

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

2019-2020

Victorian Motorless Flight Group Inc. trading
as
MELBOURNE GLIDING CLUB



Assoc. No. A0025166A ABN 85 247 311 275

Held via Zoom Videoconference – 06 October 2020

Meeting commenced at 1900

Attendance - Present:

1	Aldridge, Michael	18	Kingston, Peter
2	Berriman, Alice	19	Krueger, Roger
3	Callegari, Nick	20	Laker, Judy
4	Callinan, Richard	21	McGrath, Bryan
5	Carling, Anthony	22	Northey, Ian
6	Chapman, Helen	23	Parncutt, John
7	Coulton, Steve	24	Patching, Ruth
8	Curry, James	25	Patching, Tighe
9	Druce, Roger	26	Payne, Alan
10	Gilmore, Iain	27	Pritchard, Cliff
11	Grant, Ian	28	Spooner, Paul
12	Gray, Rick	29	Stimson, Murray
13	Hearn, Norm	30	Tang, Jason
14	Hickman, Bob	31	Thomman, Sujai
15	Hugelshofer, Marc,	32	van Blaricum, Tom
16	Hunt, Mark	33	Wanless, Grieg
17	Kerton, Ian	34	Webb, Adam

1. Apologies

Nil

2. Acceptance of Previous Minutes

Motion: That the 2018-2019 AGM minutes are accepted.

Moved: Murray Stimson

Seconded: Mark Hunt

Carried

3. President's Report – Tighe Patching

Tighe Patching provided the President's report.

Currently MGC is at 82 flying members, down by approx. 10. In light of COVID and some members who are delaying their renewal, MGC's membership is relatively healthy. The club continues to target ~100 flying members.

Pre-COVID the club had successful Wangaratta and Tocumwal camps.

The passing of John Gleeson, Tom Cambridge and Greg Scott was acknowledged.

The club is tentatively planning a Christmas camp to Raywood, Easter camp to Euroa.

The David Wilson Scholarship remains open and offers substantial opportunity for the development of eligible pilots.

While previously stating that this will have been his last year as President, Tighe notes that he has re-nominated to provide continuity in light of COVID.

The Committee was thanked for their contributions to the club.

Tighe highlighted the importance of teamwork in the club, asking members to both communicate their goals (so that the club can assist), and to likewise be ready to offer a hand to the club when needed.

The President's report was closed with a thank-you to the membership for their patience, commitment and understanding as the club has navigated a challenging year.

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

Tony Carling provided the end-of-year financial report.

Highlights of the year are the positive cash flow of the club and the completion of BCKs overhaul within budget, placing the club in a sound financial position. Also noted was the high level of ab initio flying, and the purchase of a new hangar space.

Major challenges include the effects of COVID, member flying hours and camp participation, and saving for future asset replacement.

Glider, Tug and AEF flying has all been effectively halted due to COVID. Previous to the lockdowns, glider and tug utilisation was healthy while AEF flying was down considerably. A committee task force is being set up to review the AEF situation going forward.

Approx impact to the club to June 30, 2020 was a loss of ~\$35k revenue and ~\$20k cash surplus to the club.

Depreciation sums are likely overstated and result in under-valuing the club's fleet. Despite this, the club's net assets of \$467,225 indicate a sound solvency position.

Based on the current provisions for future maintenance and fleet replacement, the club is behind by ~\$46k. However, the recent refurbishment of both tugs and real-world value of the fleet means this figure needs to be re-evaluated. Rationalising the financial modelling and provisions of the club will be a key task for the committee in 2021.

\$238k spent refurbishing both tugs to date – possible due to the club's previous foresight in saving to fund these activities well in advance.

Future cash burn rate assuming minimal flying due to COVID will be approximately \$35k annually. The club can survive this for some time, but it is not a favourable situation.

Tighe P opened the floor for questions:

Roger D: Flight time per launch is low – the potential capabilities of our fleet are not being utilised. TC highlighted the contribution of ab initio flying to the club's bottom line. RD also highlighted that the provision for future glider maintenance is excessive, which aligns with TC's previous comments.

Murray S: Asks the question of whether the input of the broader membership for the AEF taskforce will be sought – TC and TP strongly support.

Motion: That the annual accounts for 2019-20 are accepted.

Moved: Tighe Patching

Seconded: Roger Krueger

Carried

5. CFI Report – Paul Spooner

PS thanked the duty teams for their continued work to enable weekly flying. The addition of James Nugent to the instructor team was noted and welcomed.

