, provided the member is not in arrears with any payment due to the Association.

- c. Votes shall generally be counted by a show of hands, but the Chairman has the right to call for a secret vote (ballot) if the issue at stake is of such a nature as to require this.
- d. All voting shall be open to scrutiny by the members.

12. Powers of Management Committee

The Committee shall actively pursue the objects of the Association by managing and administering the affairs and business of the Association in terms of the laws of the Country, consider any matter affecting the flying of model aircraft, make representations, or take such action as the Committee deems advisable and in particular:

- a. Acquire, hire or dispose of property, borrow money on the scrutiny of the assets of the Association and accept and administer any trust of donation.
- b. Render financial assistance to any person or legal entity in order to promote and realize the objects of the Association.
- c. Delegate to any Committee or member of the Association such of its powers as it may from time to time determine, but shall not be divested of any power so delegated.
- d. Make rules on all matters that the Committee considers necessary or expedient in order that the objects of the Association may be achieved.
- e. Determine the subscriptions to be paid by the relevant classes of membership for each financial year in order to ensure that the objects of the Association are achieved on a sound long-term financial basis.
- f. Arbitrate on any issue to ensure that the objects of the Association are adhered to at all times.
- g. Discipline, after investigation and due process, any member of the association and may, after the process, terminate the membership of any member.
- h. Consider applications for Honorary Membership of the Association and finalize such applications and proposals as the Committee may deem fit.
- i. Determine the arrangements and criteria for international representation and participation.

13. Duties of Management Committee

a. Conflict of Interest

A Member of the Association or a member of a Committee of the Association to which powers of the Association have been formally delegated by the Committee, shall declare his / her position regarding an actual or potential conflict of interest prior to participating in discussion and voting on sole matters.

b. Motion of no Confidence

If a motion of no confidence is directed against a Committee member and is seconded and adopted by majority vote at any formal meeting of the Association, the sole member shall immediately vacate their position(s) whereupon the vacancies so created will immediately be filled in terms of Section 13(c) of the Constitution.

c. Vacancies

Every vacancy arising from the circumstances referred to in Section 13 (b) and (d) and every vacancy caused by death, or resignation of a member, shall be filled by a new Member elected at the following interim or Special meeting.

d. Attendance of Meetings

A member of any Committee of the Association vacates his / her position automatically if he / she is absent from more than two consecutive meetings of such Committee without the Committee's leave.

e. Minutes

The proceedings of each meeting of the Committee of the Association shall be preserved in Minutes compiled by a person designated prior to the commencement of such a meeting and shall be ratified at the next meeting, after confirmation, by the signature of the Chairperson of the meeting.

Ratified copies of the minutes of meetings of the Management Committee and ratified copies of the minutes of all meetings of the Association shall be preserved.

f. Duties of Chairperson of Management Committee

f.1 The Chairperson of the management Committee shall ensure that all Office Bearers are informed of their duties and perform their duties adequately and make necessary arrangements for assistance or relief if circumstances so require.

f.2 The Chairperson will set up the dates and venues for interim and special meetings and will chair these meetings and ensure that minutes are taken.

f.3 The Chairperson will ensure that the association operates in a controlled manner, and will have the power to authorize expenditure, represent the Association at meetings and rule on disciplinary matters.

f.4 The Chairperson will have a budget prepared and ensure that the Association operate within the budget.

f.5 The Chairperson is empowered after issuing a warning in writing, to request the resignation of any member of the Committee, Sub-Committee, who in his view, is not performing his duties adequately (after having received adequate assistance) or is obstructing the work of the Committee. Such a resignation request shall not be opposed by the Committee Member and his resignation will be tabled prior to the next Committee Meeting.

