



National Association of Scale Aeromodellers

CONSTITUTION

2017

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1. NAME

The name of the Association will be the “NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCALE AEROMODELLERS” (hereinafter referred to as NASA).

2. REFERENCE

South African Model Aircraft Association – SAMAA
Executive Committee – Committee

3. ADDRESS

The address of the association will be the address of the Chairperson and can be changed in this constitution to a newly elected Chairpersons address without constituting a constitutional change.

4. AFFILIATION

NASA may affiliate with any other legal entity having principally and materially the same objectives. The Committee will at its own discretion appoint a representative to any affiliated organization and also terminate such representation at its own discretion. No Member can make representation on behalf of NASA to any affiliation without the prior written consent of the Committee.

5. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of NASA, as the officially recognised special interest group for Scale Model Aircraft by SAMAA, will be to:

- 5.1 Advance and encourage all aspects of the building and flying of Scale Model Aircraft
- 5.2 To foster camaraderie amongst Members of NASA.
- 5.3 To advance and protect the interests of all Members of NASA and persons engaged in the activities of NASA.
- 5.4 To create competitive opportunities and to regulate or contribute to the regulation of such activities, at local, national and international level.
- 5.5 To communicate and provide all relevant information to all Members of NASA and if applicable the South African community as a whole.
- 5.6 To establish links, relationships and to co-operate with National Interest Groups and model aircraft clubs, as well as international entities having the same objectives.
- 5.7 To promote and ensure at all times where possible the safe and

responsible conduct of Members.

- 5.8 To have as its guiding principle, the interests of the Scale Model Enthusiast as defined in Clause 5.1.

6. LEGAL CAPACITY

NASA shall be an association / organisation not for gain, with perpetual succession and capacity to acquire rights and incur obligations independent of its Members. All assets, funds or property of NASA shall be held or registered in the name of NASA.

7. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The liability of every Member shall be limited to the amount of the relevant unpaid Membership fee due by each Member in terms of this Constitution and beyond this no Member shall be personally liable for any debts or legal liability of NASA.

8. MEMBERSHIP

- 8.1 NASA shall consist of at least six Members and all future Members that shall be admitted.

- 8.2 Membership is Conditional on:

- 8.2.1 Each Member having a valid SAMAA Membership.

- 8.2.2 Each Member accepting and abiding by the Rules and Regulations of NASA.

- 8.3 Members shall be classified as follows:

8.3.1 Ordinary Member.

Any person substantially interested in scale model aircraft as described in Clause 5.1 shall be eligible for Ordinary Membership. An application for membership shall always be made in writing, accompanied by the relevant annual subscription.

8.3.2 Honorary Life Member.

In recognition of meritorious service or potential influence in achieving the objectives of NASA, any person may be recommended to the NASA Committee. The recommendation shall be submitted in writing to the NASA Committee and co-signed by at least 4 members. The committee will have to ratify such a recommendation. The final approval will be done by means of a vote at an AGM or SGM.

- 8.4 The Committee may refuse any application for Membership without

assigning any reason thereto, whereupon all accompanying fees are refundable.

- 8.5 Membership shall cease on the occurrence of any of the following events:
 - 8.5.1 Failure to supply annual subscription within 30 days after the due date. The latter can only be rectified by a new application subject to clause 8.4. No notice will be issued of such termination.
 - 8.5.2 Upon receipt of a written resignation.
 - 8.5.3 Upon Membership being terminated by the Committee in terms of this constitution or any other process instituted in terms thereof.
 - 8.5.4 On the death of a Member.
- 8.6 In the event of cessation of Membership, all subscriptions and other fees paid shall be forfeited to NASA.
- 8.7 A person who pays the annual Membership fee does not necessary have to fly in any events to maintain Membership.
- 8.8 Membership of NASA automatically binds the Member to the Constitution, NASA rules and the National Contest Rules, with which he/she must be fully acquainted. This also binds the Member to any local safety rules and specifications as might be required when at a specific flying site. All rules and regulations as published by SAMAA will be enforced at all times.
- 8.9 Any office bearer, Committee Member, or Member, acting on behalf of NASA, but without the authority of the Committee, will do so at his/her own risk, and NASA will not be held responsible for his/her actions. His/her continued Membership will be at the discretion of the Committee, and he/she will be held responsible for any losses or liabilities to NASA.

9. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- 9.1 The annual subscriptions are due and payable to NASA on the first day of March of each year and payments are due within thirty days of this date. Should the Committee have determined that an increase is required, this increase may be approved by Members at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting.
- 9.2 A reduced subscription of seventy percent of the annual subscription will be payable for new Membership applications if such membership application is made in the last six months of the financial year.

10. FINANCIAL YEAR

The Financial Year for NASA will commence on the first day of March in every year and shall terminate on the last day of February of the following year.

11. INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL EVENTS

Only those Members, who are in good standing with NASA at the time of selection for, and commencement of any Provincial, National or International event, shall be entitled to compete.

12. MEMBERSHIP CONTACT DETAIL

The Committee will accept only the contact details as specified on the Membership application form as the valid and correct contact details. It is the responsibility of each of the Members of NASA to inform the Chairperson of the NASA Committee in writing of any changes to his / her contact details.

13. ADMINISTRATION:

13.1 Administration of NASA is the responsibility of the Executive Committee, also referred to as the Committee, which will consist of the following Members: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Web Master, Event/Competition Organizer and any regional delegates if nominated, as elected at the Annual General Meeting.

13.2 The Chairperson will preside at all meetings at which he/she is present; enforce observance of the Constitution; sign minutes of all meetings after confirmation; certify all withdrawals of money in conjunction with the Treasurer; generally exercise supervision over the affairs of NASA and perform such other duties as by usage and custom pertain to the office; draw up in conjunction with the Secretary the agenda for every meeting.

13.3 The Vice Chairperson will preside at all meetings at which the Chairperson is not present; in general assist the Chairperson in the execution of his/her duties as the Chairperson may delegate.

13.4 The Secretary will attend all meetings and record minutes of the proceedings; draw up the agenda for all meetings in consultation with the Chairperson; keep a register of attendances at all General and Committee meetings; conduct all correspondence of NASA; issue notice of General and Committee meetings; sign all minutes after confirmation; keep a register of Members' names and addresses.

13.5 The Treasurer will collect monies and issue receipts; conduct the financial business of NASA and keep records of all such transactions; prepare annual balance sheets, which will be passed by the Committee,

and statements of income and expenditure when necessary; in conjunction with the Chairperson will certify all withdrawals of money.

- 13.6 The Webmaster will update and run the website so as to display all NASA and Scale activities throughout the year as well as any relevant information regarding aviation in the world.
- 13.7 The Competition and Events Organiser will organise events and competitions as well as provide support equipment such as score sheets, stop watches and so forth at competitions. He will also provide refreshments and lunch for judges and helpers at all competitions.
- 13.8 The Committee may co-opt additional Members from time to time.
- 13.9 All Members of the NASA Committee will be SAMAA Members in good standing.
- 13.10 Not all the above positions have to be filled and Executive Committee Members could have more than one portfolio.

14 ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 14.1 The election of the Executive Committee shall take place at the Annual General Meeting. The Members to be elected in terms of Clause 13.2 to 13.7 shall be nominated and voted in by Members present at the Annual General Meeting. The nominations will be specific as per title specified in Clause 13.2 to 13.7.
- 14.2 No Member may be nominated without his/her personal consent.
- 14.3 The outgoing Chairperson will be automatically proposed and seconded for election to the Committee. His election will be subject to his/her acceptance of the proposal and to the vote of the Members.
- 14.4 Votes shall generally be counted by a show of hands, but the Chairperson has the right to call for a secret vote (ballot) if the issue at hand is of such a nature as to require this.
- 14.5 All voting shall be open to scrutiny by the Members.

