

# Wingtips & Tales



Volume 2011-1

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**Inside this issue:**

The FINAL Draft Constitution FEB 2011 is now available.	2
Seeking Grants	3
Use of Notice Boards at the field	4
Removal of Crashed Aircraft from the field	4
Tailfeathers	5
Heeding the Fire Danger Index	5

## Welcome to a New Year

A belated Happy New Year for the Anglo following calendar amongst us and Kung Hei *Fat Choi* to our Chinese friends for a couple of days ago.

The new year greets us with hot dry winds and Fire Danger Indexes reeking havoc with our leisure time.

A little perspective though as tragedy strikes our friends and relatives in the eastern states.

If you haven't already, I would urge you to give whatever you can to the appeals to help out.

I saw a particularly poignant sign outside a house in Tully, Qld which was on the web. The house was a typical high set brick and fibro Qld house. Only the lower level cement supports stumps were still standing and everything else was gone. The owner had found a large piece of fibro amongst the debris and a spray can. He wrote in big letters "Down.....but not Beaten".

Now we have unrest in Egypt. We do not have to go far to find someone deeply affected by these events. Our thoughts I am sure are with Mo who must be worried about his family and friends.

So, with the forgoing in mind, it's a little reality check for us all here in the dry West. Apart from the hot weather, we live in

a truly Lucky part of our Lucky Country.

We have our freedom to do pretty much as we please and can voice our opinions on just about anything, and as long as it is not a blatant lie or slanderous, can do so without fear.

So, think about what we have and take for granted and enjoy the day! But don't get too serious as there are people whose problems pale ours into insignificance.

We will try to keep this short to just keep you in the loop about the latest developments on and off the field.

We are keeping a close eye on machinations from certain ground dwellers to try and mount a challenge to our veto of the road racing car club proposal of last year. We were successful in getting the Park to see reason and understand our obligations under the CASR regulations at the time, but this may not be enough to hold them off. We shall see.

Things are starting to move on field as well as we shall explain.

Safe flying all and enjoy

Cameron

WAMASC Chair 07/02/11



**“A belated  
Happy  
New Year ”**

## The FINAL Draft Constitution FEB 2011 available

Members,

### UPDATE

Most of this page is a reiteration of the message in our last newsletter.

We have reproduced the cover letter yet again which I would ask anyone who has not read it to please do so. For those that have come along for the journey so far and are across the issues, this preface is a quick synopsis of what has changed since last November.

Most members would be aware that we called for submissions to council on the Constitution from clubs quite some time ago. Since that time, a very active campaign against the Constitution was mounted by a few individuals from a couple of the smaller clubs, but predominantly from Thunderbirds. This was both disappointing and discourteous to the council as, despite many requests to do so, nothing had been officially tabled by them and they continued with a very energetic campaign engaging in discourse with any who would listen.

This issue had become a festering sore with much second hand information being bandied about—not all of it flattering or true. Some of it was downright fear mongering citing “take over bids”, “dictatorships” and Lord knows what else. All this without base or substance only someone’s opinion. Such perceptions, had they been brought to council, could have been allayed, but this did not happen.

The situation was considered serious enough that the committee decided to devote a priority portion of the first council meeting agenda exclu-

sively to this issue. So at the first council meeting of the year, the council invited the Tbirds delegates to actually table their objections so that all the seven clubs could be on the same page as the Tbirds and actually be told first hand of their concerns and objections.

This was done and after a lengthy discussion and agreement on some very minor amendments to the Draft including housekeeping, the Tbirds President & delegate went on record as now being able to support the new Constitution when it comes to the vote.

This was a watershed moment and the council thanks the Thunderbirds delegates for coming to the table and negotiating in good faith.

So very shortly we shall enter the 21 day notice period and at last can move forward for what we all want—a better if not the best facility in the country!

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### So where to from here we hear you say yet again?

The council (your delegates) will soon be called upon to vote this document into existence and thereby clear the way for its submission to DOCEP for final sign off. As the draft has closely taken cues from existing approved Constitutional documents and we feel all the requirements of the DOCEP checklist have been fulfilled, DOCEP should not have any trouble giving their seal of approval. This is not to say that they might not find something that has been inadvertently overlooked, but we are quietly optimistic that it is good to go.