14. Association Meetings

- a. The Annual General Meeting: will be held Annually at the National Championships. At this meeting, the Annual report will be presented; matters of importance will be discussed, Constitutional changes approved and the Management Committee appointed. A quorum for this meeting is 20 members.
- b. Interim Meeting: a minimum of one per year will be arranged and held at a time and place convenient to the majority of the Association Members. A quorum of this meeting is 10 members.
- c. Special Meeting: these will be arranged by the Committee when required or if so requested, in writing by at least six members of the Association. The quorum for a special meeting will be 20 members.

15. Attendance in Meetings

- a. Save for the provisions of clause 15(e) hereof, every member of the association shall be entitled to attend and vote in person or by proxy at any Annual General Meeting, Special or Interim Meeting, provided he is not in arrears with any payment due to the Association. If such be the case then that person is disqualified from voting at such meetings. Admittance to the meeting may require the presentation of the member's membership card.
- b. The majority of the votes of members present and proxy votes, shall decide any question at the meeting except that in the case of a constitutional or dissolution matter where two-thirds majority of the votes of members present is required at an Annual General or Special Meeting.
- c. At all meetings the Chairman shall have a casting vote as well as a deliberate vote.
- d. Votes shall be given by a show of hands or ballots as decided by the Chairman.
- e. A junior member shall be entitled to be present at any meeting of the Association but shall not be entitled to vote thereat.
- f. Each committee member shall have one vote.
- g. Any member who is unable to attend may delegate his vote to another member attending the meeting. The proxy vote should be declared to the Secretary prior to the meeting to ensure its validity. A signed statement clearly showing the name, Association number of the absent member and the name of the member who is empowered to vote on his behalf, shall be required as evidence for each proxy. A maximum of four (4) proxy votes per Association Member present, shall be allowed. This proxy vote shall be included in the vote count.

16. Grievance and disciplinary Procedure

- a. In the case of either a Grievance being received from a member or a number of members or as in the case of a disciplinary matter the Chairman shall appoint a Sub-Committee to hold a hearing and come up with a recommendation. Such recommendation shall be presented to the Management Committee for further investigation.
- b. In unresolved cases the action could result in an Arbitrator being appointed and the Arbitrator's decision shall be final. The costs incurred will be apportioned by the Arbitrator and paid by both parties.

17. Auditor

The Management Committee shall annually appoint an Auditor, who shall not be a member of the Committee, for the ensuing year to examine and report upon the account of the Associations. The retiring Auditor shall be eligible for re-appointment.

18. Amendment of Constitution

- a. The Constitution may be repealed, substituted, amended or added to at the next Annual General Meeting, or a Special Meeting provided that any member desirous of moving any alteration, amendment or substitution shall notify the Chairperson by e-mail or any form of written communication of the intended amendment.

- b. Notice specifying the nature of the contemplated amendment, alteration or substitution shall be circulated to the Members of the Association, within a reasonable time, to their last known address.
- c. The alterations, amendment or substitution shall be accepted if approved by two-thirds majority of the Members present at the meeting.

19. Proof of Constitution

A copy of the Constitution certified by the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson of the Management Committee shall be accepted as evidence for all purposes whatsoever.

20. Interpretation of Constitution

Should the interpretation of any clause or sub-clause of this constitution be in doubt, the matter will be referred to arbitrators who are officially recognized in South Africa, and their decision will be final.

21. Dissolution

- a. The Association shall only be dissolved by a resolution passed by a two-third majority of the members present and entitled to vote at a Special Meeting called for that purpose.
- b. The quorum for such meeting shall be at least one-third of the total number of the members who are entitled to vote.
- c. Notice of such meeting shall clearly state that the dissolution of the Association and the disposal of its assets will be decided.
- d. If there is no quorum at such meeting, the meeting shall be adjourned to a date a reasonable time thereafter, at such time and place as shall be decided upon by the members in attendance and when it is resumed it shall finally decide with an ordinary majority vote irrespective of the number of members in attendance.

22. Disposal of Assets on Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of the Association, any property of the Association shall not be distributed to the Members but shall be transferred to or put into trust for some other Institution or Association having similar objects to those of the Association.