



GlidingVicTas

VSA NEWSLETTER JULY 2026

VSA AGM - Thursday, 10th September, 2026

Club Delegates to the VSA are advised that the VSA AGM will be held online on the above date. The VSA Secretary will provide further details closer to the date.

The VSA structure is that each club is a VSA member and that club delegates are eligible to vote representing each club. VicTas individual members are welcome to attend but cannot vote.

VSA individual members are warmly invited to nominate for positions on the VSA Committee. Your involvement can help strengthen the future of gliding in Victoria and Tasmania by bringing fresh ideas, new perspectives, and valuable benefits to our gliding community. All positions will be vacant at the AGM. Nominations can be

made prior to the date or on the night of the meeting.

If you are not sure what the VSA does but are keen to be involved in the advancement and community spirit of gliding, please access the website on [ABOUT US](#) and work your way through!

Interested in the Governance & Integrity of the VSA, please click [HERE](#).

Position descriptions can be found [HERE](#).

Please note: The GFA Board Representative position, as per the new Gliding Australia constitution is redundant as there are no longer positions on the GAus Board for the States. The position will become a Representative on the GAus Regional Associations' Committee and further information on these positions will be provided by Gliding Australia at their AGM. Once the GAus transition to a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLBG) parameters are completed and NSO status accepted by ASAC, the new VSA committee will be required to change their constitution to reflect the changes.

VSA ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

It's time to celebrate our wonderful volunteers.

Nominations are now called for Meritorious Service awards for:

Life Members, Living Treasures, Bob McCullough Instructing Trophy, Maurice Little Memorial Trophy, G Vincent Memorial Trophy, David Hooper Trophy, Max Hedt Vintage Trophy.

You can find the application form, description of awards and the application guidelines by clicking [HERE](#)

Applications must be received by 31st August, 2026.

Submit to president@victas.glidingaustralia.org

OPPORTUNITIES YOUR CLUB MAY BE MISSING!

VSA initiatives have not been well supported, and we are asking if our communication requires a change and if so, do you have the skills to assist?

Outlined below are some recent examples of initiatives that VSA funds. Some of these are now closed, but more will appear soon.

The Victorian Soaring Association has invested in a range of initiatives to support clubs, members and the future of gliding. While some programs have not yet been widely taken up, funding and support remain available in several key areas.

VSA Funding Initiatives Available to Clubs and Members

Club Growth & Membership

- **Local Advertising & Membership Initiative** - Up to **\$1,500** available to assist clubs with local advertising and membership promotion.
- **Membership Retention Bonus** - Clubs can receive a **\$200 bonus** for each new member who remains registered with Gliding Australia.

Supporting New Pilots

- **Junior Pilot Initiative** - Funding of up to **\$1,000** is available to assist new and trainee pilots **under 25 years of age**.
- **Rookie Pilot Initiative** - Financial assistance to encourage people of **any age** to return to gliding or take up the sport for the first time.
- **YesGirlsGlide** - Funding assistance to encourage and support greater participation by women in gliding.

Airworthiness & Safety

- **\$10,000 Investment in Airworthiness Equipment** - Funding has been provided for specialist maintenance and support equipment, including **Wharlington Digital Air Test Sets**. These calibrated units are available for use by all clubs when testing aircraft static systems.
- **Future Equipment Purchases** - Additional airworthiness equipment is planned to further improve club maintenance capability and the standard of aircraft inspections across the region.

Instructor Support

- **Instructor Apparel Initiative** - A range of apparel for instructors will be available soon. If you work in the promotional clothing industry and would like to assist, the VSA would be pleased to hear from you!

Community Engagement

- **Indigenous Air Experience Initiative** - Support for programs introducing First Nations communities to the experience and opportunities of gliding.

All these initiatives and more have been funded via the State Government of Victoria (Vic Sport) under a contract funding 2024 -2027.

HELP US TO HELP YOU

REMINDER***CALENDAR*****DIARY*****REMINDER****VSA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026 – GET IT IN THE DIARY!**

The VSA State Championships are again being held at Corowa, dates are 6 - 12 December 2026, with a practice period being 3rd - 6th December.

Registration is now open at <https://dustdevil.cloud/geelong-gliding-club/2026-victorian-state-championships>.

The competition is a week later than last year and sits between the NSW State Championships and Joeyglide with a travel day between each event.

