

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

2020-2021

Victorian Motorless Flight Group Inc. trading
as
MELBOURNE GLIDING CLUB



Assoc. No. A0025166A ABN 85 247 311 275

Held via Videoconference – 31 August 2021

Meeting commenced at 1930

Attendance - Present:

1	Adam Webb	19	Nick Callegari
2	Alan Payne	20	Norm Hearn
3	Alexey Koloskov	21	Paul Spooner (Committee)
4	Alice Berriman (Committee)	22	Peter Kingston
5	Bob Hickman	23	Pietro Gottoli
6	Greig Wanless	24	Richard Gray
7	Helen Chapman	25	Roger Druce
8	Iain Gilmore (Vice President)	26	Roger Kreuger (Committee)
9	Ian Northey	27	Ron Fox
10	Ian Grant	28	Ruth Patching
11	James Curry (Secretary)	29	Steve Brennan
12	John Fawcett	30	Steve Coulton
13	John Parncutt	31	Steve Trone (Committee)
14	Marc Hugelshofer (Committee)	32	Sujai Thomman
15	Mark Hunt (CFI / Committee)	33	Tegan Lodge
16	Matt Swinn	34	Tighe Patching (President)
17	Michael Aldridge	35	Tony Carling (Treasurer)
18	Murray Stimson		

1. Apologies

Nil

No proxies received or held

2. Acceptance of Previous Minutes

Motion: To accept the 2020 AGM minutes as true and correct

Moved: Ian Grant

Seconded: Paul Spooner

Motion Carried

3. President's Report – Tighe Patching

Challenging 12 month period for the club, with heavy restrictions on flying and the ability of members to meet.

Club has continued to be successfully run and improved, with some significant decisions made through the year. CQP was sold and planning for a new glider (consistent with the Club's Fleet Strategy), and a major instrumentation upgrade was purchased, with Richard Traill leading the project.

Consistent flying membership with an increase of six flying members on last year. The aim is to increase flying members up to over 100, and to increase flying hours per member

Threats which have emerged, continued or been dealt with through 2020-21 included:

- Airspace review proposed by Airservices Australia: Special thanks provided to Matt Swinn for his work in providing a feedback report on behalf of the club. This threat has dissipated for now.
- Western Transmission Line: High voltage power corridor which threatened the airspace surrounding Bacchus Marsh airfield. Of the two possible corridors being considered, the less-impactful Northern corridor is now the preferred option.
- Legal action between BMAM and TVSA flying school: Ongoing, and expected to not be resolved for ~12 months.

There are many post-Covid opportunities for the Club to explore. A strong interest in gliding has been apparent, with many potential members reaching out to the Club.

Tighe highlighted the importance of a volunteer culture to enable the continued operation of the club.

On stepping down from the role of President, Tighe thanked the club for the honour of continuing a family tradition as Club President, and provided specific thanks to the contributions of the committee members and club members for their support.

4. Treasurer's Report – Anthony (T) Carling

Treasurer's report and brief provided by Tony Carling

Major financial events:

- COVID
- BCK Airframe overhaul (within funding provision)
- CQP Sale
- Re-assessment of glider maintenance provision
- ~\$15k cash burn rate in a COVID year

Accounting changes:

- Change to methodology for the year in which membership fees are counted, in order to simplify handling of EOFY accounts.

Positive factors:

- No bad debts
- Tug overhauls completed within cash reserve
- Strong ab-initio flying
- COVID grants from State Government
- CQP sale
- Purchase of S100 Varios
- Positive cash flow

Challenges

- COVID
- AEF revenue
- Member flying hours (camps especially)
- Asset replacement saving
- Use of David Wilson memorial fund – scholarship unclaimed

There were periods of no flying during lockdown (22 weeks impacted), with strong recoveries in the short windows between lockdowns. Large period of no AEFs, with a gradual recovery, but below previous years.

Positive cash flow of \$26,391 for previous year – less immediate operating expenses.

Out of this needs to come

- Depreciation / asset replacement
- Maintenance
- Insurance provision
- Bad debts

Estimate of \$26k shortfall in order to cover these provisions.

Floor opened for questions:

- Nil, comment provided by Tighe that the club is cash positive but must plan for the future.

Motion: To accept the annual accounts for the 2020-2021 financial period

Moved: Tony Carling
Seconded: Tighe Patching
Motion Carried

Tighe Patching provided a specific thanks to Tony Carling on behalf of the club, for his work as Treasurer over the past six years.

Tony thanked Michael Aldridge in his work processing flight sheets and in setting up many automations and workflow improvements. TC plans to nominate as financial reviewer for next year's accounts.

Tony provided the club with a brief on the new AEF form process he has implemented.

5. CFI Report – Mark Hunt / Paul Spooner

Mark thanked Paul for his work in the role of CFI during the past five years. COVID restrictions led to some challenges, particularly with regard to loss of currency of the entire instructor roster during lockdowns. Weekday annual checks used in order to rapidly resume normal operations. Ground school sessions conducted online to maintain some engagement with students during lockdown.

