

# MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## South African Model Jet Association (SAMJA)

### Held at ZWARTKOP AIR FORCE BASE

At 09h00 on 10/10/2013

The chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

1) **Members Present** (as per the circulated membership listing)

Marthinus Potgieter, (Chairman), Glen Roberts (Vice Chairman), Dave Armitage (Secretary), Johan Groenewald (Treasurer) Dylan Roberts, (Webmaster), Greg Donaldson (Event Coordinator), Zane Mannel, Johan Ehlers, Mark savage, Chris van Rensburg, Tobie Kock, Pierre Fouche, Dean Grobbelaar, Granville Dunbar, Bort Dennyschen, Dieter Lettau, Roland Eggar.

2) **Apologies**

Craig Buck, Francois Viljoen, Neville Wright.,

3) **Validity of the Meeting**

The meeting was declared valid with a minimum of eight members and all the committee members present.

4) **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the last AGM having been circulated, they were taken as read and approved. Acceptance proposed by Johan Groenewald and seconded by Dean Grobbelaar.

5) **Matters Arising from the Minutes.**

a) At last years AGM an amount of R13000.00 was approved for the purchase of a trailer to carry SAMJA's field equipment. This has not been done because registration of the trailer to SAMJA cannot be done. It could be registered to SAMAA, but then the security of the ownership might become a problem.

b) Item 7 of the Constitution states that no member shall be personally liable for any debts or legal liability of SAMJA. The liability law in South Africa has changed. SAMJA is still awaiting confirmation of this clause. As no clarification has been received the item will remain in the constitution.

6) **Chairman's Report**

This was read out by the Chairman, This was well received, a copy of which is attached. This was accepted and was proposed by Glen Roberts and seconded by Chris van Rensburg.

7) **Treasurers Report**

Johan Groenewald presented a shortened version of the financial report.

a) A copy is attached. The association is in a very secure financial state, The association assets are still in place. Investments bring in +/- R6000.00 pa. Bank charges have dropped probably due to the level of the accounts and the use of EFT rather than cash payments.

Acceptance proposed by Dean Grobbelaar and seconded by Dylan Roberts.

- b) The Chairman reported that about 60% of SAMJA members had easy access to Zwartkop AFB. During negotiations with the base it was established that the Museum is losing money hosting us. This mainly due to +/- R1500 having to be paid to reservist Air Force personnel to give us coverage. It was proposed that the next years' donation to the Museum be R20000.00 and the daily flying fee be raised to R80.00 per day. This would cover one day per month general jet flying plus the Nationals etc. Support for this was unanimous. Boet Dennyschen then suggested that prepayment of the flying days might be good thing and suggested a reduced rate of R600.00 for a years' upfront payment and that the daily fee be increased to R100.00. This was seconded by Zane Mannel and accepted by the members.
- c) It is proposed that SAMJA has the first Sunday in every month as a jet day. This will obviously need clarification and authorization by the Air Force.
- d) It was also suggested by the chairman that maybe we could negotiate a small lock up room for SAMJA equipment to be stored on the base. If this takes place then the need for a trailer falls away.
- e) Johan Ehlers has been promoted to IJMC chief judge and Kenny Morey is also coming up to speed as a judge. The IJMC will probably cover most of Johan's expenses but Kenny may well need funding by SAMJA. The Chairman requested the meetings consent to do this should the amount of funding go over the R10000.00 limit the committee can utilize at present without membership authorisation.
- f) The SAMJA membership system running on Excel spreadsheets is poor and the SAMAA system is not available to us. It was OK when the association had 24 members but now with 114 it is not viable. The Chairman asked the meeting authority to investigate the purchase of a non html website system to incorporate the membership package with a fee payment system incorporated. This proposal was agreed to by the membership present.

## 8) **IJMC Report**

Johan Ehlers gave a report back from the IJMC meeting held in Switzerland.

- a) All other aero modeling in the world is controlled by CIAM, part of the FAI. The IJMC is outside of this and is very strong. It has huge support worldwide. Bob Skinner initially orchestrated discussions to try and incorporate the IJMC into the FAI but these talks broke down. The CIAM president was at the IJMC meeting in Meiringen so this may be another attempt to unification.
- b) Winnie Ohlgard has retired but is now honorary President.
- c) Mark Frohm is now president
- d) Johan Ehlers is Chief Judge after Dave Tappins retirement.
- e) He will be attending a workshop that will be taking place during November to formulate proposals and change the F4J rules to reduce the effect of "gimmicks". These proposals will be presented to the full IJMC committee at the January meeting.
- f) The next IJMC World Jet Masters will take place at a castle in Leutkirch airfield in the Allgau region. The field is owned by Count Waldburg von Zeil. This area has a 1000 metre runway and is not too far from Lake Constance, Southern Germany. It will provide an excellent venue for the event.