The organisers will ensure that the runway surface will be swept clean of stones and the edges mown prior to the comp commencing. Keith Gateley will again be making everyone welcome at the SoarCorowa facility.

Get your glider ready to be part of this exciting event and SPREAD THE WORD! Info is also on the [Gliding VicTas website](#).

The Corowa site has excellent camping right on the airfield with good bathroom facilities and 20 powered sites. There are also several motels, hotels and caravan parks 5 minutes away in town. On the airside, there are powered and watered tie down areas for those that need it along with non-watered sites for the clubbies. Everything is close by and easy to access. For further information, contact David Meredith - jantardave@gmail.com

**AROUND THE CLUBS****MOUNT BEAUTY GLIDING CLUB - SOLO AT 16!**

Sixteen-year-old Joel Howse is congratulated by Mt Beauty Gliding Club CFI Andrew Evans after recently achieving solo status. In his spare time, Joel's many interests include practicing gliding on his flight simulator, plus designing and building small rockets and radio-controlled model planes on his 3D printer.



GRAMPIANS SOARING CLUB - THE WAVE WAS ON!

Congratulations also to Grampians Soaring Club for receiving funding for their annual Wave Camp and from their Facebook pics, they have been working the wave with one day up to 17,000 ft and having a great time doing it!

**FUNDING SECURED!****NOW THE EXCITING PART BEGINS.**

Congratulations to the three Victorian clubs that applied for funding for the "Come n Try Day" events! The Gliding Club of Victoria, Grampians Soaring Club and Alpine Soaring Mt Beauty fulfilled the criteria for funding from VSA, and we look forward to their events! being held and some pics to grace the newsletter! Congratulations on your enthusiasm and effort!



If you are trying to locate information from recent newsletters, all the VSA newsletters are located on the Victorian Soaring Association website under [Publications/Newsletters](#).



WANTED!

Volunteer Opportunity - VSA Trophies Officer



Do you enjoy organisation, attention to detail, and helping celebrate the achievements of our gliding community?

The Victorian Soaring Association is seeking a **Trophies Officer** to coordinate and manage the awards and trophies that recognise the outstanding accomplishments of our pilots, clubs, and volunteers.

Why Volunteer?

This rewarding role plays an important part in preserving the history and traditions of

gliding in Victoria and Tasmania while ensuring our members receive the recognition they deserve.

If you would like to contribute to the success of our sport and help honour the achievements of our members, we'd love to hear from you.

Interested? In the first instance, Click [HERE](#) for the Position Description then contact the VSA Executive on glidingvictas@gmail.com for more information and to express your interest.

Volunteer Opportunity - VSA Webmaster &/or VSA Digital Communications Officer

Do you enjoy IT Tech?!

The Victorian Soaring Association is seeking a **Webmaster and/or a Digital Communications Officer**. The position can be one role, or it can be two separate roles. The Webmaster deals only with the VSA Website through Gliding Australia, and the Digital Communications Officer can do the Website or just manage social media, newsletters and other digital communications to our pilots, clubs, and volunteers.

New ways of communicating and promoting to our external market via the digital market are necessary to be relevant and move forward. If you are a GURU, think about volunteering for this position and get us out in the market to new aviators.



To see the Positions Descriptions for the roles, please click [HERE](#).

Please note: *VSA does not have an official Trophies Officer at present and the individual currently assisting with the Trophies and the Website / Comms, will be stepping away. If there are no nominations, these activities will cease.*



Has your club been using the Gliding Australia Club Development & Marketing tools?

Gliding Australia has developed a series of marketing resources and toolkits to help you market your club to the external market and to assist affiliated clubs to effectively manage important areas associated with running a club and to help with club promotions.

Club Development and Resources can be found by clicking [HERE](#).

Gliding Australia is here to help you promote your club to the communities you operate in. They know that gaining and keeping new members is one of the biggest challenges your club faces, so they've designed a series of tools and materials to support you. All materials are provided by Gliding Australia to download **completely free of charge** and **most can be customized to fit your local club**.

To access **Marketing Resources**, click [HERE](#).

The new season is coming, so get your gear on!

CHILD SAFETY IN SPORT - WHAT EVERY CLUB NEEDS TO KNOW

From: Valley Sport Regional Sports Assembly

Creating a safe environment for children and young people is one of the most important responsibilities any sporting club has.

