



“Soaring Victoria”

VSA NEWSLETTER

Welcome Lumpy!

Lumpy Paterson of [Tocumwal Soaring Centre](#) has joined the VSA Committee and we very much look forward to his input over the coming months. Check out the link to TSC for what's on offer!



VSA Facebook

Check out the Twin Astir from South Gippsland Gliding Club on the VSA FB landing page! The newsletter received some great pics for our FB site, so keep them coming and we can then feature them in the newsletter!

Soaring Development Panel

The Mande-news in November last year contained details of a change of name of the old Sports Committee to Soaring Development Panel (SDP) and the RTO/Sports to be named Soaring Development Manager (SDM), as well as the five SDMs becoming full members of the SDP.

It's become clear that the majority of members do not understand why this was done and what it means for them and their clubs, soooooooo hopefully the following will provide that information.

Firstly, the results of the surveys that the GFA carried out over the last few years are clear that we could do better and strategies have been developed. This is one such instance. It was clear that the GFA membership as a whole considered the Sports Committee concentrated too much on competitions and not enough on cross country flying in general, as well as providing coaching to all. Both MOSP 4 and the makeup of the Sports Committee generated that perception as well as encouraging that outcome in reality.

The name change to ***Soaring Development Panel*** is intended to change the focus from a narrow definition of Sport to embrace all of Soaring (competition being a small part of this). At the same time, the RTO/Sport title was changed to Soaring Development Manager for the same reason. Adding the five Soaring Development Managers to the (now) Soaring Development Panel means that in practice, soaring has a louder voice than competitions. These are not name changes for the sake of it or to try and change perceptions, but are changes to reflect how GFA intend the Soaring Development Panel to operate moving forwards.

GFA

The GFA April Board meeting in Melbourne was predominantly to discuss the budget. As you are aware, the GFA fees have increased significantly to \$320 per annum. The GFA will also look at a 5% decrease in all their expenses to decrease the budget deficit. Insurance costs are quite significant to the budget, so perhaps it is timely to have that conversation about situational awareness, safety and Target Zero during your Winter lectures and briefings.

VSA Governance Criteria

A criteria going forward for VSA, WAGA and NSWGA to receive funding from State Governments is to have 40% women on Boards or State Associations. With so few women pilots in the sport, this is difficult to fulfil. State Associations are seeking non-flying members to assist who may be interested to be part of the sport's governance.

The VSA is still seeking the services of a Secretary.

Sport & Recreation Funding

As part of procuring funding from the State Government to support our aspirations to grow and maintain our sport in its current format, we are required to comply and formulate our strategies to align not only with the GFA strategies, but with the criteria that is important to the State Government's initiatives. Hence, the request for involvement in programs that are important to the Department of Sport & Recreation. Our initiatives and requests for funding are predicated on their criteria and we must report every six months on whether the Victorian gliding clubs are achieving those initiatives. If we are not, then our funding may be reduced or cancelled.

This is where you come in!

Without your involvement, enthusiasm and willingness to participate, you, as members and clubs, will ensure that the VSA cannot fulfil its obligations. If you are not involved in programs such as Premier's Active April, This Girl Can, Access for All Abilities, Club Health Checks, Succession Planning, training seminars and progressing our sport then the VSA may not be able to support your flying programs, workshops, seminars and training subsidies.

If you or your club are not involved in the government initiatives, then speak to your club committee to see how you can be involved – or organise the activities with other club members or other clubs as a working group and collaborate on a project.

Help us to help you!

Sport & Recreation Funding – 40% Women on the Board

On 24th April, 2019, the VSA received a letter from the Minister Tourism, Sport and Major Events, the Honourable Martin Pakula MP to advise that on 1 July 2019 to remain eligible for sport and recreation program funding, the VSA is required to maintain at least 40 per cent women on its board or governing body. Currently, we meet and are above the quota.

The Victorian Government is committed to promoting gender equality at all levels of sport and active recreation in Victoria and the introduction of the 40 per cent quota aims to bring about long term cultural change for Victorian sport in order to grow and strengthen sport and recreation organisations through good governance practices.

Fair Play Code

What is the Fair Play Code?

The [Fair Play Code](#) is the Code of Conduct for Community Sport and this commenced on 1 July 2018. It is one of the Victorian Government's key initiatives under the Victorian integrity in sport action plan to tackle the growing number of integrity challenges.

Who does the Code apply to?

The Fair Play Code applies to every person involved in sport and recreation in Victoria including training and club sanctioned activities. This includes:

- players
- participants
- coaches
- support persons
- officials
- volunteers
- administrators
- club members
- spectators
- parents
- members of the public

What does the Code do?

