

Sunset Soaring Club, Inc.
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, 22 March 2006

Time: 8:00 pm – 9:30 pm
Venue: Aurora Drive Clubhouse, St Ives Chase

ATTENDEES:

Peter Smith	Martin Bradley
Robin Simpson	Barrie Hill
Andrew Baber	Mike Gallagher
Tim Wooller	Tony Brown
Dave Curtis	Greg Gallagher
John Ellis	Alan Sturdy
David Foster	Michael O'Reilly
David Leitch	Tim Strong

APOLOGIES

Hartmut Lautenschlager	Jim Henwood
Karl Miller	Phil Stanley
Philip Smith	Steve Cairns

1.0 Introductory Business

1.1 President's Welcome

President Peter Smith opened the meeting at 8:10 pm and welcomed those present.

1.2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Sunset Soaring Club AGM for 2005 were noted.

Motion: That the minutes of the 2005 AGM be approved.
Moved – Dave Leitch, Seconded – Barrie Hill. *Carried.*

2.0 Annual Reports

2.1 President's Report: Peter Smith presented his report - attached as Appendix 1.

Motion: To accept President's report:
Moved - Barrie Hill, Seconded - John Ellis. *Carried.*

2.2 Treasurer's Report: Barrie Hill presented the 2006 accounts – attached as Appendix 2.

Motion: To express a vote of thanks and to accept the Treasurer's report:
Moved – Dave Leitch, Seconded – Dave Curtis. *Carried*

2.3 Secretary's Report: Robin Simpson presented his report – attached as Appendix 3.

Motion: To accept the Secretary's report:
Moved – Barrie Hill, Seconded - John Ellis. *Carried*

3.0 Election of Office Bearers

3.1 Resignations and Election of Vice President and Equipment Officer

Peter Smith announced that Hartmut Lautenschlager had resigned as Vice President and Barrie Hill wished to resign as Equipment Officer to focus on his role of Treasurer.

Vice President:	Tim Wooller	Nom: Barrie	2 nd : Martin
Equipment Officer:	Tony Brown	Nom: Peter	2 nd : Barrie

As no other nominations were received, the motions were carried and both were declared elected.

3.3 Re-election of Executive and Committee Members

The secretary temporarily took the chair while the election of President was held. *Motion:* that as no other nominations had been received, all committee members who were re-standing for their positions should be declared elected – Proposed Tim Wooller, 2nd: Dave Leitch. The motion was carried and the following were declared elected:

President:	Peter Smith
Treasurer:	Barrie Hill
Secretary:	Robin Simpson
Operations & Safety:	Andrew Baber
Chief Pilot & Training	Martin Bradley
Simulator Officer	John Ellis
Web Master:	Robin Simpson

4.0 General Business

There was a wide ranging discussion led by Peter Smith which led to several important decisions agreed by members present that will affect club operations.

The code of conduct will be updated, but those present suggested that it was important to let all members know about these key decisions as soon as possible. They are best summarised as follows:

- 4.1 **Safety Issues to be addressed** – In recognition of the danger to fellow members from increasingly powerful motors, heavier models and high-speed spinning propellers, effective immediately:
- Electric motors may not be run up or tested while in the pits. Move your model away from other people, preferably behind the baseball fence, and orient the propeller away from yourself and other people.
 - No flying from the centre of the field. As soon as practical after launch, move behind the flying line.
 - No taxiing towards the pits or other people or pilots.
 - Before planning your approach from the North, be careful to check for members of the public on the path.
 - The 30 metre rule must be observed at all times, including while on approach and while taxiing.
- 4.2 **No Bronze Wings to fly solo** - Effective immediately, the requirement for new members to achieve Bronze Wings before being permitted to fly solo is rescinded.
- In its place is a new requirement that all new members must be certified as competent by our MAAA certified Instructors before being permitted to fly solo.
 - The solo certification will be for a specific model
 - Members will not be permitted to fly solo with any other model until they have been endorsed on that model by an Instructor.

