



# SAMAA *communiqué* #54

The South African Model Aircraft Association. CAAARO #10  
Office 40 & 41, First floor, Meerhof Building, Meerzicht Office Park, 33 Kelly Road, Jet Park.  
Telephone 010-824-8343 e-mail admin@samaa.org.za www.samaa.org.za and www.samaa.co.za:89

To: All SAMAA members.

Date: 04 December 2023

The end of another satisfying year is upon us, and we hope that all members of the SAMAA and their families have generally experienced safe and good times.

## SAMAA Virtual Fun Fly Competition

was brought to you by

## NEW NATION CONSTRUCTION

Overall Leader Board		
Rank	Name & Surname	Scores
1	Werner Rabie	220
1	Zander Groenewald	220
2	Pieter Herbst	10

Event 1		
Touch & Go		
Rank	Name & Surname	Achieved
1	Werner Rabie	25
2	Pieter Herbst	21
2	Zander Groenewald	21

Event 2		
Loop the Loops		
Rank	Name & Surname	Achieved
1	Zander Groenewald	40
2	Werner Rabie	26

Event 3		
Roll and Loop for Your Life!		
Rank	Name & Surname	Achieved
1	Werner Rabie	29
2	Zander Groenewald	6

Event 4		
Downward Spins!		
Rank	Name & Surname	Achieved
1	Zander Groenewald	61
2	Werner Rabie	50



# Werner Rabie (R1250) & Zander Groenewald (R1250)

## Winners of the R2500 in the Virtual Fun Fly Competition

### OPPORTUNITY FOR SPONSORSHIP – 2024 SAMAA COMBINED NATIONALS

Would you like to be one of the Sponsors for the SAMAA Combined Nationals. This is the largest model radio control event in South Africa, where RC model pilots from all over the country compete in this event. It is the perfect opportunity to get your brand seen and marketed at this prestigious event.

The closing date to become an official sponsor is the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2024.

Should you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the SAMAA office staff, [admin@samaa.org.za](mailto:admin@samaa.org.za) or 010-824-8343.

### Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

The SAMAA Special Interest Groups were formed to represent the different classes or disciplines of competitive model flying in South Africa. Each SIG that made application was registered by the SAMAA.

Most of the SAMAA's Special Interest Groups (SIGs) conduct their competition activities under the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI), and the Commission for International Aeromodelling (CIAM). The disciplines with competition activities currently falling under the FAI are Control Line, RC Aerobatics, RC Gliding, RC Pylon Racing, Scale, and Multirotor Drone racing.

Competitive Scale Jet activities resort under the International Jet Model Committee. Regular world championships are organised and conducted by the CIAM and the IJMC, giving opportunity to SAMAA members to test their skills on an international level.

There are currently ten Special Interest Groups (SIGs) affiliated to the SAMAA. See below for the list of the SIGs.





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<https://flyfpvsa.org.za/>



<https://www.maasa.co.za/>

MODEL GLIDING  
SOUTH AFRICA



<https://mgasa.blogspot.com/>



<http://sanasa.co.za/>



<https://pylonracing.co.za/>



<https://easyup.org.za/sampe/>



<http://www.sajets.co.za/php/home.php>



<https://funfly.bestwebs.co.za/>



<https://www.largescaleaerobatics.co.za/>



## SAMAA Golf Shirts

PLEASE CONTACT THE SAMAA OFFICE TO CHECK STOCK AVAILABILITY.

Golf shirts available in **Blue** and in **Pink**

M-L = R410

XL-3XL = R430

4XL = R470

5XL = R490

[admin@samaa.org.za](mailto:admin@samaa.org.za)

010-824-8343



Pink SAMAA Golf Shirt – Limited Edition



AERO CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA

Aviation Recreation Organisation no. 010 of the SA Civil Aviation Authority  
Associate member of the Aero Club of South Africa. Affiliated to the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale.  
The SAMAA is a public-benefit organisation, PBO Reg. No. 930030082.  
2023 Committee: Burt Botha, Alec Groenewald, Danie Potgieter, Dirk Meyer, Linda Dold, Juanita Smith, Bob Skinner



# PRE-FLIGHT CHECKLIST

## Checks

The checks are general checklist items and must be used in part or in whole by all pilots, no matter how experienced they are, to check out their aircraft before the first flight of the day.

