



# GlidingVicTas

VSA NEWSLETTER APRIL, 2026

## VSA Local Club Membership Drive Expressions of Interest Now Open!

VSA is inviting Victorian and Tasmanian clubs to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to run a local membership drive within their own community catchment area. This initiative is designed to help clubs grow membership, to increase local awareness of gliding and strengthen long-term sustainability.

### What Support is Available?

VSA will provide:

- ❖ **\$1,500** per club for approved promotional and advertising activities.  
(Where more than one club operates from the same site, funding arrangements will be determined accordingly.)
- ❖ **\$150** per club to support a “Come ‘n Try” BBQ or similar community engagement event.
- ❖ **\$100** per person subsidy for the participant’s flight on the Come ‘n Try Day initiative. Claims will be aligned with AEF forms filled out. Clubs are to nominate day / days in advance that the initiative will be run to allow for claim integrity.
- ❖ **\$200** provided to the participant’s flying account if the Come ‘n Try Day participant joins the club within 3 months.

The focus should be on targeting your local catchment community and converting interest into enquiries, trial flights and memberships.

Funding is subject to prior approval and reporting requirements.

### What Can Clubs Do?

Promotional activities may include:

- ❖ Local radio advertising
- ❖ Newspaper advertising
- ❖ Social media campaigns (Facebook/Instagram)
- ❖ Advertising in aviation or like-minded magazines
- ❖ Community open days
- ❖ “Come and Try” events
- ❖ Local school or community group engagement



## WHAT IS REQUIRED?

Clubs submitting an EOI will need to outline:

- ❖ Their proposed local target area
- ❖ Planned promotional activities
- ❖ Timeline
- ❖ Budget breakdown
- ❖ Expected outcomes

Successful clubs must provide evidence of expenditure and activity (invoices, receipts, copies of advertisements, photos, etc.) for reporting to the Department of Sport & Recreation Victoria.

## Why Participate?

This is an opportunity to raise the profile of your club locally and attract new members. It will also help to engage the broader community and strengthen volunteer and membership pipelines.

## Next Steps

Clubs wishing to participate should prepare a short proposal and submit an Expression of Interest by filling out the form via this [LINK](#) and forward by **18<sup>th</sup> May, 2026**.

Further details and application templates will be circulated upon receipt of EOIs.

Send EOIs to [secretary@victas.glidingaustralia.org.au](mailto:secretary@victas.glidingaustralia.org.au)

Let's work together to grow gliding across Victoria and Tasmania, starting in our own communities.

## VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT IN THE VSA

Do you have a vision for Gliding VicTas for the future?

Consider nominating for the Victorian Soaring Association Committee of Management!



At this year's VSA Annual General Meeting (AGM), a number of committee members will no longer nominate to serve on the VSA, thus regional members are encouraged to consider taking an active role in shaping the future of gliding in Victoria by nominating for a position on the Victorian Soaring Association (VSA) Committee of Management. The VSA Constitution requires 4% women on the Board. This is an opportunity for our women in gliding to shape the future of gliding going forward.

The Committee plays a vital leadership role in guiding strategy, supporting clubs, advocating for the sport of gliding and ensuring strong governance across our community. Whether you are an experienced administrator or looking to step into a new leadership opportunity or extend your leadership knowledge, your involvement is both valued and important.

## The Committee Composition

In accordance with the Rules of the Association, the Committee consists of the following positions:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Government Liaison Officer
- Gliding Australia Regional Association Member

And any additional officer roles as determined by the AGM from time to time

We also have the roles of Trophies Officer and WebMaster open.

All Committee positions are declared vacant at each AGM, and nominations are invited for all roles.

## Considering a Nomination?

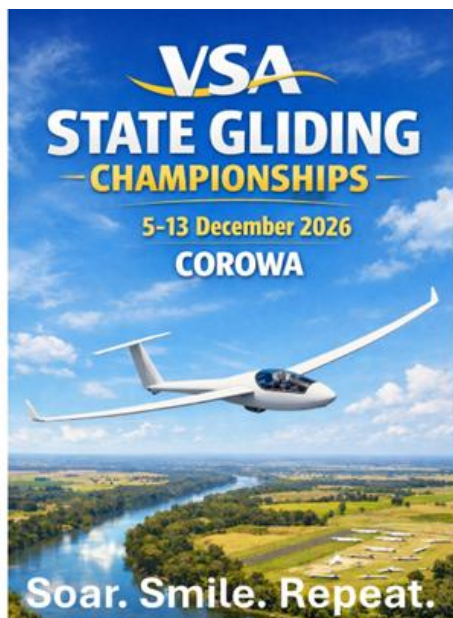
Members are encouraged to reflect on how their skills, experience, and interests could contribute to the Committee. If you are considering nominating, feel free to reach out to have informal discussions with current Committee members to better understand the roles and responsibilities.

Committee members – see [LINK](#)

Your participation is essential to ensuring a strong and sustainable future for gliding in Victoria. We encourage all members to consider how they might contribute. So, be part of the team that helps lead and grow our sport in Victoria and Tasmania.

Committee Position Descriptions – see [LINK](#)

VSA Articles of Association – see [LINK](#)



**SPOILER ALERT! GET YOUR CALENDARS OUT!**

**VSA STATE CHAMPS IN DECEMBER!**

The VSA State Championships will be held at Corowa from 5 - 13 December, 2026. The competition will include Ballasted, Club and Social classes so that everyone gets the challenge they are looking for!

