



SAMAA *communiqué #55*

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: 10 January 2024

A happy and prosperous new year to every one of our SAMAA members, and their families. May 2024 be your best year ever, filled with success, happiness, good health, and great memories. Let us all focus on making a fresh energetic start in 2024, and build a great future in 2024, to the benefit of the Association and aeromodelling. And lots of safe flying hours!



As valued members of the South African Model Aircraft Association (SAMAA), we are reaching out to you with an exciting opportunity to help us grow our community and bring back former enthusiasts to the world of RC model aircraft.

If you know of anyone who used to be a member of SAMAA and has a passion for flying RC model aircraft, we invite you to encourage them to rejoin our association. We believe that their experience and enthusiasm would greatly contribute to the vibrant and supportive community that SAMAA is known for.

Rejoining SAMAA offers numerous benefits, including access to our flying fields, participation in events and competitions, and the opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals who share a love for model aviation. Whether they are experienced pilots or looking to get back into the hobby, SAMAA provides a welcoming environment for all levels of expertise.

If you have friends, family, or acquaintances who might be interested in rekindling their interest in RC model aircraft, please share this invitation with them. Direct them to our website or encourage them to reach out to us directly for more information on how to rejoin.

Thank you for your continued support of SAMAA, and together, let's strengthen our community and make the skies of South Africa buzz with the excitement of model aviation once again.



The South African Model Aircraft Association



Igniting the Flame of Aviation!



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



SAMAA Annual General Meeting

We are thrilled to extend an invitation for your attendance at the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM) of SAMAA. Your presence and active engagement hold significant importance for the success of our organization. During this meeting, we will delve into crucial discussions and strategize for the future of our association. Your participation is vital, and we look forward to your valuable contributions.



Alcohol, Drugs and Illness

The SAMAA intends to provide a safe environment for all its members to participate and enjoy the sport of model flying.

An important aspect of this safe environment is that those persons flying model aircraft do not have their ability to do so inhibited by the use of alcohol, drugs (whether for medical or other purposes), or illness.

The SAMAA also condemns the use by competitors at competitions of substances banned by the World Anti-Doping Agency for the purpose of attempting to improve performance.



Alcohol and Illegal Drugs

When operating a model aircraft, the pilot must not be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.

In applying this, it is not possible in a normal model flying environment to specify and measure a specific level at which the increased effect of, for example, alcohol impairs the performance of any given individual sufficiently, for that individual, to be a danger to others flying at the same time.

For this reason, neither alcohol or illegal drugs should be consumed or used prior to, or during participation in any model flying operations.

Any Member at the flying field or Club has the right to, if he has proof of the pilots drinking or drug condition, to report the matter to the Safety Officer, or failing his or other senior club personnel present at the club, request the pilot to land his aircraft and cease flying on the grounds that he is a danger to other pilots and users of the field. Such request may not be refused by the pilot concerned.



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Drugs in Sport

The SAMAA as a member of Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI) requires that all members abide by the FAI Anti-Doping Rules and Procedures as referred to in the General Section of the FAI Sporting Code.

SAMAA is a member of the Aero Club of South Africa, a sporting body, and all members must abide by the Policies on drugs in Sport that covers the application of the FAI code in the South African environment.



Illness

SAMAA members are expected to use their own judgement, as whether to fly or not, if they feel that either a short term (i.e. prescription medication) or long term condition they have will impair their ability to the point where there is an increased safety risk to themselves, fellow fliers or to the general public, they must not fly model aircraft.



However, as a minimum, a person on the above type of medication, must not operate a model aircraft without competent supervision, taking into account the type of aircraft being flown.

In this context, depending on their physical condition of the pilot and the type of model being flown, the services provided by the competent supervision could range anywhere between being connected to an operating transmitter via a buddy cord, to being required to start up the model, or to being required to recover a free flight model from a field.

HELICOPTERS



Radio-controlled helicopters, although often grouped with RC aircraft, are in a class of their own due to vast differences in construction, aerodynamics and flight training. Hobbyists will often venture from planes to jets and to helicopters as they enjoy the challenges, excitement and satisfaction of flying different types of aircraft. Some radio-controlled helicopters have photo or video cameras installed and are used for aerial