## Airworthiness

It is a prerequisite that new, untried, and repaired aircraft be properly checked before its first flight.

If the aircraft is deemed not airworthy, it must be grounded until such time as the alteration, modification, or replacement is done to the satisfaction of the pilot.

### Structure of the model aircraft

1. Check the wing for warps.
2. Check the ailerons.
  - (i) method of attachment (hinges pinned, etc.)
  - (ii) check aileron to wing gap and temporarily seal with tape if excessive.
  - (iii) movement (correct direction and adequate movement, if two servo's fitted in wing)
3. Check centre section of wing for strength, and wing overall for stiffness.
4. Check that tailplane is on straight and square, and securely fixed.
5. Check that fin is on straight and square, and securely fixed.
6. Check the method of attaching tail surfaces to fuselage.
7. Check rudder and elevator hinges (pinned), and control surface gaps.
8. Check rudder and elevator movements.
  - (i) correct direction and amount of movement, (adequate, or excessive).
  - (ii) kwiklinks and pushrod locks correctly fitted to both ends of push rods.
9. Check method of mounting engine.
  - (i) type of mount.
  - (ii) correct type and number of screws, or bolts and lock-nuts.
  - (iii) servo linkage, movement correct.
  - (iv) no metal-to-metal linkages to cause noise.
10. Check fuel tank.
  - (i) is tank at the correct level?
  - (ii) position secured: can it move or rotate?
  - (iii) correct plumbing to tank: are the pressure and clunk systems okay?
  - (iv) filter(s) fitted?
11. Check nose wheel or tailwheel (whichever fitted).
  - (i) drag.
  - (ii) correct direction of movement.
  - (iii) amount of movement.
  - (iv) linkages okay, no metal-to-metal links.
  - (v) tracks straight when servo is at centre.
  - (vi) securely mounted with bracket.
  - (vii) nose wheel shaft nearly vertical or slight aft rake.
12. Check main wheels.
  - (i) drag/binding.
  - (ii) method of attachment to fuselage, and wheels to axles.
  - (iii) tracking straight.
  - (iv) position of wheels relative to CG.

### Radio installation

1. Check servo tray and aileron servo attachment.
  - (i) trays screwed down securely.
  - (ii) servos mounted correctly on grommets and eyelets.
  - (iii) screws in servo output arms.
  - (iv) kwiklinks on push rods fitted and adjusted correctly.
  - (v) no binding of output arms or push rods over full servo throw, including trims.



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2. Check battery
  - (i) position, method of fixing. Can it move and alter CG, etc.?
  - (ii) check battery voltage under load.
  - (iii) set up "fail safe" settings.
  - (iv) check switch position and movement of switch.
3. Check receiver position, and protection and isolation from vibration.
4. Check position of aerial.
  - (i) restraint inside fuselage, not under tension.
  - (ii) away from servos and output arms.
  - (iii) method of attachment to fin and/or tail plane.
  - (iv) not doubled back on itself.
  - (v) not inside fuselage alongside metal control rods?
  - (vi) protected at exit point of fuselage.
  - (vii) not inside carbon fibre fuselage.
  - (viii) are aerial(s) correctly orientated? (2.4GHz).
5. Linkage on servos.
  - (i) no metal-to-metal contact.
  - (ii) nyrod outers glued both ends, supported in middle of a long run.
  - (iii) end of control rods properly restrained.
6. Foam rubber packing/isolation (not plastic foam) where necessary.
7.
  - (i) Servo leads in good condition and plugged into receiver properly.
  - (ii) Servo lead plugs anchored/captured into receiver.
8. Check linkage to elevator, rudder, ailerons, throttle, and nose wheel.
  - (i) method of attachment.
  - (ii) throttle travel correct or override provided.
  - (iii) nose wheel shock absorber (on leg and linkage).
  - (iv) clearance of aileron linkages when wing attached to fuselage.
  - (v) kwiklinks or clevises locked in place.
9. Check movement of servos.
  - (i) servos move smoothly, no grinding noises, jerkiness, or buzzing.
  - (ii) no binding during full throws and trims.
  - (iii) all moving in the correct directions relative to stick movements on ailerons, elevator, rudder, throttle, and nose wheel.
  - (iv) set up high-low rates if necessary.
  - (v) check failsafe settings on servos. Motor to low idle, balance of servos to hold.
  - (vi) set all trims to zero, if required, adjust mechanical settings.
  - (vii) programme exponential if thought to be beneficial .
  - (viii) check on direction if two aileron servo's fitted.