Social class builds on the success of the Rookie Class last year and is available for anyone wanting to fly in the competition, but whose emphasis is on fun rather than fast and far. So, it's ideal for first timers and those who just want something less challenging.

Tasking will use Distance Handicapping (DHT) and AAT if needed, so you will fly the distance appropriate to your glider's handicap. This means we can cater for a wide range of glider performances – so, get that Ka6 out there!

The VSA is also keen to get 2 seater teams flying. Two seater entries and retrieves will be subsidized. There will be coaching available leading up to and during the competition week. More on this to come!!

The championships are being run by Geelong Gliding Club and SoarCorowa.

More details on entry will be posted closer to the event, so put it in your Calendar now!

## **AROUND THE CLUBS!**

### **MOTHER'S DAY IS COMING!!**

Mother's Day is on Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> May.

Have you advertised to your local community yet?



### **Southern Riverina Gliding Club**

SRGC is seeking expressions of interest from clubs in cross hiring their single seaters, the Astir and the ASW15, with possible options to purchase. Please contact the Club Administrator, Judy Renner, Phone: 0427-141-241 or Email: renner@netspace.net.au or SRGC website [Southern Riverina Gliding Club](http://Southern Riverina Gliding Club)

### **Grampians Soaring Club**

#### **REMINDER\*\*\*REMINDER**

It's just a little under 2 months now until Grampians Soaring Club hold their annual Wave event at Grampians Soaring Club.

They hope to see you there!!!

Click the link below to register your interest.

<https://dustdevil.cloud/grampians-soaring-club/2026-grampians-wave-week>

Brendon Lovell  
GSC Secretary

## Alpine Soaring Mt Beauty

23-25 March saw one student solo and the other pretty close! And by the look of that sky, there will be a lot more happening during Autumn and Winter in “them thar hills!”



## GOVERNANCE & INTEGRITY

### First Nations Engagement & Inclusion Policy

#### First Nations Engagement & Inclusion Policy Under Development

The Victorian Soaring Association (VSA) is developing a First Nations Engagement & Inclusion Policy in partnership with the Victorian Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions, including Sport and Recreation Victoria.

This initiative reflects a shared commitment to ensuring gliding is welcoming, respectful and inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. As a sport that operates across Country, we recognize the importance of acknowledging and respecting the deep and continuing connection First Nations peoples have with land, waters and sky.



The policy will focus on practical actions—building cultural awareness, creating safe and inclusive club environments, and strengthening pathways for participation and leadership.

Importantly, this is just the beginning. The policy will be supported by an implementation plan and informed through consultation with First Nations stakeholders and the gliding community.

Further updates and opportunities to contribute will be shared as this work progresses.

## From Wisdom to Wings: Attracting the Next Generation

The sport of gliding faces a growing demographic imbalance, with an increasing proportion of older members, many of whom are highly experienced and stepping into instructor roles. While their knowledge, safety focus, and long-standing commitment are invaluable, this shift can unintentionally shape how the sport is perceived by younger audiences. A predominance of older faces in visible roles may contrast with the image of gliding as dynamic, adventurous, and forward-looking, potentially making it harder to attract new, younger participants.

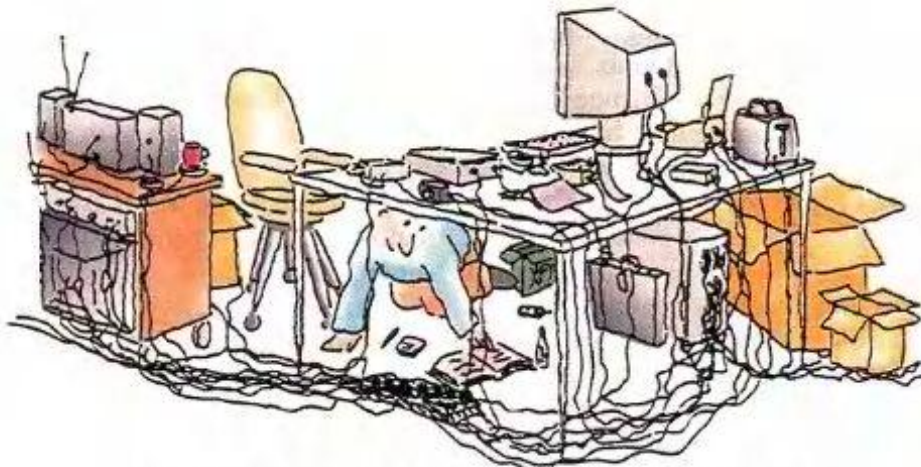
The challenge is not about diminishing the contribution of senior members, but about balance and visibility. Ensuring that younger pilots are actively encouraged, supported into instructional pathways, and visibly represented alongside experienced members will help present a more diverse, energetic image – one that reflects both the heritage and the future of the sport.

Two questions to pose:

- What's your club's image?
- How can we help our younger members lead into the future?
- Provide your feedback via the [JOTFORM](#) link, or via the QR Code



## ANNNND, JUST FOR FUN.....Life in 2006!



**“Now, if you can find the power switch, flip it on.”**