

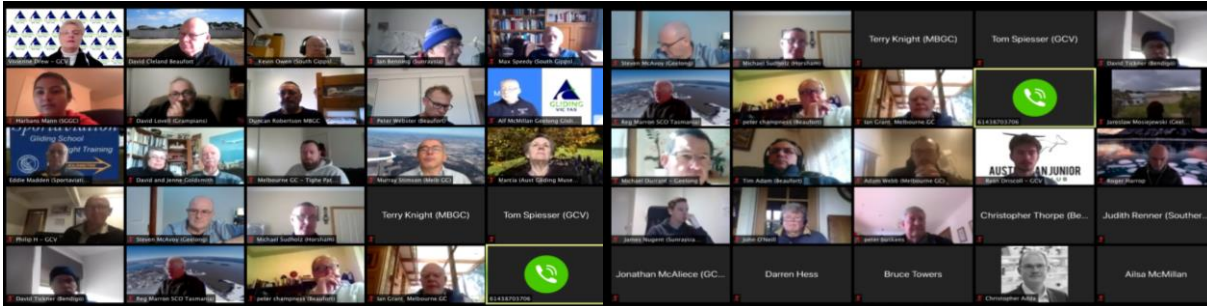


“Gliding VicTas”

VSA NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER EDITION
AND COVID19 UPDATE



VSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The VSA held its on Saturday, 22nd due to COVID was held by Zoom as you can see from attendance with 43



Annual General Meeting August, 2020. This year, restrictions, the meeting video conferencing and the pics, we had a great members attending. We

don't often get so many members turning up due to the travel involved, but a cold and rainy day, no possibility of leaving home for anything other than essentials and a warm fire had something to do with it!

A warm welcome is extended to the new committee members for 2020/21 who will be working with all Victorian clubs this year. They are:

- Vivienne Drew, President (GCV)
- Reg Marron, Vice President (Soaring Club of Tasmania)
- Tom Spiesser, Treasurer (GCV)
- Peter Webster, Secretary (Beaufort GC)
- Duncan Robertson, GFA VSA Board Rep (Mt Beauty GC)
- Ailsa McMillan, Committee (GCV)
- Harbans Mann, Committee (South Gippsland GC)
- Marcia Cavanagh, Website Administrator, (Aust Gliding Museum)
- Ryan Driscoll, Committee and Vic Rep for Aust Junior Gliding Club (GCV)
- Terence Ryan, Committee Member (Mt. Beauty GC)

Regional Officers:

Joe Luciani - RTO/Airworthiness

Alan Payne - Regional Manager Operations (RM/O)

Mike Durrant - Soaring Development Officer

Chris Thorpe - Regional Airfields, Airspace & Avionics (AA&A) Officer

John Switala - Trophy Officer

Awards and Achievements 2019/2020

At the end of the AGM, the Awards and Achievements ceremony was held via video conference. It was presented with a Powerpoint presentation as we were unable to present in person. We extend congratulations to all winners of the VSA Trophies and a heartfelt thank you to those members who received recognition of their volunteer input to our extraordinary sport.

Trophy winners are:

VSA State Championships

Open/18metre Class Mike Durrant

Club Class Jaroslaw Mosiejewski

Ron Roberts Trophy (Longest flight)

Lumpy Paterson

Southern Riverina Gliding Club

(1054.7 kms for 1,128 OLC points)

David Hooper Memorial Trophy

(Longest flight made by a VSA pilot within two years of going solo)

Sujai Thomman-(Melbourne GC)

(344 km flight from Wangaratta on December 29, 2019)

Max Hedt Vintage Trophy

(the most meritorious performance by a vintage glider from a VSA airfield)

Jenne Goldsmith (Geelong GC) at

Horsham Week 2020 in the Ka6

The Bob McCullough Trophy

(for services to instructing within the VSA)

Chris Thorpe (Beaufort GC)

The Maurice Little Memorial Trophy

(for significant achievements in the development of their Club)

South Gippsland Gliding Club

President's Award

(for significant contribution to the VSA and gliding)

David Cleland (Beaufort GC)

Living Treasures:

Peter Buskens (Beaufort GC), Steve Coulton (Melbourne GC)

Tony Vost, Ken Boland, Richard Cotton, Peter Carey (Gliding Club of Victoria)

Certificates of Appreciation:

Dave Meredith and Jarek Mosiejewski (Geelong GC)

Terence “Reg” Gardner, Matt Gage, Colin Collum and Laurie McKinley (GCV)

Harbans Mann (South Gippsland GC)

James Nugent (Melbourne GC & Australian Junior GC)

So, what will VSA Committee be doing?

