

SOUTH AFRICAN HANG GLIDING AND PARAGLIDING ASSOCIATION

Incorporating Powered Paragliding & Hang Gliding

Non-Profit Organisation – Empowering the Free Flight Community of South Africa

Company Registration Number: 2005/028858/08

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April 2015

SAHPA NEWSLETTER

Dear SAHPA Members,

Hope you are all well and have enjoyed the Easter break. Please read the following newsletter as there are some important notices.

SAHPA OFFICE NEWS

OFFICE CLOSED IN April/May

The SAHPA office will be closed for 23 April until 6 May 2015.

Please ensure that all applications and renewals are sent during this time send in the paperwork as normal.

Kindly note that as of 1 May 2015 only original applications and renewal forms will be accepted. You can send it via the following ways:

SAHPA
P O Box 191
Celtis Ridge
0130

OR

Foresthill Mall Post Net.

Shop 100, Forest Hill City
Corner of N14 & R55
Monavoni, Centurion 0157

Postal address Private Bag X 10, Raslouw 0109
Contact numbers 012-7512040 , Email: foresthill@postnet.co.za

Kindly send the SAHPA Office the tracking number so that we are aware of you sending the items.

Bank Deposit references

SAHPA has received quite a few deposits but with references like: SAHPA fees, Licence renewal, etc. Please make sure that you wither use your SAHPA membership number or Initials and surname as a reference so that we can allocate the money correctly.

SAHPA RENEWALS

A big thank you to those of you who have renewed your licenses already, There are currently 733 current pilots but there are still quite a few pilots who have not yet renewed or have outstanding paperwork. If you have not received a current licence, you may not fly. Please contact the SAHPA office if you are unsure of your licence status.

Please inform SAHPA (in writing) when you stop flying permanently so that we can update our records.

PARAGLIDING

SITE NEWS

SEDGEVIEW PARAGLIDING - Summer Season Activities

“Although we are already almost at the end of March, may I take this opportunity to wish all SAHPA members and the flying fraternity in general all the best for 2015. This past summer has been a great flying season and I wish to express my appreciation to all the pilots who visited and flew at our site.

I am happy to report that we had a safe season, with only a few minor incidents. There was a huge increase in the numbers of members of the public visiting the site and it was pleasing to note that the site was able to accommodate them and enable them to witness the spectacle and, in some cases, enjoy tandem flights themselves.

Whilst it was a happy season, I would nevertheless like to appeal to all pilots to abide by the site rules and general etiquette when visiting the area. It is important that other residents in the area are not unduly disturbed, that there is no trespassing on their properties and that they are not inconvenienced in any way. It is only with the goodwill of the residents on the hill and at the landing areas below that the paragliding site can operate successfully and remain a bonus and not a burden.

Unfortunately we have had several instances of pilots breaking the rules and upsetting neighbors, speeding on the access road, parking illegally on site, driving across the landing zone below the site and thereby aggravating this very important neighbor. We have also had several instances of visitors being rude and aggressive towards neighbors.

I am sure you will agree with me that we wish the Sedgeview experience to be a happy one for all concerned. All licensed pilots are most welcome to make use of our facilities. Nevertheless you will understand that it very unpleasant for me and my team to find ourselves constantly fielding complaints from neighbors. I would therefore once again appeal to everybody involved in the paragliding scene, either as pilot, client or visitor, to deal with others as you would like them to deal with you, in a mature and responsible manner.

SITE FEES

Thank you to pilots and students who have paid their fees. Your commitment enables us to maintain the site and engage in ongoing improvements.

Unfortunately we are aware of numerous pilots, some of them well known in the flying fraternity, who have not paid site fees, as well as some who appear to be rather smug about not paying. We appeal to all those pilots to pay their fees and become a legitimate part of the Sedgeview scene. This is only fair to all concerned.

Thank you once again for your interest in keeping the paragliding opportunities in Sedgefield on the map. We all look forward to future interaction with one another and a happy flying time.

Hans Rohwer (Owner)”

DURBAN PARAGLIDING CLUB

REV: 09/12/2014 (*until further notice – this is a “living document” and can and will be updated when required*)

Bluff Site Operational Procedures and Rules:

1. Licensed Pilots ONLY. You must be a **SAHPA** licensed pilot, or Foreign Temporary SAHPA Member, or Student Pilot under direct supervision of an Instructor to launch from and fly the **DPC** registered Bluff launch sites. Pilots are to present Valid Licenses prior to flying to DPC Member. Pilots to present License annually after renewal. Instructors are responsible for their Students.
2. You must phone **BOTH Air Force Base Durban forward command post (Ops room) on 031 450-4712 (2nd line: 031 450 4711), AND, Virginia Tower/ATC on 031 563-4213 prior to commencing flying**, and notify them that **“Durban Paragliding Club Paragliding/Hang Gliding operations are commencing”**. You must again phone both **on conclusion** of flying activities.
3. You may not fly further North than Anstey’s beach paddling pools, and, you may not fly further South of the white Radar Ball of the old Durban International Airport. Restricted Air Space exists either side!

