

M R A AUSTRALIA

As a member, you are by now no doubt confused over the whole MRA Australia issue, and can be excused for not knowing where your State stands in the organisation.

Details in the motorcycling press have been sketchy, because at the June conference delegates agreed to keep differences out of the papers, and most States have abided by that decision. So let me try to set out what we have for you.

At the moment we definitely have seven autonomous State Branches. Your own State Branch or Register will look after your membership and your interests at a local level, until the day comes when we can establish a single National Association capable of representing all members' needs wherever they may live. We have also MRA Australia, to which all State Branches belong except South Australia. If you are a South Australian member, your A.G.M. voted that you will not join in at this stage, if at all, and that you will wait to see what the rest of us achieve before committing yourselves.

The Victorian proposal that we immediately establish a single National Association was rejected by the membership in other States, mainly because States were not willing to trust their membership fees to a single pool. In most other respects, the proposal was adopted, albeit modified to suit all States. So the only real stumbling block facing MRA Australia at the moment is the question of finance - if we can arrive at a financing system that all States can agree on, then MRA Australia will be a viable national association.

In the interim, \$2 of your \$10 membership fee is being pooled in Tasmania to get MRA Australia started. MRA Victoria is not paying the \$2 levy at this stage. Victorian membership is still \$10. Victoria, however, is willing to use its more extensive facilities in lieu of paying the levy for the good of all members. One direct case is the handling of the sorting and posting of the National Newsletter Australia-wide but not Editing.

In this issue you will find a short questionnaire asking your views on MRA AUSTRALIA and associated issues. It is your opportunity to tell us what you would like to see being done for you at a National level. Please take the time to fill it in, then post it to The Editor, "MRA Australia", 184 Brunswick St, Fitzroy, 3065

HAL CASTON
PRESIDENT,
MRA AUSTRALIA.
