

**Minutes of a meeting of the SAMAA Management Committee  
3 March 2004 in the Aero Club Boardroom**

Present: Mr. D Armitage  
Mnr. JL Ehlers  
Mr. JR Godwin  
Mev. M Skinner (treasurer)  
Mr. RW Skinner (in the chair)  
Mnr. E Theron

Apologies: Mnr. A Beukes  
Mnr. J Coetzer

The chairman welcomed the members present and read the notice convening the meeting.

**Adoption of minutes**

On a proposal by Mnr. Ehlers, seconded by Mr. Armitage, the committee adopted the minutes of the meeting of 4 February 2004.

**Matters arising**

**1. Aero Club**

Mr. Skinner reported on the last aero Club board meeting he had attended.

He confirmed that he had received from the Aero Club the documents asked for at our last meeting.

The committee agreed that the SAMAA affiliation fees should in future, be based on membership numbers, (as confirmed by the year end audit). For the 2004 / 2005 year, the committee agreed to fees of R10.00 per Ordinary Member. Junior, Pensioner and Hon Life members will be excluded from the calculation. This arrangement will not change the status quo of competitors in FAI disciplines who must continue to hold valid FAI licences.

The committee also agreed in principle to commit to further increases in fees for the years 2005, 2006 and 2007.

Three of the committee members voiced concern over the nature and quality of services we might get from the Aero Club, based on past experience. The committee agreed to keep this matter under review.

Mr. Skinner undertook to notify the Aero Club of this decision.

RWS

## **2. Letter from Keith Nicolls and others**

The committee agreed to respond to Mr. Nicolls along the lines of the attached draft.

RWS

## **3. Election sub-committee**

Mr. Armitage volunteered to serve on the sub-committee. Mr. Skinner undertook to call for more volunteers.

RWS

## **4. Special Interest Groups**

The chairman confirmed that we had on file, Founding Statements from all the SIGs.

## **Finances**

The treasurer tabled the financial figures.

The committee authorized the following expenditure:

1. R1000-00 for the Scale Masters Tournament.
2. R3875-00 for CIAM expenses incurred by the Chairman.
3. Sending flowers to the Beukes family

MS

## **Administration, etc.**

The chairman reported that membership numbers now exceeded 3000 and that requests for new club registrations continued to flow in. This indicated a healthy spirit of enthusiasm and growth in the Association.

Mr. Godwin suggested that the committee should consider a more market-related arrangement for the admin work. He undertook to circulate some suggestions.

JRG

The chairman produced a prototype Long Membership Certificate. He said he had made a list of about 60 people, known to him to be members for more than 21 years. He also reported that he had asked long-standing members, via the March issue of SAMAA News, to get in touch with him. The committee agreed that the chairman should send certificates to the 60 members.

RWS

The chairman proposed to undertake a trip of a number of clubs over Easter. He undertook to draw-up an itinerary for the trip.

RWS

## **Think Tank – 27 March 2004**

The chairman undertook to work with Mnr. Coetzer to prepare a program for the think tank and circulate this for comment.

RWS, JC

**Other business**

1. Mnr. Ehlers reported that the Scale and Jets Nats gave the promise of being well supported. He said it was gratifying to note that the entry-level events – Sports Scale and Sportsman -- had attracted numerous entries.
2. Mr. Godwin mentioned that he had been approached by model flyers in Swaziland for help in helicopter set-up and flying. Mnr. Theron undertook to follow-up on this.
3. Mev. Skinner suggested that a National Register of Judges be established. The committee agreed that this was an item for the SIG chairmen to consider at the think tank.
4. The committee also agreed that the question of non-SAMAA pilots entering SAMAA events should be discussed at the think tank.
- 5.

ET

**Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held in the Aero Club Board room at 1900 on Wed. 7 April 2004

**Draft reply to Keith Nicolls**

Dear Keith,

The Aero Club has passed onto us your letter of...(insert date)... in which you express concern over some actions of the SAMAA Management Committee.

The Committee is determined to operate an open and transparent way, so it is as concerned as you are, if members should perceive any impropriety. The Committee is however, a little disturbed that you did not choose to approach it directly, or use any of the other methods available under the Constitution to raise the issues.

Please feel free to do this. The Committee feels certain that matters can be resolved rapidly and to mutual satisfaction. We can then all get back to model aircraft flying.

Yours Sincerely

For SAMAA Management Committee