4. You **must fly with a 2-way Radio and be contactable in the air** as we are operating in busy airspace within the **Durban Special Rules** area, with assorted air traffic. It is compulsory to fly **with a 2m band VHF 2-way radio** on SAHPA frequency **141.600/141.625** or, if appropriately licensed, an **Air-band radio** on the **Durban SR** frequency (**124.200**) is advisable (*see Rule 5.*) **This rule is insisted upon by AFB Durban – 15 Squadron Station Commander!**

5. **N.B.** In order to **maintain appropriate vertical separation from other layers of air traffic** in the busy **Durban Special Rules** area, you **may not exceed the altitude limit of 500ft (152.4m) ASL** (*approx twice the ridge height, i.e. approx. 80m ATO*). **N.B.** In accordance with the **Durban Special Rules, Southbound** General Aviation traffic is routing directly overhead at **1000ft**, and **Northbound** GA overhead at **1500ft**. **Be aware of a variety of Microlights, Gyro's, Light Sport Aircraft and Helicopters at 500ft and below!**

6. **Please No flying directly overhead any houses or their ridge-top gardens along the ridge! Stay seaward of the ridge-top line and over the bush/slope and beach.**

7. **Visitors or pilots who have not flown the Bluff and not received a site briefing, must contact a DPC committee member** or DPC Member prior to flying at the Bluff for the first time. Annual DPC membership fees include (DPC maintained) site fees. DPC members must also read & sign Bluff Operational Procedures and Rules Form when submitting Annual Club renewals. This is also applicable to visiting Pilots. Visiting Pilots may make a small donation towards Site Maintenance. Pilots flying and the ridge is on their Right Hand Side have RIGHT OF WAY. Pilot's with ridge on Left Hand Side **MUST** give way to on-coming Pilot. RIDGE RULES must be strictly adhered to.

8. **No Aerobatics ("acro") to be done directly in front of either launch area.** Be considerate to other site users. Flying in front of the launches prevents other pilots from launching and also approaching to top-land. Please move away from either launch, and maintain additional lateral (horizontal) distance from the ridge if you wish to do aerobatics or acro manoeuvres. **N.B.** If you are overhead the bush, you are too close as any "incident" will have you blown back onto the ridge top or even onto the road or into the houses! It is strongly advisable to be overhead the beach when initiating any aerobatics maneuvers.

9. Please try to not park your vehicle directly opposite the residents' driveways across the road from the launches as it hinders access for vehicles entering those driveways. Please don't block any driveway or pedestrian access for any residents. Please ensure you do not cause obstruction to the roadway.

10. If the wind becomes too strong to "top-land" without assistance, please do the right thing and land on the beach. Do not place yourself in danger by attempting risky top-landings, and please do not place others at risk of hurting themselves by asking them to "catch you" physically on landing. If you need such assistance, rather show good airmanship and opt for a safer beach landing. **DO NOT** go past the white wooden boundaries, you will get blown back. It is advised to listen to Senior Pilots or Pilots who Know Bluff Conditions. If you see a pilot opting to land on the beach, it would be safer to follow and do the same. It is also advised that if a Pilot cannot take off unassisted it is better not to take off. A great deal of Ground Handling Skills is required to fly this sit.

N.B. This site is not ideal to "learn" Ground Handling

NB: Should you fly North towards Brighton Beach/Anstey's Beach beyond the **Recommended Turning Point** at the **Buldana Rd water Reservoir**, at all times maintain **maximum lateral** (horizontal) **separation** from the houses along the ridge top to ensure you do not impose too much on personal privacy, annoy residents, or get their dogs barking etc. Even if they invite you to fly close for photography etc, please ignore. Remember while one resident may enjoy your presence, their neighbour may detest it and object to your presence. Always fly at the maximum distance you can. Please do not jeopardise our site in this regard! **N.B. 40m ATO (110m asl)** is the **recommended minimum elevation** required to fly past the water Reservoir and down Treasure Beach to Brighton and Anstey's!

Expected Good Conduct: Be respectful to the residents at all times, it is their neighbourhood not ours. No smoking on launch! (*Please go at least to behind the roadside barrier or to your own vehicle*). No braai fires on site. Do not litter, please take your waste home with you. Be cautious of speeding vehicles and ensure your visitors and children remain on the launch/seaward side of the white wooden roadside barrier.

