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GENERAL CLUB MEETING ONLINE THURSDAY MAY 23rd 7.30PM

Hello everyone.

As you would now be aware, the next general club meeting has been moved forward a little to accommodate motions for the 2024/2025 budget. With the finalisation of the MAAA fees, our membership rates for the next financial year have now been set. Thanks to Peter for putting the budget together for us once again.

Also, for discussion will be the members' choice regarding our general meeting format. We have held several meetings at the field this year, and the numbers attending those have been very low. As you can imagine, having only 15 or 16 members making decisions for a club of 163 is hardly representative of our club.

Whilst I respect that our constitution does state the quorum is 15, as chairman of the meeting, it would be irresponsible to allow important decisions to be tabled that affect the entire membership. And as history has shown, it is easy enough for a minority group within our club that will attempt to use that small quorum to their advantage. The same minority are also quick to point out misgivings of the committee, but rarely show their hands when it comes to offering themselves to committee positions.

To that, I urge every member of our club to register and have their say at the general meeting. This is your club, and you have a right to put your opinions forward. Turn up, make your vote and your opinion count.

One major point that has come out of the recent MAAA national conference is that change is inevitable if our sport is to survive into the next few decades. Part of that change is the way in which we think about aeromodelling and how it can be managed. Unnecessary "red tape" at many levels is turning people away, along with attitudes of some clubs. Those changes can start at a club and a state level.

As a final note, some people would be aware of changes occurring at the VMAA with the registrar position becoming vacant and the Executive moving to appoint a replacement in June. The P&DARCS committee have also appointed John Van de Waterbeemd as our VMAA representative.

All the best for now, and I hope to see you all at the ZOOM meeting on Thursday night. If you have not registered yet or have yet to receive a link for the meeting, please contact Daniel, our IT Manager.

Keith Quigg | AUS 22897
P&DARCS President 2023/2024