

# RAAF Amberley Flying Club

## NEWSLETTER – March - June 2011

### Welcome to 2011

Well, it has been a long time coming, but welcome to the RAFC Newsletter No. 2 for 2011!

### EGM

An Extraordinary General Meeting was held at 12 noon Saturday 12 Feb 2011. As a reminder, the agenda for the EGM was quite simple and covered the following three items:

- **New constitution.** A proposed constitution was made available prior to the meeting on the club website. It is a high level document defining the operation of the club and committee. The main change in the constitution is that it identifies the Safety Officer as a committee officer bearer and devolves specific instructions to the SOPs.
- **Life membership – Ray Seville.** Ray has been a member of the club for a number of years. As the Senior Flying Instructor Ray has provided ongoing support to students, the committee and the junior instructors. We'd like to recognise Ray as life member for all the hard work, long hours and weekends he has given up to ensure the club is able to provide flying and flying training.
- **Committee members.** Unfortunately the nature of Defence means that we often lose members through postings and deployments. As such the President, Vice President and Fuel Officer positions came up for election.

Unfortunately, we DID NOT GET A QUORUM, in particular in the category of full members, at the EGM. This was disappointing, as unless these administrative details are taken care of, the club suffers in the eyes of the Base hierarchy.

Fortunately, the committee devised a way around the impasse and an electronic vote was conducted via e-mail. This saw the new constitution adopted and Dallas Haggarty installed as the New President. The positions of Vice president and Fuel Officer remain vacant.

The Committee would like to take the opportunity to thank the outgoing President and Fuel Officer, Ivan Dovana and Marty Hogg, for their service and dedication to the club.

### New OIC

At about the same time as the new committee came into affect, Brad Close, our long serving OIC, informed the committee that he could no longer hold this role. Dallas Haggarty has kindly volunteered to step into the role for the time being.

### Year Program

The committee put forward a yearly activity plan that centred around two competition days. The proposed events were a Navex in June and a Spot Landing Competition in September. The Navex was cancelled due lack of interest and the Spot Landing competition date has been shifted to de-conflict it from Fathers Day.

Please keep Sunday 11 September free for this enjoyable competition. The event sub-committee (thank you Julian D'Aubbonnett, Andy Straume and Ravi Gunaratnam for volunteering) will be in touch soon with an update.

### Flying Instruction

Flying Instruction has continued through out the year. Students should contact their assigned instructor to make a booking for those days they wish to fly. Where a student does not have an assigned instructor they should contact [Damien Boyer](#) in the first instance.

The committee has recently reviewed the instructor fees the club pays our hard working instructors. The change to the fee structure recognises not only the direct efforts of the instructors but the supervisory work performed by our senior instructors. Part of this change is the introduction of a cancellation fee for bookings cancelled with less than 48 hours notice.

Changes have also been made to how formal classroom briefings required as part of the syllabus are managed. All such briefings now incur a flat fee for their delivery.

The conduct of Biennial Flight Reviews (BFR) by Ray will now cost \$150 plus the private hire costs of the aircraft used for the test.

These changes come into effect 1 July and are detailed on the aircraft cost sheet in the club house and on the website.

## Aircraft Hire Rates

As part of the on-going management of the club, the committee is required to regularly review aircraft hire rates. This has been necessitated by the increase in fuel costs associated with moving to drum stock. Nevertheless, the committee has managed to negotiate a reduced cross hire rate for the Tomahawks from the AAFC. Other rates have also been reviewed to keep the club's rates the most competitive in SE QLD.

Club members will thus notice a change in the rates for the aircraft taking effect on 01 July 11. These new rates will be published at the club and be made available on the website.

## Safety Message

The club experienced its first safety incident in some time earlier this month when UAL suffered a propeller strike during taxi. Fortunately, no one was hurt in the incident. A club safety investigation is under way and lessons learnt from that investigation will be distributed soon.



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Speaking of safety, our Club Safety Officer, 'Virg' McGrath is in the States completing his Super Hornet conversion. In his place, Dale

Bode has kindly stepped forward to act as Safety Officer. Many Thanks Dale!

## Base Passes

Many of the affiliate and honorary club members require a Base pass to access the base to participate in club activities. To get issued such a pass, the Base requires that the member provide a Police check as part of the security vetting procedures.

We all require either an ASIC or AVIC issued by CASA to operate an aircraft in Australia. The issue of these items include a Police check at least to the same standard required by the Base.

Following some discussions with the Base, I have gained agreement that presentation of a current ASIC or AVID will be accepted as proof that the member has completed the required Police check to be issued their Base pass.

## Member Support

The club does not run without the ongoing support of its members. The bulk of this work is borne by the club committee. The good work of these gentlemen is an example of how the efforts of individual members can benefit all club members. Nevertheless there is still much to do, so volunteers are sought to assist with the following tasks:

- Compiling the bi-monthly newsletter,
- Organising social events,
- Managing club equipment, and
- Managing the kitchenette and fridge contents.

If you think you can assist in any way please make yourself known to the committee.

## Your Committee

Dallas Haggarty

**Vacant**

Henry Taylor

Brian Smith

**Vacant**

Jonathan Shand

Anthony McGrath

Dale Bode

Ray Seville

President/OIC

**Vice President**

Secretary

Treasurer

**Fuel Officer**

Maintenance Officer

Safety Officer (AOD)

Acting Safety Officer

Senior Instructor