General Notes/Advisory: No toilet facilities on site. Please make alternative arrangements by using facilities at either of the Bluff shopping Malls (*where there is a wide variety of fast food outlets as well*), or at the Anstey's or Brighton beach beachfront and restaurant facilities on Foreshore Drive.

By Order: Durban Paragliding Club **N.B.** *Failure to observe and abide by Bluff site rules can have disciplinary consequences, as it could jeopardise access to our site. This form is valid for one year from date signed. Pilots may be*

requested to present licenses periodically. Bluff Flying Site is a SAHPA Registered Site but it still requires strict SITE SPECIFIC Rules. Your Co-operation is greatly appreciated – and **always act for the good of all.**

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- Visiting Pilot
- DPC Member
- Student – Please state school Name: _____
- SAHPA Radio (Channel 141.600 / 141.625)
- Air Band Radio (Channel 124.200)
- Appropriate/Valid Licenses Presented

Pilot Declaration:

I, _____ (Name in Full) have read and understand the above and agree

to abide by the above rules as set out. _____ (Date Read & Signed)

PILOT'S SIGNATURE PILOT'S LICENSE NUMBER (Include Rating)

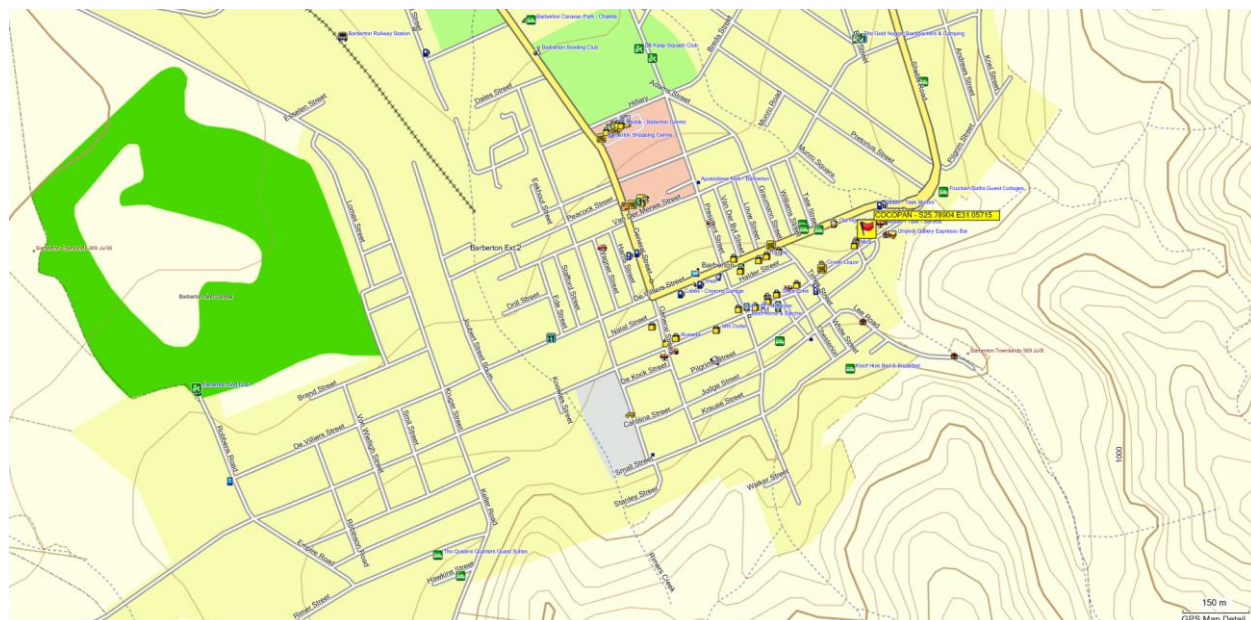
INSTRUCTOR NAME & SIGNATURE STUDENT NAME & SIGNATURE
(Applicable if supervising Student)

DPC CHAIRMAN / MEMBER

Trevor Scott Johnson (DPC Chairman)

LONE TREE ACCESS – BARBERTON

Please note that paragliders and hanggliders visiting Barberton, especially larger groups, must notify Andrea Botha on 079 180 1488 or andrea@agnesgold.com. Permits are also now obtained from the Cocopan Restaurant at 34 Pilgrim's Street – road out of town towards the Medi-Clinic.



COMPETITIONS:

Barberton Paragliding Open 2015

28 June to 4 July 2015

Registration is now open and can be done online at: www.airtribune.com/bpo2015

Western Cape Open 2015

13-19 December 2015