The Fair Play Code provides updated guidelines on expected standards of behaviour with the aim of encouraging a safe, welcoming and inclusive sport and recreation environment. The Fair Play Code includes guiding principles in relation to:

- integrity
- respect
- responsibility
- fairness
- safety

What are the Code responsibilities?

Victorian sport and recreation organisations:

- are encouraged to incorporate the Fair Play Code into their code of conduct, member protection policy, constitution or other governance documents.
- must demonstrate adherence to and enforcement of the Fair Play Code, to be eligible for funding from Sport and Recreation Victoria.

NB: To be eligible for VSA funding, adherence to and enforcement of the Fair Play Code will be a requirement of all Victorian gliding clubs.

The Fair Play Code enables every person involved in sport and recreation to commit to consistent standards of behaviour, to help maintain the integrity of sport and recreation. If there is a suspected Code breach, refer to:

- the complaint handling person or policy at the relevant sport or recreation association, league or club.
- an external authority, such as the police, if potential unlawful conduct or when required by law.

There are some great resources [located here](#) to put on your club noticeboard, website or social media.

In order to support your club, there are a number of free online training sessions in a number of topics around respect and values, discrimination, governance etc.

The Victorian Soaring Association strongly encourage you to look at the [Play By The Rules](#) website which also contains a number of useful guidelines and templates, print these out and display on your club noticeboards, and have available to your members.

There's been a couple of updates and a new release on Play by the Rules that I thought you'd be interested in. The first is an updated section around inclusion and diversity issues, so [check it out to here](#).

And if your club struggles with handling complaints (who doesn't!) then Play by the Rules just published part 2 of the '[Managing Conflict at your Club](#)' series - it should help!

MPIO – Member Protection Information Officer

The VSA Member Protection Information Officer is Alf McMillan. Alf is currently preparing information sessions on the GFA Member Protection Policy to be inclusive of all Victorian clubs. He will be reaching out to you shortly with program details.

Child Safety Statement of Commitment

The Victorian Soaring Association is committed to being a child-safe organisation, with zero tolerance for child abuse. Our organisation is working towards compliance with the Victorian Child Safe Standards. We aim to create a culture of child safety that reduces the opportunity for harm and gives all members of the association a clear process to follow when someone raises concerns about child safety or reports abuse.

Our [Child Safety Statement of Commitment](#) applies to all Clubs and Volunteers and can be found on the VSA website. If your club does not have a Child Safety Statement of Commitment, please use the VSA template or prepare your own with your club logo and place on your noticeboards or reference in your newsletters.

Winter Series Programs

Do you have an event or activity happening at your club during Winter? Send an email to president@gliding.asn.au to put in the VSA newsletter so that other pilots can share what you have to offer.

VSA Members' Survey

VSA have compiled a number of questions to ask the Victorian members and a link to Survey Monkey will be sent through shortly. Please take the time to complete so that we can have a good overview of what you feel on issues pertinent to you.

EI Presidente on the move....

During the last AGM in August 2018, the assembled gathering was advised that EI Presidente would be making **unscheduled** visits to all clubs once the soaring season moved into hibernation. So, the time has come and The Taj will be on the move and I hope to see you over the coming months. I have already visited Nagambie, Tocumwal and Mt. Beauty since December (as they were close to home!) Look out for the Avan.....



SPORTS COMMUNITY

Let Sports Community make your life easier!

The Gliding Federation of Australia are committed to helping their club volunteers, which is why they partnered with Sports Community, to invest in you!

You have completely free, unlimited access to hundreds of expertly developed volunteer training courses, club position descriptions, checklists, templates, videos, successful case studies and much, much more!

If you're on the committee, a club **President, Treasurer or Secretary**, coordinate **fundraising, social media or grant applications**, Sports Community have tons of amazingly useful information, tools and resources to make your role **FUN** and **EASY!**

Ready for the BEST part? Thanks to Sports Community's partnership with the Gliding Federation of Australia, **you're ALREADY a MEMBER!** Simply login at using your username and password which has been sent to you previously.

President and Committee Members - [click here!](#)

Secretary - [click here!](#)

Treasurer - [click here!](#)

Social Media Coordinator - [click here!](#)

Sponsorship Coordinator - [click here!](#)

Fundraising Coordinator - [click here!](#)

Grant Coordinator - [click here!](#)

Event Coordinator - [click here!](#)

As a Gliding Federation of Australia club, any volunteer involved in running their club can access these awesome tools and resources!

