



South African Model Aircraft Association

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To: All SAMAA members
Date: 16 October 2020

Communique # 9

Dear SAMAA member,

Greetings from the South African Model Aircraft Association (SAMAA) Management Committee (SMC).

The committee met on the 15th of October and wishes to share the following highlights.

1. The SMC entered into discussions with the owner of Corsair to iron out various matters. We are glad to report that the time vested in this matter, yielded great results, and we expect corrective actions to be implemented very soon, resolving all critical issues. We are pleased to see all is well again, and it just goes to show, one can resolve matters by having healthy dialogue. Well done to all involved.
2. Civil Aviation Technical Standards (CATS24) – We are **ecstatic** to report that the changes to CATS24 were finally **signed** by the Director of Civil Aviation and returned to the SAMAA. In essence, we now have means to legally fly model aircraft over 25kg, subject to following relevant procedures. The SAMAA is finalising this procedure and we will distribute it soonest. A big thumbs-up to the previous and current SMC members for this achievement; it was a long and arduous road but well worth it in the end.
3. Our YTD financial status can be summarised as very healthy. Early cost-cutting initiatives and recovery of lapsed membership came to fruition and is keeping the budget on track.
4. As previously reported, the Combined Nationals was declared a roaring success, especially in these difficult times we are faced with. Financially the SIG's made a bit of money that can always be put to good use for the next year's Nats. It was once again confirmed that the Combined Nats results in a cost-spreading, making this a viable event. Well done to all the SIG's and Chairmen, and to our loyal sponsor Aerial Concepts.
5. SAMAA News – In the previous communication we asked members to indicate their choice on the possibility of bringing back a printed version of SAMAA news. The replies to date indicated that most members are indeed happy with the electronic



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copy of the News. However, we did come across some amazing suggestions that spark new excitement – more on this in the weeks to follow.

6. The SAMAA office might need to move to a new location in the future. We do not expect this to happen this year, but then again 2020 is known for the unknown! Our host is renting out office space to tenants in the private and public sector. We will keep you posted.
7. Covid-19 and the increase in daily infections were discussed. It remains extremely important for all clubs to ensure compliance to their submitted plan! The status quo remains. We know that there are a few clubs that did not submit a Covid-19 Management plan, and these clubs are there for non-compliant. This could potentially have a negative effect on the good spirit of co-operation experienced this far.
8. Now that we are enjoying some relaxation in our flying activities, proficiencies testing at clubs resume in earnest this will result in an overall skill level increase. Support from clubs will be highly appreciated
9. The SMC is in good shape (lol) and very positive about the direction we are taking. Our bi-weekly communications have yielded great results, further contributing to our relationship with members and clubs. We are currently discussing a few very exciting proposals, further supporting our plans to strengthen SAMAA and its stakeholders for 2021.

The year-end is near, much to the relief of many of us. However, stay strong, stay committed, stay healthy, and keep on flying!

SAMAA Management Committee



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