With increasing expectations on clubs and volunteers, understanding your child safety obligations is no longer optional - it's an essential part of good governance and a legal requirement for community sport organizations.

To help clubs better understand these responsibilities, Valley Sport has released a new podcast episode featuring a leading child safety expert. In this episode, we explore the legal requirements clubs must meet, the policies and procedures that should be in place, and practical steps clubs can take to create safer sporting environments.

Whether you're a president, secretary, committee member, coach, team manager, or volunteer, this episode provides valuable information that can help your club remain compliant while ensuring the wellbeing of every child and young person who participates in your sport.

Topics discussed include:

- Understanding Child Safe Standards and club responsibilities
- Legal obligations for sporting clubs and volunteers
- Essential policies and procedures every club should have
- Creating a culture that prioritizes child safety
- Practical actions clubs can take immediately

This episode is free to access and can be listened to at a time that suits you and your club.

 Listen now: [SPOTIFY](#) & [OTHER PLATFORMS](#)

We also encourage clubs to keep an eye out for Part 2 of this series, which will be released next week. In that episode, our child safety expert walks through real-world examples of how clubs can respond when concerns or issues arise, discusses best-practice approaches to managing complaints and incidents, and shares practical strategies for mitigating risk at the grassroots level before problems occur.

Together, these two episodes provide clubs with both an understanding of their obligations and practical guidance on how to apply child safety principles in day-to-day club operations.

We encourage all committee members and key club personnel to take the time to listen and share the episode with others involved in your organization.

Child safety is everyone's responsibility, and having the right knowledge and systems in place is one of the best ways to protect the young people who participate in community sport.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to providing safe, welcoming, and inclusive sporting environments across our region.

Need a Child Safety Policy - see VSA Website - [Governance & Integrity/Safeguarding Children and Young People](#)

FROM GLIDING AUSTRALIA

D 01-2026 - V2 AEF Terms and Conditions Process Updated

*****OD 01/2026 has been updated Version 2 attached *****

Dear Member,

Operations Directive OD 01/2026 V2 has been released. The OD is attached to this email and can be found on the glidingaustralia.org website in Documents->Operations-> Operations Directives. ([Link](#)). The body of the OD is below.

Situation:

Gliding Australia (GAus) allows Air Experience Flights (AEF). These flights are an introductory flight for someone new to gliding. AEFs are used to attract new club members and trainee glider pilots. Formal AEF processes ensure informed participation and training management for these pilots.

AEFs are conducted by Air Experience Instructors (AEIs), Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 instructors. These flights are training flights, even if the person being introduced does not touch the glider controls.

Even the simplest first air experience flight involves training in aspects of orientation and motion in three dimensions, basic lookout and cockpit safety. The participant is therefore treated as a student pilot for the flight and is to be signed up as an Introductory Member for the flight.

Introductory Membership is as defined in GAus [ADMIN 0012](#): “Active flying member for 30 consecutive days. Flying rights limited to 10 flights &/or 5 hours. No solo flight. Not permitted to be pilot in command. No voting rights. Not required to be a club member. Available more than once in any one calendar year.”

Introductory or Student Flying Membership is a prerequisite for in-flight training. Some clubs combine Air Experience Flights with a series of initial training flights, an “Aviation Starter Pack” under Introductory Membership. AEF and Introductory Membership provisions apply to these.

This Operations Directive:

AEIs, Level 1 through 3 instructors must ensure that the AEF terms and conditions process is completed with the person participating in the AEF **before the flight is commenced.**

The AEF terms and conditions process uses either a paper version or an electronic form. To use the electronic form, the club applies to GAus and is assigned a QR code that leads to the electronic form. Paper forms are purchased via the GAus shop or by contacting the GAus office.

The AEI or higher instructor must ensure the form is signed by the participant and witnessed by a GAus member before the flight.

Exemptions and applicability:

These obligations must be observed by all GAus club committees and instructors.

The Australian Air Force Cadets (AAFC) and the Australian Air League (AAL) AEFs have modified parental consent and witness procedures under their respective MOUs.

GAus clubs flying AEFs in cooperation with AAFC and AAL therefore use modified AEF and Introductory Membership processes.

Duration

This Directive: Commences on 4th June 2026; and Will be reviewed when MOSP 2 is updated.