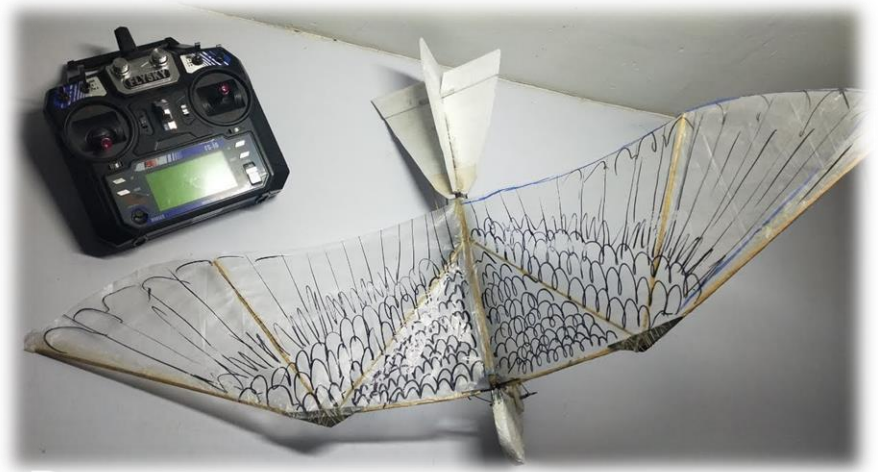
imaging or surveillance. Newer "3D" radio-control helicopters can fly inverted with the advent of



advanced swash heads, and servo linkage that enables the pilot to immediately reverse the pitch of the blades, creating a reverse in thrust.

Flying bird models, or ornithopters

Some RC models take their inspiration from nature. These may be gliders made to look like a real bird, but more often they actually fly by flapping wings. Spectators are often surprised to see that such a model can really fly. These factors as well as the added building challenge add to the enjoyment of flying bird models, though some ARF (almost-ready-to-fly) models are available. Flapping-wing models are also known as ornithopters, the technical name for an aircraft whose driving airfoils oscillate instead of rotating. YouTube video on flight of the [Ornithopter | falcon wings flight video | rc Ornithopter - YouTube](#)



2024 SAMAA Senior Citizen Membership Fee (as per Memorandum 11)

At the 2023 SAMAA Annual General Meeting, which was hosted on the 09th of March, the SAMAA Management Committee tabled a proposal for an inflation-related increase in membership subscriptions, with effect from 1 January 2024. Lively debate followed, and a modified proposal was accepted and voted on. The 2024 SAMAA membership subscription fee for Senior Citizens was voted on and accepted by the members present, as well as the members participating on the virtual platform. In essence, the subscription fee for Senior Citizens equaled that of Regular Adult members, R590.

After careful consideration and deliberation, the SAMAA Management Committee adopted a resolution to implement a rebated fee for Senior Citizen (60+years) members on their 2024 membership subscriptions.

This resolution allows Senior Citizen members to apply for this rebate, with the submission of a simple motivational note/email, addressed to the Management Committee for consideration.

Upon receipt of your renewal notice/invoice for 2024 subscriptions, you may submit your motivation note stating why you are not able to afford the fee of R590, as a SAMAA Senior Citizen member. You may request the amended fee of R380 as per the above resolution. Address your note/email to the SAMAA Management Committee, at admin@samaa.org.za.

We are sure that this generous offer by the Management Committee will find favour with those Senior Citizen members of the SAMAA, to enable you to continue enjoying your hobby.



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The renewal notices/invoices will be sent by email on the 1st of January 2024, and every subsequent month on the first date of that month. Don't delay... apply for your rebated Senior Citizen membership fee.

Registration of clubs and sites.

For a SAMAA member to register a flying site, the upcoming club's officers need to complete and submit an application. After approval, the SAMAA shall request the details of the new club to be published in the AIRAC AIP Supplement ENR 5.5. The registered club and its members shall then abide by the SAMAA MOP, and other regulations and safety guidelines issued by the SAMAA.

Flying site layout.

Flying sites must be planned so that all flying activities are conducted in front of the club, at the designated flight areas. If there are multiple runways, then operations may be conducted to the side of the central facilities, provided the activities on two runways do not interfere with each other. The areas behind the flight lines, (the near edge of a runway) are deemed to be NO FLY ZONES, and shall include the pit areas, club house, buildings, spectator areas, car park, etc.

Park Flying.

Park flying is one of the latest additions to the list of SAMAA activities. These are small, electric-powered model aircraft which are usually flown in parks, sports fields, and other suitable open spaces.

Qualification to test Proficiencies.

SAMAA Silver:

This is the minimum level that pilots should try to achieve. A silver proficiency will qualify a pilot to test a pupil pilot for a Solo or Bronze rating, with another examiner, with the proviso that he may not test the pupil if he taught him to fly.

SAMAA Gold:

Allow a pilot to judge proficiencies for Solo, Bronze, Silver, and Gold with another qualified examiner. With the proviso that he may not test the pupil if he taught him to fly.

SAMAA Instructor:

This proficiency rating allows: A SAMAA instructor may judge proficiency tests for SAMAA Solo, Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Instructor proficiency (the latter subject to having an instructor judge present when testing an instructor). With the proviso that he may not test the pupil if he taught him to fly.