### How does this new Constitution change things for me as an individual?

For the individual member in terms of the use of the facility nothing will change. People who go flying Monday through to Sunday will continue to go flying and enjoy the company of other modellers as they do now. When it comes right down to it in very simple terms only two fundamental things change:

The individuals now become full members.

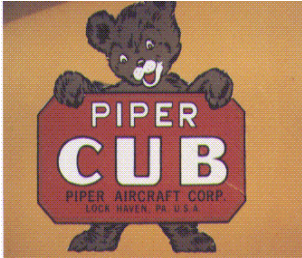
The seven clubs now become affiliate members.

For simplicity and continuity you will find that the council is still made up of 14 delegates who presently represent 7 clubs.

The changes still mean that the delegates are on the council to make decisions on normal council matters by considering the best interests of the centre which should coincide with your best interests.

Now as a result of your status change to full member, you will notice one very important consequence. That is, for the big really important stuff normally voted on at the AGM or a special meeting called for a specific purpose, your votes in person or by proxy are what shall now be needed to decide an outcome. It plainly puts the power back into your hands by giving you, the individual member a more direct influence over the decision making process.

Anyway, please read and understand that this is not such a leap and is definitely not into the unknown. You have rights under the Constitution. Dare we say, we think they are better defined, eminently fairer and much enhanced on what went before.



**“The Draft Constitution .....So where to from here we hear you say yet again?”**



## Seeking grants, donations and patrons

While all the other Constitutional and development stuff has been going on, we also arranged a meeting with Lotteries to establish our working relationship and start what is going to be a very labour intensive and long road ahead.

This was such an important task for the State Centre that I took the day off so that I could devote the entire day to it—to say nothing of our lead up preparation! This proved to be fortunate as the meeting went far longer than I expected and I was truly impressed with the level of engagement from the Grants Officers. They do sincerely wish to assist anyone wherever they can and want us to be given the best possible chance of success.

Our first signal to travel down this road was being made aware of the tremendous workload that the Grants Officers have to shoulder.

To help them deal with it and be as efficient with their time as possible, they laid down some of their requirements of us to be considered for up to \$750,00.

They have not less than 1,000 (yes 1,000!) loans applications travelling through the procedural steps to approval at any one time.

In order to be considered, they wished to deal with the peak body of any particular interest group (in our case AWA) so that they are only dealing with that body when talking about the order of financial consideration we were asking for. To secure this level of assistance, they require that the lease for the land being improved be held by the entity they are dealing

with, that is AWA.

As an aside, they were surprised to hear of our current seven club arrangement.

When pushed, they conceded that they would consider an application from an individual small club but this would not be for more than \$10,000 to \$15,000. In order to receive the large grant, Lotteries required the lease to be in the name of AWA.

As we have the obvious hierarchy that they preferred it was a no brainer to pursue this application from the AWA perspective.

To facilitate this, WAMASC is in correspondence with the Park management and AWA exploring the mechanism to transfer the lease to AWA to make this happen and move forward.

The letter to AWA also seeks a written undertaking (already verbally confirmed at council by the AWA President) that we have primacy for the sub-lease.

Also Lotteries did not want to disadvantage us in any way and encouraged us to go down this path from the get go.

So, some quick and simplistic dot points from our discussion:

- We need to present a business case as part of a detailed submission for grant. This should include estimates of potential public visitor numbers and a detailed summary of past “through the gates” numbers
- The case also has our financial audits for the last three years appended so that they

can be comfortable with our competency with fiscal management.

- The case needs to include how our facility integrates into and augments the local amenities in our area
- Our submission needs to be costed with reasonable estimates of ongoing overheads and how we intend to service them
- They would prefer to be part of a multiple grant arrangement in that we should be seeking other benefactors apart from them. This was already envisaged and is in hand.
- As our headquarters for the state and with AWA in residence, a detailed plan of how we proposed to integrate our facility into the “Transport Heritage” theme that the Park has pursued.

They were appreciative of our willingness to learn and will help where they can once we are under way.

At this point I would like to thank the AWA President and Secretary for accompanying me and showing Lotteries West a “united front” and their willingness to take the lead as requested.

So, we continue to be optimistic but there is both a steep learning curve and hill of work to be gotten over.

Chair & Committee.



**“there is both a steep learning curve and hill of work to be gotten over.”**



## Use of the Centre Notice boards



Your committee has been closely watching the usage of the notice boards over the past twelve months and found that, while members are availing themselves of this facility to post For Sale and other notices they wish to bring to their fellow modelers attention, the turnover of such notices was an obvious problem.