15 POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Committee shall actively pursue the objectives of NASA by managing and administering the affairs and business of NASA in terms of the law of the country, consider any matter affecting the flying of model aircraft, make representations, or take such actions as the Committee deems advisable and in particular:

- 15.1 Acquire, hire or dispose of property, borrow money on the security of the assets of NASA and accept and administer any trust of donation. All debit transaction will be limited to R10 000.00 (Ten thousand rand) per event. When an event require a total debit of more than the specified amount, approval should be obtained via a Special General Meeting that could be conducted electronically or at an Annual General Meeting.
- 15.2 Render financial assistance to any person or legal entity in order to promote and realise the objectives of NASA.
- 15.3 Delegate to any sub-committee or Member of NASA such of its powers as it may from time to time deem necessary, but shall not be divested of any power so delegated.
- 15.4 Make rules on all matters that the Committee considers necessary or expedient in order that the objectives of NASA may be achieved.
- 15.5 Determine the subscriptions and joining fees to be paid by Members for each financial year in order to ensure that the objectives of NASA are achieved on a sound long-term financial basis.
- 15.6 Arbitrate on any issue to ensure that the objectives of NASA are adhered to at all times.
- 15.7 Discipline, after investigation and due process, any Member of NASA and may, after the process, terminate the Membership of any Member.
- 15.8 Consider applications for Honorary Membership of NASA and finalise such applications and proposals as the Committee may deem fit.
- 15.9 Determine the arrangements and criteria for international representation and participation.

16 GENERAL DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

16.1 Conflict of Interest

A Member of NASA, a Member of the Committee or any other person to which powers of NASA have been formally delegated by the Committee, shall declare his / her position regarding an actual or potential conflict of interest prior to participating in discussion, judge at any event or vote on any matters.

16.2 Motion of no confidence

If a motion of no confidence is directed against a Committee Member and is seconded and adopted by the majority vote at any formal meeting of NASA, that Member shall immediately vacate their position(s) whereupon the vacancies so created will immediately be filled in terms of Clause 16.3 of the Constitution.

16.3 Vacancies

Every vacancy arising from the circumstances referred to in Clause 16.2 and Clause 16.4 and every vacancy caused by death, or resignation of a Member, shall be filled by a new Member elected at the following AGM or Special General Meeting.

16.4 Attendance of Meetings

A Member of the Committee or any sub-committee of NASA vacates his /her position automatically if he/she is absent from more than two consecutive meetings of such Committee without the Committee's consent.

16.5 Minutes

The proceedings of each meeting of the Committee shall be preserved in minutes compiled by the Secretary or any other person designated prior to the commencement of such a meeting and shall be ratified at the next meeting, after confirmation, by the Chairperson of the meeting. Ratified copies of the minutes of the meetings of the Committee and of all meetings of NASA shall be preserved and published to all current paid up members of NASA. The latter will be applicable to all official NASA Committee or any NASA Subcommittee meeting.

16.6 Duties of the Chairperson of the Executive Committee

16.6.1 The Chairperson of the Committee will ensure that all office bearers are informed of their duties adequately and will make necessary arrangements for assistance or relief if circumstances so required.

16.6.2 The Chairperson will set up the dates and venues for all NASA meetings, chair these meetings and make sure that minutes are taken, ratified and preserved.

16.6.3 The Chairperson will ensure that NASA operates in a controlled manner and will have the power to authorise expenditure, represent NASA at relevant meetings and rule on disciplinary matters.

16.6.4 The Chairperson will ensure that a budget is prepared and adhered to.

16.6.5 The Chairperson is empowered after issuing a warning in writing to request the resignation of any Member of the Committee or a sub-committee, who in his view, is not performing his duties adequately (after receiving adequate assistance) or is obstructing the work of the Committee. Such a resignation shall not be opposed by the Committee Member.

17 NASA MEETINGS

17.1 General Committee meetings.

17.1.1 General Committee meetings should be held at least three times per year or as deemed necessary. Notice of such a meeting will be issued by the Chairperson at least seven days in advance via email.