## 9) **10<sup>th</sup> World Jet Masters Meiringen**

Boet Dennyschen gave his report back from this event.

- a) The team consisted of Francois Diedrehsen and Morne Nortier with Boet as Team Manager.

- b) The venue was picturesque but not an easy flying site with a mountainous backdrop.
- c) Both SA models were good but the pilots needed more flying time with them to be able to be competitive. Francois improved with every flight but Morne's aircraft went free flight at times.
- d) Event was well organized but the site cramped.
- e) SA Team finished 12<sup>th</sup> out of 16 countries.

**10) Regional Reports**

- a) None received from Mark Savage re the Durban area
- b) Pierre Fouche reported that the Free State area is progressing with a few jet pilots in most clubs. External visits have been well received and the hope is that more members will come aboard in the future.

**11) Constitutional Changes**

- a) None received externally
- b) The Chairman related the existing constitutional types of membership of SAMJA
  - 1) Ordinary Members stays as is
  - 2) Honorary Members – Awarded in recognition of services provided to the association. The status at present is that at least half of the membership has to approve an honorary membership. This is impossible to police as the members are countrywide so an amendment was introduced. This to be amended to being recommended by at least eight members and then approved at the AGM. Zane stated that this should also be presented at the AGM. This was carried by the meeting with a show of hands.
- c) The Chairman then promptly presented Dave Armitage, with an honorary membership certificate. Thank you very much gentlemen, I am suitably honored.

**12) Election of Office Bearers.**

- a) The current committee has stated it was available to stand again except for Dave Armitage (moving overseas) and Dylan Roberts. Zane Mannel has indicated he will take over the secretary's job and Marthinus has recommended that he brings Davon Lamprecht onto the committee. Davon is a full time SAA pilot with many years safety experience. He will be expected to provide many "guidelines" to SAMJA members on the many safety issues experienced within SAMJA.
- b) Johan Ehlers then proposed that the modified committee be accepted by the meeting. This was accepted unanimously by the meeting.
- c) The Chairman expressed concern that complacency in the future should not happen and a new sustainable committee should be in the pipeline. Members should be planning and continue to plan for this.
- d) The meeting closed at 10h02 there being no further business.



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### SAMJA Chairman's Report for November 2012 to October 2013

Once again, twelve months have gone by and we are at the next SAMJA AGM. It has been an extremely busy year for me, at work and also at home with children participating in several extra-mural activities. Unfortunately my flying took somewhat of a back seat, but I hope that will change at the beginning of 2014 because I have some new projects on the work bench.

Soon after our last AGM in 2012, we had our second Zwartkop Open Flying Day for all SAMJA members and during the last year we have seen the interest and attendance grow significantly to almost thirty jet pilots attending some one-day event. Unfortunately, due to the recent misconduct at Waterkloof Air Force Base by employees and politicians, and a spate of crime at Zwartkop Air Force Base, it seems that all rules and security measures are being fully enforced and some privileges cancelled. We are in the process of re-negotiating our next twelve months and I was given a clear understanding that we will have to pay a lot more for the venue next year. The last donation to the Museum was ten thousand rand and we managed to recover that by charging a landing fee. Seven thousand eight hundred rand was collected, therefore our association only had to pay two thousand two hundred rand for the ultimate jet flying venue. Corsair also became available as a suitable jet flying venue late last year and the facilities are superb, albeit sometimes very crowded.

March 2013 saw the official 2013 SAMAA SIG AIR Show hosted at the museum for which I was responsible. It was a huge success and we managed to raise about forty five thousand rand for the SAMAA SIG's and donated over and above that twelve thousand rand to the Museum. SAMJA members played a very prominent role in the air show with Zane Mannell being the Air Show Director and Johan Groenewald the Flight Line co-ordinator. Our jet pilots also did us proud with the spectators begging for more jets all the time. Thank you very much for all who supported and participated in this event.

The SAMJA OPEN that was scheduled for 24 & 25 May 2013 was cancelled due to a lack of interest. I am sure that the latter was as a result of the fact that everyone who wanted to qualify for the 2013 World Jet Masters had already done so. Historically, there has been the same pattern every second year.

Unfortunately, I had to announce the passing of one of our founding members, James Peel, on 27 May 2013. James was a dear friend of my family and I am very sure that many of you had some interaction with James somewhere along the line. James will be sadly missed. We received a lot of condolences from all over the world revealing just how much a part of the jet community he was. An obituary was published in the SAMAA news by Mark Savage.