Viv Drew will continue working with Sport & Recreation Victoria, providing information on sport governance, promoting our initiatives to clubs and individual members in alignment with our [Strategy Plan](#) and liaising with clubs on how VSA can assist them. Reg Marron as VP will be Viv’s 2IC to assist with the above.

Tom Spiesser as Treasurer is the magic numbers man and will continue to keep our books in order. Pete Webster as Secretary will keep the records for us and ensure that we work to our guidelines and articles of association.

Duncan Robertson has taken the mantle of GFA VSA Board Rep and is the “go to” man if you need information on the GFA and will also be working on the VSA Volunteer Strategy.

Alf McMillan – Member Protection Information Officer

The following portfolios are being undertaken as follows:

Ailsa McMillan - YesGirlsGlide program

Harbans Mann - Monash University Soaring Society launch and ongoing support

Ryan Driscoll - Vic Rep for the Australian Junior Gliding Club to support the YouthGlide Local Series

Terry Ryan – to assist with the above portfolios.

Marcia Cavanagh - Website Administrator who keeps our ageing website up-to-date with current information.

GFA / VSA Board Structure

There has been a lot of discussion lately about the Gliding Federation of Australia Board structure and how the State Regional Associations fit in and how they sync together and what that means for individual members.

If you are wondering how the governance of our sport works, follow the link to the [VSA Governance / GFA VSA Board Structure](#)

SO, WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU CAN'T GO GLIDING....AGAIN!

LOTS!

1. Starting with [Condor 2](#) Flight Simulation Competitions.
2. Gliding Webinars hosted by Geelong Gliding Club

Dave Meredith and the team at Geelong Gliding Club have been busily hosting gliding webinars on Zoom. It started out with just GGC and then extended into the wider gliding community. At most webinars, there have been 40+ attendees. "Planning to do 1000 kms" delivered by Ailsa McMillan was well received along with the fabulous presentation by G.Dale, UK Coach. Geelong GC approached VSA for funding to assist this worthwhile venture and they GGC team did a great job. The sessions on Thermalling Techniques Parts 1 and 2 was recorded and loaded to the YouTube channel and lots more since. These are very interactive and we thank the Geelong team for making this happen.



The link to the recorded sessions is <https://www.youtube.com/user/ggcmovies>

3. Podcasts on gliding – [Soaring the Sky](#) have great podcasts on lots of different gliding topics from Glider Gaggles and Goals, Auto Tows Aero Tows & Winch launching, Mastering the Thermal and many more....in fact they are up to podcast 61!



PLAY BY THE RULES WEBINARS

THINK TANKS ON RETURNING TO SPORT

Check out **Play by the Rules** Webinars on how to [Return to Sport Safely](#) and what your club may need to do to comply with legislation when dealing with the general public coming to your club.

Sport Australia have released the [Return to Sport Toolkit](#) encompassing the four elements of a safe return to sport. These are “**Plan, Prepare, Respond, Recover**” strategies that provide all the information and checklists that you need to ensure that you are compliant and can eliminate any liability to your club through lack of planning, if you are subject to an outbreak.

Four elements of a safe return to sport



Plan

Implementing plans, processes and systems to meet government and health requirements, and provide safe sport environments.



Prepare

Ensuring safe facility and participant practices, like hygiene practices, attendance registers at training and limiting shared equipment as much as possible.



Respond

Being prepared for management of a COVID-19 outbreak, noting things can change quickly in your local area.



Recover

Consideration of protocols to optimise good public and participant health into the future.



DETAILED CHECKLIST
suited for large and medium sporting organisations



SIMPLIFIED CHECKLIST
suited for small sporting organisations



COVID-19 SAFETY COORDINATOR
roles and responsibilities



COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN
template



ATTENDANCE REGISTER
template



COVID-19 HYGIENE GUIDANCE
communication material

RETURNING FROM COVID19

We are already seeing that it will be a different world with different procedures to follow and these will be in place for a long time to come. This couldn't be a better time to review your club culture, club hygiene, club engagement, club finances, grant applications; in other words, do a **Club Health Check** and see how you stack up. It might surprise you!

Check out the [AIS Sport Aus website](#) or the [VSA Club Health Check](#) form (scroll down to the fifth document Club Health Check).

SPORTS COMMUNITY WEBINARS - Governance

Do you know your legal responsibilities under the Incorporations Act of your state?