## Assembly

1. Check if covering of total aircraft okay.
2. Check wing incidence.
3. Check tailplane incidence.
4. Check thrust line of motor/engine
  - (i) Viewed from side for down thrust.
  - (ii) Check to top of fin for right thrust.
5. Check all control surfaces are aligned with flying surfaces, i.e. elevator, rudder, and aileron.

**Checklist Continues.....below**



6. Check position of Centre of Gravity.
7. Method of attaching wing to fuselage.
8. Wing square on fuselage.
  - (i) viewed from front.
  - (ii) viewed from back.
  - (iii) viewed from top.
  - (iv) check aerial, servo leads, and battery leads not trapped.

*Why do I need to do pre-flight checks???*



### Engine checks

1. Propeller.
  - (i) correct size for engine.
  - (ii) correct type for engine (not pure nylon).
  - (iii) prop nut tightened with wrench, spanner, socket.
  - (iv) propeller balanced
  - (v) spinner if used, tightened.
2. Glow plug.
  - (i) correct type.
  - (ii) firmly tightened, but not over tight. Washer/seal present.
3. Carburettor.
  - (i) mounted firmly.
  - (ii) idle adjusted correctly.
4. Fuel.
  - (i) tank full of correct type of fuel.
  - (ii) filter recommended in fuel line.
5. Silencer.
  - (i) check that the silencer is an approved, unmodified unit.
  - (ii) check that the silencer is properly attached to the engine.
  - (iii) if deemed excessively noisy, add baffles or modify.
6. Start engine.
  - (i) check high-speed setting, set intermediate setting.
  - (ii) check for fuel foaming.
  - (iii) check idle, adjust so that engine stops when pulling throttle trim back.
  - (iv) re-check over full rev range and solve problems.
  - (v) engine maintains revs with aircraft nose held vertically up.
  - (vi) check that the noise level is within SAMAA and club limits when engine is at full revs.

*If no pre-flight checks are done, this might happen!!!*



### Range checks

1. Identifying frequency of transmitter.
2. Peg on frequency board before operating transmitter.
3. Output meter on the transmitter reading correctly and in the "green" at plus 9.6V.
4. Check receiver battery voltage under load.
5. Check operating range with transmitter aerial collapsed.  
(Should be at least 30 metres, see manufacturer's specification)



*If no pre-flight checks are done, this might happen!!!*





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## **2024-2025 SAMAA Management Committee (SMC)**

Nominations for the 2024-2025 SAMAA Management Committee came to a close on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2023. Regrettably, there were not sufficient nominations and in the event of there not being sufficient nominations, the Committee – as constituted subsequent to the election, shall fill the remaining vacancies by co-opting additional members onto the Committee. SMC to consist of five members.

The nominations received...

- Alec Groenewald, currently Vice-chair/Compliance officer and
- Dirk Meyer, currently SIG chair/Club Representative.

The SMC members will be assisted by Bob Skinner (General Manager), Juanita Smith (Treasurer), and Linda Dold (Administrator).

