

Minutes of the Annual Pilots' Meeting 9 June 2012

The meeting opened at 10:20 am

Chair:

Ross Gaddes took the chair in the absence of Dane Dickinson the current Chairman who was overseas and could not attend. Brett Hunter took the meeting notes.

Attendees:

An attendance list was handed around for signing by attendees.

Apologies:

M Weaver, D Dickinson, Ben Flewett, R Brown, M Oakley, N Oakley.

Chairman's report

Chairman's report was taken as read – V Ruddick, K Morgan.

Incoming committee:

Confirmation of incoming committee was made and the committee members welcomed were R Gaddes (retained), D Dickinson (retained), R Edwards (new). Acceptance moved by D Jensen and seconded by W Dickinson.

Minutes from previous Annual Pilots' Meeting 11 June 2011:

Minutes of previous meeting accepted as true and accurate record – Tony van Dyk, B Hunter.

Matters arising:

It was noted that airborne tasking required more feedback and that evaluation was yet to take place.

Minutes from Pilots' Meetings during competition season:

Minutes of pilots' meetings were taken as read – B Hunter, D Jensen.

Matters arising – airspace penalties were discussed and a short explanation given about the new guideline that was promulgated by the SRC. This guide is published and should help to clarify future airspace infringement penalties. An explanation was also given concerning task cancellation after the start during the previous Nationals in MM. No rule changes were deemed necessary at this stage.

Remits:

Grae Harrison explained his remit, which was published prior to the meeting.

A vote was moved on by T Van Dyk and seconded by R Edwards. The motion was carried and the remit accepted as written "*To rescind the current rule change that occurred at the last AGM 2011 concerning the abolition on minimum handicaps and wingspan requirements for entry to the 18m class and revert to the rule prior to this change*".

Proposed rules changes:

There were no proposed rule changes other than acceptance of the Harrison Remit.

Selection of pilot representatives:

Selection of pilot representatives for the international representative selection panel was held and both Tony Van Dyk and Max Stevens were selected. Moved by B Hunter and seconded by R Gaddes. A vote was held and carried - both candidates were selected unanimously.

General Business:

- The Silver C - "First Competition" award timeframe was extended from 12 to 24 months from the award of the Silver 'C'.
- A short explanation from David Jensen was given concerning pilot development and the application of Trust Funding money which was still waiting for approval or not.
- Discussion was held about the Sports Class and the lack of entrants. The SRC was to promulgate more ideas on this subject during the next year.
- There was some discussion about setting early dates for competitions as a result of requests from some pilots. This led to the MSC deciding on the above 2013-2014 season which if the compulsorily "New Year's" day was taken into account it exceeds the rules for National Competitions. The dates were still accepted. Roy Edwards noted that there were no penalties and that left Contest Organizers some discretionary decisions. South Island OSC members also submitted some dates. (*note - as published below*).
- Members of the Matamata Soaring Centre discussed the planning of an advanced XC course to be planned for the week prior to the 2013 Nth Island Regional Competition.
- Dane Dickinson had asked that some discussion be had on the need to encourage participation of volunteers to gain expertise in the various tasks needed at competition events. These are we need more expert CDs, task setters, scorers, tug pilots, grid marshals etc. Need to ensure the knowledge and skills are inherited to other pilots. Workshops, expert lectures, instruction manuals, guidelines documents are all good ways of doing this, but will require considerable energy, cooperation and resources. Currently, general apathy towards competitions is destroying them. Discussion was held as to what can be done to reverse this?? Trev Terry mentioned the TGC initiative with scorers' courses. Tony Van Dyk said that instructors can be sent on XC courses and that contest pilots can help out more with many tasks. Grae Harrison said the gridding can be simplified easily to reduce man power resources. Doug Henry made note that we can better promote and foster XC flying from club level.
- Jerry O'Neil suggested that regional contests should be held in different places to encourage more interest and diversity.
- Trev Terry commented that many clubs are short of XC experienced pilots and that as a result clubs lose pilots when making the transition to XC and/or competition flying because of the lack of support.
- Kevin Bethwaite stated that the Canterbury Gliding Club will propose that the 2014 Nationals be held at Springfield in late January 2014.

Meeting closed at 1145am.