For example, can you answer the following;

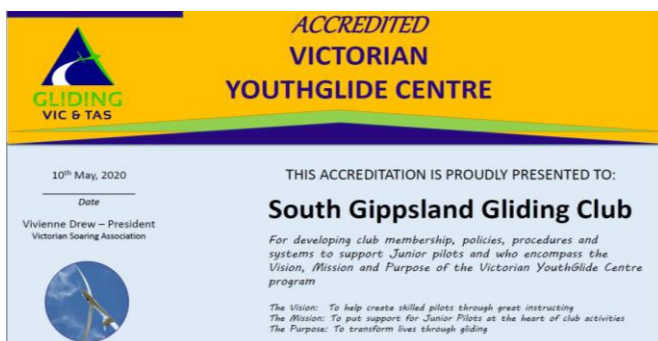
- What you **must** do if a club member asks you for a list of all club members?
- Which office holders **must** be included in the Members register sent to the local government department?
- How long after the AGM you **must** lodge your financial statement?
- Do you have a Complaints procedure?
- For an AGM motion do you need 75% of eligible voters or 75% of those present (plus proxies)?
- How to manage and record a conflict of interest?
- What are the Model rules and when do they apply?

Not sure? To find the answer to these and many other interesting questions click [here](#) to find out by listening to Sports Community webinar on “Understanding the legislative responsibilities and Club Rules of your club”.

NOW IS THE TIME! Become an Accredited VSA YouthGlide Centre

If you want juniors in your club and for their parents/guardians to know that their children are in a safe environment and complying with current legislation, all individual members should know their obligations. The newly launched Monash University Soaring Society and the Australian Junior Gliding Club will be referring their junior pilots to an accredited YouthGlide Centre. www.gliding.asn.au/Members/YouthGlide.

Get on board during lockdown and complete the accreditation criteria!



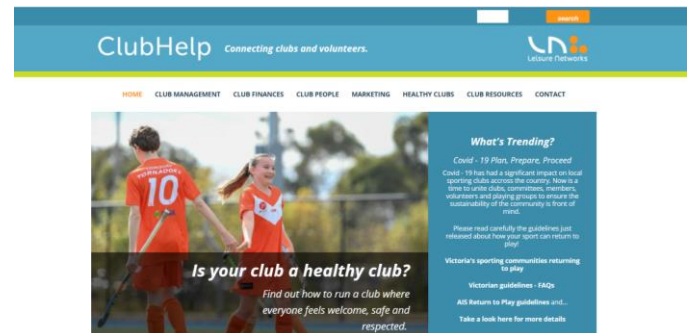
And just to show how important our junior pilots are, check out the video (click on the picture for the link) from [Sandhills GC in Michigan USA](#) – complete with masks!!! It's pretty inspirational and displays the journey that we want to encourage and provide for junior pilots.



ClubHelp

<https://www.clubhelp.org.au/>

In collaboration with the Victorian State Government and Regional Sport Victoria, the ClubHelp website, set up by Leisure Networks is available. I urge all gliding members and clubs to visit this site for some very valuable information on being a healthy club, getting grants for your club, legal responsibilities, how to work on committees and other interesting info.



WHAT IS VSA DOING DURING COVID?

VSA Website Upgrade

Yes! It's happening!

The VSA Website, as most members would be aware, is quite old. Yes, we know! We operate on Joomla 1.6 which will no longer be supported in the near future.

So, the VSA Committee, over the last 6 months have developed their strategy document and have been working on the site mapping, look and feel and making information more easily accessible. We are now working in conjunction with the Gliding Australia IT developer to move forward and some funding from SRV. If you have any great pics with high resolution or video, please send to president@gliding.asn.au

VSA Volunteer Strategy

Duncan Robertson will be leading this initiative and will be working on a strategy for Victorian clubs to encourage people to start volunteering in the sport much earlier so that they can have a "whole of business" view of the organisation, from club, to regions, to GFA which then in turn gives members the opportunity to seek out the areas which interest them the most. This could lead to an interest in nominating for the Victorian Soaring Association committee or being on the Gliding Federation of Australia Board. If any member is interested to assist Duncan and form a sub-committee to work on this strategy, please contact Duncan by email at robo1946@gmail.com

YesGirlsGlide and YouthGlide Local Series

Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, these programs are on hold, but plans have been made and we just await the opportunity to go gliding again!

Junior Scholarships

Opening in October – Watch this space!

Courses

Airworthiness – current planning for December. Further update to be provided

Instructor Training – on hold due to COVID

Regattas / Competitions – on hold due to COVID

Succession Planning

As the change to the VSA Articles of Association was accepted at the Annual General Meeting to cap the tenure of service at five years, it is time to think about being involved in your regional association going forward. We would also like our female pilots to be more active in the administration of gliding as we require 40% women on the board to qualify for government funding. If you would like to attend a meeting to understand what is involved, please advise Peter Webster at secretary@gliding.asn.au Or check out the [Position Descriptions](#) on the VSA Website for what is required as an Office Bearer.

**#comingoutofcovid / #stopthespread
#socialdistancing**

