



**NOTAP #2025-03**

**Issued February  
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Dear Members,

Firstly, I wish to announce that our P&DARCS Field Manager, Craig Fitzsimons has elected to stand aside from his role for the time being. On behalf of the committee and our membership, I would like to thank Craig for his valuable contributions to our club to date. As we all are aware, maintaining our field on a regular basis is what gives us the opportunity to fly our model planes. Thanks Craig, and we look forward to seeing you back again soon.

To assist in the ongoing field management and maintenance, our Vice President, David Law has offered to take up the role in Craig's absence. David has a wealth of experience in the building and construction industry, as well as dealing in soil management. Thanks David, we appreciate the offer.

**First Stage of Major Runway Upgrades – February 24th to 28th**

We are pleased to inform our members that our runway upgrades are progressing and on track to commence in the coming weeks. This first stage involves an extended maintenance program (already part of the FY24/25 budget) which is anticipated to commence from February 24th to 28th. This work will involve the use of a specialist cylindrical mower to significantly reduce the height of the current grass on the runways.

**Key Details of the First Stage:**

- **Specialist Mowing Process:** The cylindrical mower is designed to lower the grass to a manageable level without killing it. While the grass may turn yellow temporarily, the root system will remain intact, allowing for healthier regrowth. This will lead the way for the next steps of top soiling and dressing.
- **Irrigation Works:** Additional work will be required to extend the current irrigation system to the far side of the main runway. This work will be designed and quoted in the following weeks.
- **Runways Affected:** The main runway and the eastern runway only will undergo this maintenance.
- **Operational Impact:** The field will remain open; however, the affected runways will need to be closed for approximately four hours while work is in progress.
- **Scheduled Workdays:** Members will be informed of the specific days and time the mowing will take place.

This work will affect our team on the mowing roster, and those members will also be updated via email as the new work progresses.

Further details will be provided once an exact schedule is confirmed by the contractor. We appreciate your cooperation as we take these necessary steps to enhance the quality of our runways.

**Keith Quigg | AUS 22897  
P&DARCS President 2024/2025**