If you are interested in serving on the SMC for 2024-2025, or by nominating your preferred candidates for members of the SAMAA Management Committee contact the SAMAA Office on [admin@samaa.org.za](mailto:admin@samaa.org.za).

## **SAMAA OFFICE FESTIVE SEASON CLOSURE**



## Sponsorship for Communique

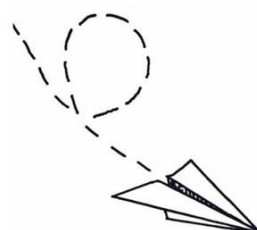
Here is a great opportunity for prospective sponsors to build your brand. If you as a SAMAA member, or your business, or if you know of someone who would be interested to be a sponsor for the SAMAA Communique, please consider making use of this opportunity... for more information contact the SAMAA office staff [admin@samaa.org.za](mailto:admin@samaa.org.za).

To all the SAMAA members and their families celebrating Christmas, all the best wishes and a very prosperous New Year. Please keep safe and enjoy your flying!

The SAMAA Management Committee.



**A BIG Thank You to**  
**NEW NATION CONSTRUCTION**  
**for Sponsoring the**  
**SAMAA Virtual Fun Fly Competition**







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## NEW NATION CONSTRUCTION (Pty) Ltd

- New Nation Construction is an established black empowered service provider for all small to large projects in the market.
- NNC is an young 100% Black Woman Owned business with 135% procurement recognition.
- Our level of service is reflected in our commitment to the highest standards and our professional experience guarantees expert support.
- New Nation Construction is an accredited ISO 9001/2015, ISO 3834-2 & ISO 45001-2018 company.
- New Nation Construction is a corporate member of the SAIW.
- New Nation Construction is a registered member of the CIBD.

TARGET INDUSTRY	
	Sugar Mill Industry
	Oil & Gas Industry
	Paper Pulp
	Mining Industry
	Wood Mill Industry
	Power Industry

### FABRICATION FACILITY

NNC's workshop is based in Rocky Drift, an industrial area near Henaruts, South Africa. This roofed facility covers 8150 sqm and runs on computerized metal controlled machines. All fabrication is undertaken under strict quality control. NNC employs its own QC system which is auditable and adheres to ISO 9001 standards. All NNC welders are fully qualified and coded. NNC welds added as the most important factor in the fabrication process we never compromise on safety.

- Equipment available:
  - Guillotines
  - Bending machines
  - Punch and cropper units
  - Press-breaks
  - Pipe rollers
  - Roll-over machines
  - Profile plasma cutters
  - CNC beam drilling lines
  - CNC angle-cropping machines
  - Over-head cranes

### PIPING

Piping is one of our core capabilities. Our fabrication facility has highly skilled craftsmen, pipe fabricators, pipe welders with excellent safety and quality performance records. We take great pride in not only meeting, but exceeding our customer's expectations in all areas, including performance, design, logistics, schedule, delivery and cost.

NNC is highly qualified to produce piping for all grades of:

- Carbon Steel
- Stainless Steel
- Chrome-moly
- Chrome alloys
- Low Temperature
- Duplex Grade

Pipe fabrication ranges from 1/2" diameter small bore up to 60" diameter large bore piping. Our workshop is equipped with modern welding equipment. NNC provides competitive costing to the market and utilizes welding processes include GTAW, SMAW, FCAW & SAW with relevant welding procedures.

### TANKS

NNC has an exemplary record for the site erection of tanks in either Stainless or Carbon steel. Our scope generally includes for large vertical storage tanks with diameters ranging from 18 to 45 meters, we have successfully built and transported 5-meter diameter tanks to site in the past, while erecting larger diameter tanks on site.

We employ the latest technologies and methodologies of erection methodology, namely:

- Welding of tank plates on site, using Automated Girth and Vertical Welding
- Lifting and positioning of tank plates/straps, using the tank "locking Method".

### VESSELS

We have successfully completed the fabrication of a range of pressure vessels from Carbon steel to Stainless steel vessels in varying wall thickness and code specifications as well as LPG Gas Spheres (2500m3 each).