Paul thanked Helen Chapman and Steve Coulton as future and past tug masters.

A safe return to operations is the priority, which will be prioritised as;

- Instructor Annual Checks and currency
- Post-solo member Annual Checks and currency
- Pre-solo training

The gradual easing of restrictions and the interference with the annual maintenance program mean that this process will be a progressive ramp-up. Richard Traill's major contribution to glider airworthiness was highlighted and recognised.

Social distancing is difficult in gliding, and personal comfort with risk levels will need to be managed.

Lockdown means that nearly everyone will be out of the 3-month window for club currency – fly with an instructor.

With regard to flying in 2020, 5 first solos have occurred in the past 12 months, and a 1-week course was conducted in Nov 2019. The GFA simulator has become available and instructors are learning how to incorporate this tool into training.

The changes created by the new Biennial Flight Review were summarised.

Ian Northey introduced as new safety officer.

Risk of damage to gliders (particularly during ground handling) as people will be out of practice and focused on socialising.

The club's camp options (Raywood at Christmas, Euroa at Easter) were noted. Commitment by members will ensure a good camp if restrictions allow.

COVID is not going away any time soon, and so MGC will need to learn to operate with its effects in mind.

Questions:

Nick Callegari: Will Melbourne Cup weekend include mid-week flying? PS: Yes, provided we're back flying.

6. Nomination of Life Membership – Tighe Patching

TP provided some background on life membership, and the importance of recognising people while they're active in the club.

Approx. 15 years since a life member has been inducted to the club, and during this time there are members who have contributed greatly.

After discussion, the committee noted that two members stood out in particular for their long-term, consistent contribution to the club well beyond the call of duty - Steve Coulton and Alan Payne.

TP provided a brief history of each member and their contributions.

Motion: That MGC accept Steve Coulton and Alan Payne as life members

Moved: Tighe Patching

Seconded: Paul Spooner

Carried

7. Election of Office Bearers

President: T Patching

Vice President: I Gilmore

Treasurer: T Carling

Secretary: J Curry

Committee Members: P Spooner, R Krueger, A Berriman, S. Trone (New)

All existing committee members re-nominated, with Iain Gilmore nominating for the role of Vice President. Steve Trone nominated as committee member and is welcomed to the committee.

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

8. Confirmation of Independent Reviewer

Motion: That Robyn Lyall is confirmed as Independent Reviewer.

Moved: Tighe Patching

Seconded: Murray Stimson

Carried

9. Confirmation of Representatives to Insurance Reserve Fund

Motion: That Iain Gilmore, Tony Carling (Treasurer) and Roger Kruger are confirmed as the Insurance Reserve Fund representatives.

Moved: Tighe Patching

Seconded: Helen Chapman

Carried

10. Adoption of the Annual Fees

In recognition of COVID pressures on members, it was proposed there be no increase to fees, effective 7 October 2020

Adult (O26-U65)	\$310
Masters (O65)	\$250
Youth (U26)	\$155
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's annual fees remain unchanged.

Moved: Mark Hunt

Seconded: Bob Hickman

Carried

11. Other business and Q&A

Club awards were presented in lieu of the annual dinner.

Years of membership:

5: Gilles Arlove, Craig Lee, David Lee, Sue O'Brien, Jason Tang

15: Bob Hickman, Ian Kerton

30: Steve Trone

35: Max Callingham

40: Dermot Coleman

50: Judy Laker

Fred Gascoigne Award / *Student of the Year*

Marc Hugelshofer

Sky Pig / *Most Flights by Non-Instructor*

Marc Hugelshofer – 84 Flights

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

Richard Traill & Alan Payne -196.04km (25/01/2020 – Duo Discus)

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

Michael Aldridge – 500.74km (29/12/2019 – Wangaratta – DG-1000)

Roger Druce Award / *Cumulative Kilometres from Bacchus Marsh*

Richard Traill – 446.25km

Bob McCullough Award / *Cumulative Kilometres in Club Gliders*

Richard Traill – 3100.94km

Gary Sunderland Trophy / *Cumulative OLC Points*

Richard Traill – 7967.44


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

Richard Traill – 655km / 686.05pts (29/12/2019 – Wangaratta – ASG-29)

12. Meeting Closure

Tighe P closed the meeting at 2045

Confirmed as a Correct Record

Chairperson: 

Date: 11 October 2020