SAMAA Instructor Judge:

This allows a SAMAA-appointed member to test pilots (with another SAMAA Gold-rated judge present) for any SAMAA proficiency status, up to Gold, and with another SAMAA Instructor, up to SAMAA Instructor. With the proviso that he may not test the pupil if he taught him to fly.



2023 Proficiencies obtained.

Congratulations to the SAMAA members on achieving their proficiencies in 2023! Your hard work, and dedication, have paid off. May this success be a stepping stone to even greater achievements in the future. Well done!

Fixed Wing Solo

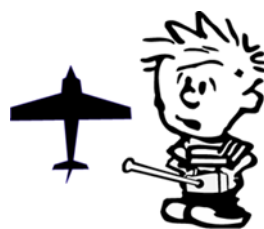
Marcus van der Hoven
Michael Vermaak
Rudolph Kilian
Charles Fourie
Roelof Du Plooy
Frikkie Steenkamp
Hardus Booysse
Paulo Pereira
Tristan Morgan
Hennie Brits Jnr
David Robson
Mark Shaw
Heinrich Horn
Mark Muller
Stephen Kolenic
Hayden Grobler
Dirk Grobler
Emmanuel Thouet
Sebastian Thouet
Jacqueline Nel
Chris De Lange
Chris Oosthuizen
Craig Heidemann
Sahur Maharaj
Rodney Kilgour
Damien Lobar
Francois Keyser
Frans Rootman
Evert Smith Du Toit
Chris Dunn
Mark Proudfoot
Steven Green
Kobus Koekemoer
Tristan Franck
Andrew Whiting
Barend Bornman
Deon Cockeran
Sebastian Van Schalkwyk
Leslie Oglethorpe

Fixed Wing Bronze

Paul Van Eck
Bryan Milne
Daniel Bottomley
Jeffrey Knickelbarn
Tony Martin
Gerhardus Pretorius

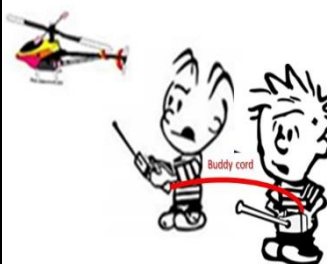
Fixed Wing Silver

Ryan Hadley
Richard Hickman
Garth Barton-Hobbs
Joe Ralph
Riaan van der Merwe
Ryno Milella
Chris Paulsen
Polla Saayman
Jacob Kruger
Kobus Els
Peter Frankle
Martin Groenewald
Jeanu Fivaz
Michael Fivaz
Alfredo Schultz
Francois Keyser
Zander Groenewald
Ruan Nel
Jonathan Starke
Robin Gilham
James McQuilliam
Dex Fenton
Barry Tranter
Christo Grove
Ethan Gilham
Marius Grabie
Robert Snyders
Walter Williams
Francois Robbertze
Pieter Cloete
Werner Rabie
Marco Van Schoor



Silver (continued)

Stefan Koekemoer



Fixed Wing Gold

Jan Jacobs
Robbie Hendrikse
Jaco Du Plessis
De Wet Heydenrych
Wayne Wrigley
Heinrich Weyers
Cliff Chen
Rolf Bartels
Donald Matthews
Martin Groenewald
Wilmur Lubbe
Yashil Ghazi
Robert Hill

FW Instructor

James Hill Jnr
Steve Joubert

FW Instructor Judge

Ken Mann
Rudolf Du Toit
Martin venter

Turbine Jet

Bruce Bullock
Andre Robinson
Guillaume Hardy

Heli Hover/Bronze

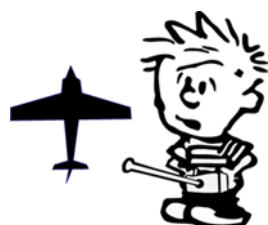
Billy Du Plooy
William Du Plooy

Heli Solo/Silver

Guillaume Hardy
Billy Du Plooy
William Du Plooy

MR LOS Solo

Martin Venter





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SAMAA Office Furniture, Magazines and Aircraft Building Plans

The SAMAA office is currently undergoing a cleaning and decluttering process, and as a result, we have several pieces of office furniture available for sale. These items include:

- 2 Steel 4-drawer cabinets.
- 2 Cherry Wood 4-drawer cabinets.
- 2 Steel tables with a length of 1800mm.

Collection is to be arranged by the buyer. If you are interested, please feel free to contact us.

The SAMAA office boasts an extensive collection of model aircraft magazines and aircraft building plans. If you have an interest in acquiring some of these magazines and plans, we invite you to get in touch with the SAMAA office. Alternatively, feel free to visit our office to explore the collection firsthand.

Sponsorship for Communiqué

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 Communiqué, please consider making use of this opportunity... for more information contact the SAMAA office staff admin@samaa.org.za.

Safe Flying!

The SAMAA Management Committee.

Until Next Time...