Mark pointed out the GFA 'Currency Barometer' standards – encourages members to seek check-flights and be mindful of the conditions when their currency is lower than typical.

- Three first solos conducted in past 12 months (Andrew Callegari, Nick Callegari (return to gliding), Alberto Casal-Barreiro)
- 1-week course planned for post-COVID period
- Regular Condor flying
- Some good cross-countries at Raywood Christmas Camp

Threats and learnings from past year:

- Airspace breaches
- Wheels-up landings
- Currency

Pending COVID:

- Melbourne Cup Weekend - Raywood
- Christmas Camp – Wangaratta
- Horsham Coaching Week
- Easter Camp (Benalla)

Currently aiming at a full instructor roster, by both training some new instructors and bringing back some old hands.

Will be encouraging members to participate in both club camps and non-club camps.

6. Confirmation of Reviewer of Financial Statements

Motion: To accept Tony Carling as independent reviewer of the club’s annual financial reports for the upcoming 2022 FY.

Moved: Tony Carling

Seconder: Alice Berriman

Motion Carried

7. Confirmation of Representatives to Insurance Reserve Fund

TP: Given the current changes to the committee and key roles, proposes that this item is left as committee business to be handled by the incoming committee.

No opposition to this proposal.

8. Adoption of the Annual Fees

A small increase to the annual fees are proposed by the Committee, in response to the growing expenses of club operations and recognition of no fee increases for the prior two years.

Adult (O26-U65)	\$320
Masters (O65)	\$255
Youth (U26)	\$160
Youth (U21 and U18)	\$65
GFA Family Flying	\$50
GFA Family	Nil
Life (Honorary life) Life members are elected by AGM resolution	Nil
Non-flying membership Associate (Social)	\$50
Honorary	Nil

Motion: That the club fees are increased per the proposed values recommended by the Committee (tabulated above).

Moved: Tighe Patching

Seconded: Helen Chapman

Motion Carried

9. Election of Office Bearers

President: -
Vice President: -
Treasurer: -
Secretary: J Curry
Committee Members: Matt Swinn
Mark Hunt
Steve Trone
Marc Hugelshofer
Nick Callegari

No formal vote required as the number of committee positions exceeds nominations.

TP provided a short comment on the absence of nominations for the roles of President, Vice President and Treasurer, and the importance of a volunteer culture to sustain the club.

10. Other business and Q&A

TP opened the floor for questions:

Roger Druce: “Do we have a functional safety representative in the club?”

- TP: We do have a member in this role, but the incoming committee will have a discussion with this member on their intentions moving into the coming year.

Tony Carling: “Are there any other positions to put a call out for, outside of the previously mentioned committee roles?”

- TP: Maintenance remains an ever-present demand, and any members with an interest should contact Richard Traill. Tegan Lodge has offered to take on the Lead Duty Pilot role. The president and treasurer roles remain the most important roles which currently require fulfilment.

Roger Druce provided comments on airworthiness:

- NDG is being repaired to fix damage to the undercarriage. A significant amount of re-assembly will need to be performed at Bacchus Marsh, as the glider was stripped prior to maintenance. This presents an excellent opportunity for learning about sailplane internals and the assembly of the aircraft.
- COVID is pushing maintenance work in the later part of the year – volunteer support is appreciated and required to facilitate this effort.

11. Annual Awards

Club awards were presented in lieu of the annual dinner. TP thanked Richard Traill and Alice Berriman for their assistance in generating the awards list.

Years of membership:

10: Mark Hunt

15: Paul Spooner, Steve Coulton, Axel Allgaier (Associate)

30: John Fawcett, Jim Karamalarkis, John Parncutt

35: Roger Krueger, Guido Tomisich (Associate)

40: Ian Grant

Fred Gascoigne Award / *Student of the Year*

Andrew Callegari

Sky Pig / *Most Flights by Non-Instructor*

Marc Hugelshofer

Toiler's Tankard

Richard Traill – For continuous efforts on airworthiness and maintenance, as well as for leading the S100 vario project

Alan Patching Award – Instructor of the Year

Peter Kingston

Ron Roberts Trophy: *Longest flight from home airfield in a club glider*

Richard Traill & James Nugent 440.19km (10/02/2021 – Duo Discus – Bacchus Marsh)

Brian Reid Trophy / *Longest Flight in a Club Glider*

Richard Traill & James Nugent 440.19km (10/02/2021 – Duo Discus – Bacchus Marsh)

Roger Druce Award / *Cumulative Kilometres from Bacchus Marsh*

Richard Traill – 1306.11km

Bob McCullough Award / *Cumulative in a Club Glider:*

Sujai Thomman 1249.56km

Gary Sunderland Trophy / *Cumulative OLC Points*

Richard Traill – 5884

Lord Casey Trophy / *Longest Flight in Any Glider (Most OLC Points)*

Richard Traill – 781.38km (7/01/2021 – ASG 29E – Raywood)

President's Award:


Tony Carling for his service as Treasurer

Paul Spooner for his service as CFI

12. Meeting Closure

Tighe P closed the meeting at 2105

Confirmed as a Correct Record

Chairperson: 

Date: 3/9/2021