In August 2013, we were represented at the 10<sup>th</sup> Jet World Masters in Meiringen in Switzerland by Boet Denyssen as team manager and Francois Diedrehsen and Morné Nortier as competitors. Francois came 22<sup>nd</sup> and Morné 31<sup>st</sup>. Congratulations to the team and thank you to all the supporters who accompanied them. The Jet World Masters also saw for the first time ever, a competitor and first place contender being disqualified and banned from the organisation for life due to the dishonest manipulation of documentation. I would like all F4J pilots to take note of this. It is always tempting to Photo Shop some pictures and detail, but I can assure you that it is not worth the shame and repercussions that will take place, especially since, in our case you represent your country and very serious penal steps will be taken. Annemarié Ehlers also made us proud as the official scorer of the event and despite facing some serious equipment failure on the last day, all her score sheets were validated and signed off as correct. The latter is rather in contrast to previous years.

At the IJMC AGM held at the event our SAMJA Chief Judge, Mr Johan Ehlers, was appointed to the IJMC Board as Judges' Representative replacing David Tappin. This is a huge honour bestowed on Johan as he will be in charge of all judges' affairs with regards to the IJMC. I would like to congratulate Johan on this achievement. Johan Ehlers has also been appointed as IJMC representative for South Africa as he will automatically be present at all meetings. Johan takes over from Mark Savage and I would like to thank Mark for the last ten or so years that he kept the line of communication going.

At the last SAMAA SIG meeting a motion was carried to redesign the international funding model. I can inform you that there will be no more up front hand-outs for participation, but rather achievement based bonuses. The general consensus from the SIG's is to lean heavily towards TEAM PERFORMANCE, rather than individual performance.

We recently got the news that Dave and Pam Armitage will be leaving South Africa on a permanent basis to settle in Cyprus. I would like to thank Dave especially for a very long and devoted association to jet flying and serving the South African radio control community in general for many, many years. Dave, please accept our good wishes and blessings and the Boomerang being dragged around by the aerial will be dearly missed. Please be assured that you will always be welcome as an honoured guest of SAMJA.

Membership management has become a rather difficult task as we still manage our membership on an Excel spread sheet. When there were only twenty or thirty members, it was not a problem, but with one hundred and fourteen paid up members currently, it has become a huge challenge. Many members ask when they will receive membership cards and

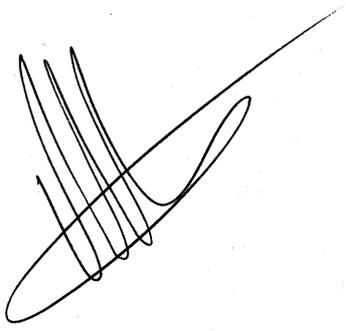
I have to unfortunately apologise that it has not happened due to my personal work load and also because we are in the process of trying to upgrade to an internet based self-help portal. I have met with several role players in this specific industry to identify the easiest way to do it and it seems that we will have to create a non-html based website that incorporates our membership management package. I personally think that our website is long overdue for an upgrade and I would like to thank Dylan Roberts for the stout effort he made by creating it in no time when the previous one was discontinued and he did that with no previous experience. If this AGM approves the budget for this system, the newly elected committee should immediately start with the development.

To all the new members who joined over the last twelve months I would like to extend a very warm welcome. I have seen over this period many new faces at the flying fields and many new friendships being made. Please keep SAMJA the friendly and supportive organisation I believe it has become and refrain from unfounded criticism and negative rumour mongering as it has no place in our organisation. Try to accommodate each other, support each other and promote our discipline and association.

At our last Zwartkop Open Flying day we had an unfortunate incident when one of our members was injured trying to stop a jet whose oleo had collapsed. Although he successfully prevented it from damaging another jet, he himself ended up with fourteen stitches. We were reminded once again of the amount of kinetic energy that one of these aircraft carries. I would like to ask all members to keep safety as their number one priority and not to sacrifice it by the eagerness to fly. Do not fly a jet with an air leak, no brakes etc. as in many cases it has cost the pilot his plane and, as in this case, actually caused injury. Also, do not run repair workshops next to the field trying to repair your plane under pressure. Rather go home and spend time on it and bring to the field a well sorted jet that will give us all lots of enjoyment and not frustration.

Finally, I would like you to know that SAMJA is in a very healthy and affluent state. At the time of writing this report we had a bank balance of approximately one hundred and ninety thousand rand and the association is still growing. The latter I can only lay at the feet of the members who encourage and promote others to participate. I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to make SAMJA what it is and please keep up the positive and good work.

May you all have a wonderful festive season and may you and your families travel and return safely so we can enjoy another year of jet flying.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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Marthinus JF Potgieter

Chairman

10 October 2013