Our Clients include the following:

- Eskom
- TSB
- Mott MacDonald
- Glencore

### MECHANICAL

NNC excels at complex Mechanical and plant project execution for the mining and petrochemical industries. Very few companies offer the skills and experience required to perform these complex critical industrial projects successfully. Our industrial maintenance services capabilities include:

- Installation of Pumps, Valves, Valves and Vessels.
- Installation and commissioning of Compressors, Dryer systems, Air Receivers & Retention piping (Screwed or welded piping).

### EARTH WORKS AND CIVILS

NNC have a fully functional civil team, capable of supplying support civil resources on larger projects to assist in completing ancillary works outside the main contractor's civil scope.

We have typically completed the following scope of works:

- Earth works
- Civil structural Boies
- Pump bases
- Drainage Sumps
- Pipetrack bases
- Walkways & Floors
- Band walls
- Storm Water systems

### STRUCTURAL

NNC provides comprehensive structural steel and plate fabrication services. We have the in-house capacity and utilize CNC technology to execute our fabrication process.

We provide solutions to mining houses, hydrocarbon storage facilities, power generation plants and various process-based clients. Included in our structural capabilities is large bore ducting and pipe racking systems.

### EC&I

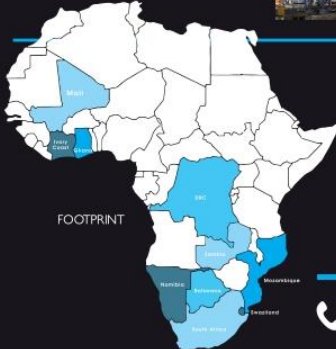
NNC generally performs our EC&I scope with our in-house resources.

Our scope generally includes for the following:

- Installation of LV Cabling
- Pump terminations
- Motor Control Center installations
- Instrumentation installations and loop tests
- Installation of lighting
- Installation of earthing connections

### SCAFFOLDING

We supply and erect scaffolding for various access needs, with vast experience in designing, erecting and maintaining relevant scaffolding.



**PROJECT EXPERIENCE:**

• TSB – HP Steam Retention Replacement • Tongaat Hulets Xinavane Sugar Mill – Refinery Expansion • Illovo Maragra Sugar Mill – Refinery Expansion • ACM Wood Chemicals – Erection of Formaldehyde Chemical Plant • Mandi Piet Retief – Paper Mill Expansion • BHP Billiton MMC – Cell House Expansion • Trafigura Puma Fuels – EPC of Kolwezi Tank Farm • Trafigura Puma Fuels – EPC of Lubumbashi Tank Farm • Trafigura Puma Fuels – EPC of Maun Botswana Airport Fuel Retention System • Trafigura Puma Fuels – EPC of Orapa Botswana Gas Fired Power Station Storage • Galana – EPC of Beira Tank Farm • Glencore Fuels X-Storage – EPC of Beira Tank Farm & LPG Spheres • Gulp – LPG Plant • Oil Tanking – EPC of Matola Tank Farm • Nkomati Mine – Supply and Erection of SMPP • DRA – Burnstone Gold Mine – Supply and Erection of SMPP as well as Civil Scope • MHS – Medupi Power Station – Supply and Erection of Vessels, Tanks, Piping and Structural • MHS – Kusile Power Station – Supply and Erection of Vessels, Tanks, Piping and Structural • GE – Medupi Power Station – Supply and Erection of Turbine Piping, HVXAC and Firewater System • GE – Kusile Power Station – Absorbers 4, 5 & 6, all Turbine Piperack Piping • PPC Cement Pretoria – Crusher plant and ESP Installation • Texray – Textile Factory Installation • Mott MacDonald – Supply and Fabricate 26 off Pressure Vessels for Medupi and Kusile Power Station • Drawsvriev Mine – Supply, fabricate & installation of Magnetic Chrome Separator Plant • Ghana Newmont Mines – Supply and Installation Acid Mine Drainage Water Purification Plant