- 4.3 **No Bronze Wings to retain flying status after July 1** - The requirement for all existing members to achieve Bronze Wings by 1 July 2006 to retain flying member status was rescinded.
- Existing members who went solo before this requirement was introduced (1 July 2005) may continue to fly solo at the discretion of an Instructor.
 - The club will now operate under a three tier competency rating system: Solo, Bronze Wings, and Gold Wings.
 - Instructors will still train and strongly encourage members to achieve Bronze and Gold status, but as recognition of their competency and achievement rather than as a requirement for solo flying status (but note LiPo requirement below).
- 4.4 **Lithium Polymer battery ban lifted** - Effective as soon as the safety equipment noted below has been purchased, the blanket ban on the use of Lithium Polymer (LiPo) batteries at our Golden Jubilee Field has been rescinded. However, each of the following safety conditions must be strictly observed at all times:
- Only pilots who have achieved Bronze Wings are permitted to fly with LiPo batteries.
 - Only LiPo cells fitted with cell balancing circuits are permitted
 - All charging must be by means of an appropriate "Charge-Guard" cell balancing device and must take place in a fire-proof container (e.g. terracotta pot with cover).
 - No charging of LiPos is to take place in cars or in the car-park
 - A fire extinguisher and fire blanket (to be purchased by the club) must be readily available at all times whilst LiPo batteries are being used or charged.
 - Lithium Ion cells will not be permitted.
 - The phone number of the Ku-ring-gai fire brigade (9485 5000) is to be permanently attached to the frequency board.
 - Any member breaking any one of these rules is to be banned from using LiPos for a period of not less than six months.
- 4.5 **Your personal responsibility for insurance excess** – Effective immediately, in any training situation where an aircraft is damaged, the Club rule is that the owner of the aircraft is responsible for the MAAA insurance policy excess of \$250, no matter who is in control of the aircraft when the damage occurs.
- This rule applies whether the trainer is a certified instructor or a voluntary helper
 - In all other cases, the pilot of any aircraft which is damaged is responsible for the insurance excess, whether or not they own the aircraft.
- 4.6 **Flying outside club hours or locations** – It was clarified that members are covered for insurance while flying outside normal club hours, or when flying at another field, provided:
- All CASA and MAAA rules are followed (e.g. 30 metre rule)
 - Flying model aircraft is not explicitly prohibited at the field

Note: some personal Home & Contents insurance policies also cover public liability while flying model aircraft. Check your policy as it may provide additional cover beyond the MAAA policy.

5.0 Close

- 5.1 The next AGM will be held on a date to be decided in Early 2007.
- 5.2 The meeting closed at 9:30 pm.

Appendix 1 – President's Report

Thank you to all members for a safe flying year.

Major events and changes:

- Adoption of the MAAA licensing system- bronze and gold wings.
- Participation in 'Festival at St. Ives Green'.
- Council planting of trees at northern end of Golden Jubilee Field.
- Introduction of 2m glider competition.
- New signs, refurbishment of frequency board & a new bungee supplier.
- A large number of new members especially beginners.
- Thankyou to all presenters on our S&T evenings.
- Thankyou to Yvonne and Barrie for the use of the Clubhouse and organizing refreshments.

The main objectives of our Club have been achieved –

Safe, fun flying for all Members.

Peter Smith
President
22 March 2006

Appendix 2 – Treasurer's Report – see over

**Sunset Soaring Club
Annual Accounts to 28/1/06**

INCOME

Membership:

SSC associate 380.00
SSC Junior email 368.00
SSC senior 405.00
SSC senior email 5311.75

TOTAL Membership

6464.75

Other Income:

Club caps:

Cap Purchases -130.00
Cap Sales 160.00
TOTAL Club caps 30.00

Clubhouse Refreshments:

Tea Money collections 50.00
Tea Refreshment Costs -28.53
TOTAL Clubhouse Refreshments 21.47

Bank interest 1.07
Simulator Hire 90.00

TOTAL Other Income

142.54

TOTAL INCOME

6607.29

EXPENSES

Bank charges -114.75
Dept of Fair Trading -41.00
Equipment Costs -148.19
Ground Hire -1327.50

MASNSW:

Club Affiliation fee -22.00
Junior email -368.00
Senior -285.00
Senior email -3816.25

TOTAL MASNSW -4491.25

Postal-Stationary -28.04

TOTAL EXPENSES

-6150.73

TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES

456.56

CARRIED FORWARD 28/1/05

2692.52

BANK BALANCE AS AT 28/1/06

3149.08

Appendix 3 – Secretary's Report

Major activities were:

- Correspondence - mostly email
 - 70 inward, 59 outward, 120 to members
 - Mostly members, then council and MAAA
- 5 letters to Council re field hire, public liability insurance, policy, surveys, tree planting, abuse of members incident
- Website – more than 50 updates.
- Membership – raised from 33 in 2005 to 44 today – mainly I think as a result of the regular updates to the website.

Robin Simpson
Secretary
22 March 2006