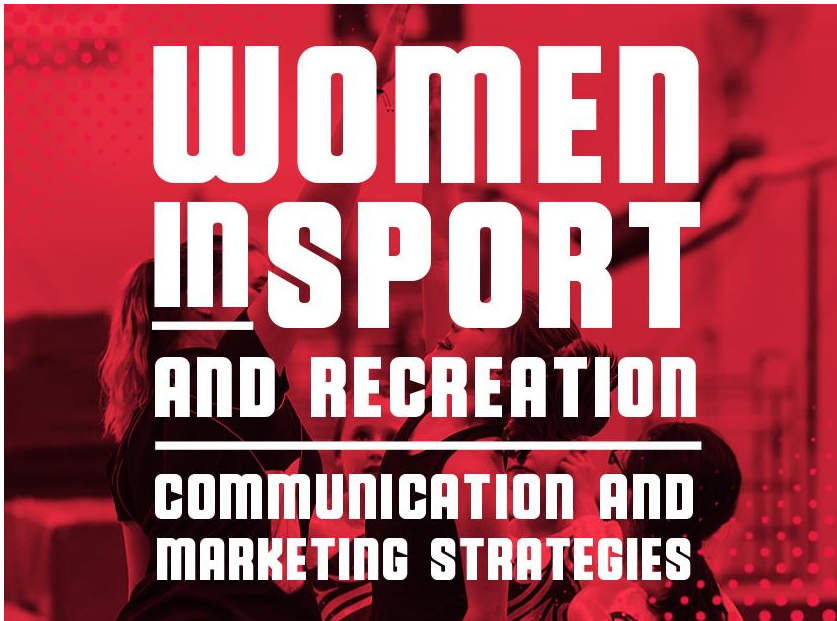
Forgotten your password or how to login? Watch this quick video to find out how.

<https://vimeo.com/333672723>

If there's anything you need for your club - let Sports Community know!

Sports Community Team

“Change our Game”



The Change Our Game Women in Sport and Recreation Communication and Marketing Guidelines have been developed in conjunction with the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (VEOHRC). Effective marketing can play a key role helping clubs increase membership, improve culture, attract support and contribute to building stronger and healthier local communities.

These guidelines focus on four key areas:

- Smart strategies for marketing to women
- Smart strategies for selecting imagery
- Smart strategies for using social media
- Smart strategies to using inclusive language and terminology

[Download Change Our Game Women in Sport and Recreation Communication and Marketing Guidelines](#)

#yesgirlsglide

If you want some advertising for [#yesgirlsglide](#) to display in your clubhouse, contact president@gliding.asn.au who will send a copy of these A3 size posters to download.



Vale – Cheryl Madden

Our sincere sympathy and condolences go out to Eddie Madden at Sportaviation Tocumwal on the passing of his beloved wife, Cheryl on 27th April, 2019. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Eddie and their family on this very sad news. Taken too soon....

2019 VSA Awards – Nominations by Clubs

VSA is calling for nominations by clubs for the following VSA Awards:

- Ron Roberts Trophy for the longest flight
- David Hooper Memorial Trophy for longest flight within 2 years of solo
- Bob McCullough Instructing Trophy
- Geoff Vincent Memorial Trophy for most meritorious height gain on a VSA site
- Living Treasures Award

Please send all nominations to David Cleland - davidcleland@gmail.com

Details of the awards and last year's recipients are [located here](#)

Nominations will close on **Friday, 12th July 2019**.

What's on next!!

Calendar of Events for Victoria

20 May: [VSA Form 2 Airworthiness Course1](#) (Information in [February edition](#))

7-10 June: [Grampians Soaring Club Wave Camp](#) - Ararat Airfield

10 August: VSA 2019 Annual General Meeting - Bacchus Marsh Club Rooms, Bacchus Marsh Aerodrome from 11:00am to 12:30 pm. All VSA pilots welcome. A light lunch will be provided. Presidents' meeting commences at 1:00.

14 September: [Tocumwal Airshow](#)

9-21 December: [Australian Multi-Class Nationals](#) - Tocumwal Soaring Centre. The entry list is now open. Head to the TSC web page to register or to see who will be racing this December....

3-17 January 2020: 10th [WWGC - Lake Keepit](#) (to support the Victorian women's gliding team, donations can be made with the [Australian Sports Foundation](#)).

We know you've got planning in the pipeline, so send an email to president@gliding.asn.au for inclusion in the VSA newsletter so that other pilots can share in what you have to offer.

Kind Regards
Viv Drew
VSA President

And for all you "Plane Spotters" out there - www.flightradar24.com/ or www://flightaware.com/live/ ☺