Some notices stay up until they are sun faded and no longer legible. The board always seems to be “maxed out” with no more room available.

At the February meeting your council decided to make the use of the notice boards subject to some simple rules to optimize use. The following By-Law was passed:

### By Law 11

#### Use of Notice boards

The following rules shall apply for the use of State Centre Notice Boards.

The notice board(s) in the public area is/are only to be used for advertisements and other notices of interest to members. No detailed club matters, minutes or determinations of a sensitive nature are to be posted on this board.

The noticeboard within the transmitter compound is for use by committee for posting sensitive or confidential members only matters not appropriate for post on the outside noticeboard in public view.

Advertisements and other notices placed on the public area noticeboard(s) by members:

- Shall bear the full name and contact phone number of the poster
- Shall include the date the notice was posted on the noticeboard
- Shall have a 60 day life after which they shall be removed
- Not bearing any one or all of the full name, contact details or date requirements shall be immediately removed from the notice board.

### “New By-Law The use of Notice Boards”

## Removal of crashed aircraft from the Centre

No one likes to lose their pride and joy, but unfortunately in the contest between plane and earth, the earth is yet to lose!

It is understandable that when a plane is lost, people are a little upset and just want to get rid of it.

Here we have a problem. It appears to be coming more and more prevalent that crashed aircraft are being stuffed into our pitside wheelie bins—whether they actually fit or not!



This is really not acceptable people.

It is the council's wish that you take home with you what you brought to the field—even if it is in a garbag. Those wheelie bins are not designed for nor should they be used to dump debris. By all means salvage what you can of hinges, pushrods, servos and the like, but please then be thoughtful and dispose of the rest properly.

Oh, and we do sympathize with your loss :-)

WA Model Aircraft Sports Centre, Beechboro Road  
Whiteman Park

We're on the Web!  
[www.wamasc.org.au](http://www.wamasc.org.au)

## MEMBERS IT'S YOUR NEWS LETTER

Got any good stories or  
lessons learned ?

Consider being a contribut-  
ing writer. We would love  
to hear from you and put  
you in print.

Contact the committee:  
[committee@wamasc.org.au](mailto:committee@wamasc.org.au)



## T.E.A.M Whiteman

Welcome to the **W.A. Model Aircraft Sports Centre Inc.** Our aims are to operate the best model aircraft facility in Australia, and to encourage and assist others to participate in our hobby for maximum enjoyment and safety.

The facility has been developed to cater for most forms of miniature aeronautics with specific areas for control line, fixed wing, and helicopters. The control line area features a concrete circle for team racing, and a grass circle for general flying. The fixed wing and helicopter areas feature covered pits, bitumen runways, and a large grassed area for helicopter training.

### Articles for Wingtips or Articles for Tales!

Guys and Girls, there are a lot of very experienced and talented miniature aircraft builders and flyers amongst us. If you have any helpful tips or "But there for the grace of God go I" tales that you might like to pass along to the rest of us, please get in touch with the committee: [committee@wamasc.org.au](mailto:committee@wamasc.org.au) as we would love to put your story in print.

Remember, we will never live long enough to make all the mistakes ourselves so it is important to learn from others.

Again we hope you got something out of this, our second publication if only so you get the facts and not the rumours. Finally, if you do not want to be included in the general distribution, let us know that or if you know someone who might like to receive it too please.

**Safe Landings from the Committee.**



Round & Rattle!!

### HEEDING THE FIRE DANGER INDEX

When the FDI reaches 40 or higher, the field is closed. This is not a decision by your council, but by the Park Management. When the FDI gets this high, it is usually (but not always) accompanied by a Total Fire Ban. There are heavy fines and jail sentences for disobeying fire danger instructions in this state.

On Saturday afternoon , some members from an unknown club were challenged by the Boomerangs President when they wanted to gain access to the field. When told by the BSAA President that the field was closed they appeared to want to disregard this by saying "Oh, it's not that hot." This is blatant stupidity and should they have jumped the fence, the result could well have been the loss of our facility by clearly breaking the terms of our lease to follow all park instructions and edicts.

Please bear in mind how serious this is viewed. Should any member be caught or is reported defying the No Flying at FDI 40 or above rule, immediate expulsion will result.

All members please be forewarned.