17.1.2 A quorum for a meeting of the Committee will consist of at least two of the following: Chairperson and/or Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, plus one other Committee Members who may occupy one of the above mentioned posts. Should there be no quorum present, the Chairperson will call another meeting, not less than a week ahead, at which those present will then constitute a quorum.

17.1.3 No proxy votes will be entertained at a Committee meeting.

17.1.4 NASA Committee meetings could be conducted via electronic media.

17.2 Annual General Meeting.

17.2.1 An Annual General Meeting will be held every year either at the Scale Masters or the Nationals.

17.2.2 Notice of such a meeting will be published via email to the last known address of all the Members at least fourteen days in advance.

17.2.3 At this meeting all necessary reports will be presented, Committee Members elected and constitutional changes voted on.

17.2.4 A quorum at the Annual General Meeting must include the Chairperson or the Vice Chairperson, at least one other Committee Member plus at least two Members to be a valid meeting. If no quorum is present, the Secretary will call another meeting, not less than a week ahead, at which those present will

then constitute a quorum.

17.2.5 No proxy votes will be entertained at the Annual General Meeting.

17.2.6 Only Members who have been Members of NASA for longer than sixty days are eligible to vote.

17.3 Special General Meeting.

17.3.1 A Special General Meeting will be arranged by the Committee when required or if so requested in writing by at least ten Members simultaneously.

17.3.2 Notice of such a meeting will be published via email to the last known address of all the Members at least fourteen days in advance.

17.3.3 A quorum at the Special General Meeting must include the Chairperson or the Vice Chairperson, at least one other Committee Member plus at least two Members to be a valid meeting. If no quorum is present, the Secretary will call another meeting, not less than a week ahead, at which those present will then constitute a quorum.

17.3.4 No proxy votes will be entertained at the Special General Meeting.

17.3.5 Only Members who have been Members of NASA for longer than sixty days are eligible to vote.

17.4 Contest meetings will be held under the control of the Committee representative, at the discretion of the Committee.

17.5 All minutes will be deemed a true record after confirmation and signature of the Chairperson and Secretary.

18 FINANCES

18.1 All books and accounts will be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

18.2 Funds will be applied to the payment of expenses, the Executive Committee may decide upon the development of NASA and such other purposes.

18.3 Payments will require the approval of the Executive Committee, and will be made by cheque or other legal document, signed by the party or

parties so authorised at a Committee meeting.

18.4 Funds received by the Treasurer, on behalf of NASA will be deposited into the SAMAA account within fourteen days of receipt, to be reflected in the NASA Cost Centre in the SAMAA account.

18.5 Only official receipts will be recognised or payments authorised by the Chairperson.

19 GRIEVANCE AND DISPUTE PROCEDURE

In any matter where there is an unresolved issue an Arbitrator can be appointed and the Arbitrator's decision shall be final. The costs incurred will be apportioned by the arbitrator and paid by both parties. At all times the Committee should attempt to resolve issues internally. As a last resort the Management Committee of SAMAA could also be approached to arbitrate on matters.

20 PROOF OF CONSTITUTION

A copy of the Constitution certified by the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson of the Executive Committee shall be accepted as evidence for all purposes whatsoever.

21 INTERPRETATION OF CONSTITUTION

Should the interpretation of any clause or sub-clause of this Constitution be in doubt, the matter will be referred to arbitrators who are officially recognized in South Africa, and their decision will be final.

22 DISSOLUTION OF NASA

22.1 NASA may be wound up upon resolution, by a Special General Meeting, on a majority of 90% of the total NASA Membership. Proxy votes will be acceptable.

22.2 NASA assets will be liquidated in whatever manner that meeting deems fit.

23 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

All proposed amendments to the Constitution are to be submitted, in writing, to the Committee at least 14 (fourteen) days before the Annual General Meeting and will be accepted by a majority of 60% of the Members present.