

The past 12 months has been relatively quiet for the Aerobatics SIG.

In saying that, the few Precision competitions that did eventuate provided a boost to the bank account.

Due to the timing of the 2016 Nationals at Easter, it's seems to have been a long year.

International representation saw Stephen Greig and Team Briggs ~ Frazer, Mike and Caller – Jarrod attended the IMAC 2015 Tucson Shootout in the USA.

No New Zealand pilots completed at the 2015 F3A World Champs held in Switzerland, which was reported to be a lavish event. Unfortunately, to date, there has not been any bids or venue for the 2017 F3A World Champs.

Earlier this month, Hamish Galloway, James Danby and Anthony Hall competed at Australian Master held in Victoria.

In October, a team will compete at the FAI F3A Asian Oceanic Competition (AOC) being held in Taipei Taiwan.

NZ is to host the next F3A Trans Tasman in March 2017 and the proposed venue is Hawkes Bay.

In July last year Ross & I attended the MFNZ AGM & SIG Meeting. The AGM focused on the role and expanding responsibilities of MFNZ. There was a presentation and discussion on 'Unmanned Aircraft' (Drones), considerable discussion on CAA/MFNZ status and involvement and the venues for the 2016 & 2017 Nationals ~ Carterton over Easter 2016 and Waharoa 03 ~ 07 January 2017. MFNZ requested donations from the SIGs to purchase two defibrillators. The Aerobatics SIG donation was \$250. For H&S, MFNZ require all SIGs have a First Aid kit and fire extinguisher. They also require that a 'First Aider' be on site for our Nationals events. The main focus of the SIG meeting was on SIG performance, expectations and responsibilities ~ to promoting aeromodelling and to MFNZ.

On a much brighter note, a huge THANK YOU must be given to Mike & Frazer for all the effort they made in successfully locating a suitable flying site for IMAC. This has resulted in them securing a venue for an IMAC event to be held in April at Galatea in the central plateau area. This is a great central venue and should be welcome news for all northern and southern competitors.

And lastly, despite much effort from some members, it is disappointing that there seems to have been a decline in interest to compete over the past 12 months. All Aerobatics pilots need to constantly drive to keep aerobatics moving forward.

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