

## Kingaroy Aero Modeller's Society Inc.

→ President/Secretary: John Box – [REDACTED]  
 → Vice President: Dean Eckart – [REDACTED]  
 → Treasurer: Denis Hansen – [REDACTED]



### Official response to the Transport and Public Works Committee Inquiry

The Kingaroy Aero Modellers Society 'KAMS' was founded in 1983 and we are a small country Model Aircraft Club located in the South Burnett area of Queensland. We participate in and promote the hobby of model Aircraft building and flying. This includes all types of engine and electric powered planes, helicopters and drones. We are affiliated with the Model Aeronautical Association of Queensland whom in turn has over 2400 affiliated members through 60 affiliated clubs.

Our submission relates to the following sections of the guideline:

- a. The economic impact
- b. The contribution of the industry to Queensland's tourism sector
- d. Options to improve the safety of all industry participants;
- e. The impact on youth training and community engagement

#### Economic Impact

Our members purchase their very limited aeromodelling supplies from local toy and hardware stores where possible. They also purchase supplies via online stores in Australia, which then requires local delivery services.

#### The contribution of the industry to Queensland's tourism sector

Our members often travel to other clubs to participate in various model flying activities. Recently some members travelled to event's in Dalby and Maryborough requiring accommodation, food and fuel.

On a state level, the Dalby Model Aero Club recently hosted the Asia Pacific Regional Scale Aerobatic Championship. This involved around 25 overseas competitors 20 interstate competitors with around 1000 visitors to the event over the weekend. During a week in August this year the world championship for model pylon racing was held in Maryborough. The countries represented were Australia, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Guatemala, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland and USA. This biannual event was last held in Australia 8 years ago with the next event being held in USA. It was estimated by the local Mayor that this event alone injected around \$500,000 to the local community. This is just two examples of the tourism and economic impact these sorts of events have.

The flow on effects for the tourism industry must not be overlooked, as many of these overseas and interstate visitors partaking in these events also have extended holidays while they are here, spending even more of their money in our sunshine state.

#### Options to improve the safety of all industry participants

Our club, through the state association, is affiliated with the Model Aeronautical Association of Australia who are in turn are approved by CASA as the Recreational Aviation Administration Organisation (RAAO) for Model Aircraft.

To this end, our club operates under the various Manuals of Procedures, ensuring safe operation within our allotted airspace and maintaining safe operations for pilots and visitors alike. We have one designated instructor who guides newcomers in the art of model flying to ensure safe and competent flying of the models.

#### The impact on youth training and community engagement

We currently have a 14-year-old learning to become a proficient pilot under the guidance of a senior pilot. KAMS runs an Annual weekend Fly-In in October. This year we invited our local Antique Car Club to share our common mechanical interests. Their members enjoying our facilities and observed our activities. There were 9 caravans with visiting members camping onsite for the weekend from as far away as Roma. The event was publicised on local radios and in the local paper and electronic news services. We estimate that up to 150 community people visited and enjoyed our event over the 2 days.

This submission has been completed with the approval of the Executive Committee of the Kingaroy Aeromodellers Society Inc. and with knowledge of the MAAQ, our state association.

Regards,

**John Box**

**President/Secretary/Safety Officer**

**Kingaroy Aero Modellers Society 2013 - 20**

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