

# in the loop



ISSUE 5 • MARCH 2014

## Dear members,

There is a lot to feed back on, so this newsletter comes to you in the form of sound bytes rather than a flowing sequence.

We've included a few topics we feel are important for you to be familiar with including a reminder of our vision and our purpose. If you have a specific question you would like us to address, please feel free to mail your question / suggestion to us. Please do remember though that your committee is made up of volunteers, and though grand suggestions are welcome and exciting, they are more likely to be realised when accompanied by some sweat equity.

Speaking of one such great initiative Tracey King brought back the Go Fly at the beginning of this year and SAHPA purchased a copy for each of our members. I'm sure everyone will agree that it's a great magazine, and we'd certainly like to see another issue or two in 2014! So no pressure Tracey, but when is the next one due? Please help Tracey with articles, photographs and of course some advertising if you run a related business. If you have not received your copy, please make sure that Louise has the correct postal address for you.

I'm thrilled to see that we have an influx of new students, including three young hang gliding students. Let's as members do everything we can to support, mentor and encourage all the newbies, in particular once they complete their instruction and become fully-fledged pilots.

### Post holiday debriefing

December is probably a distant memory for many by now however I just want to raise a few points, and perhaps next summer holiday these may not be issues.

SAHPA received numerous complaints from local residents and business owners particularly in Wilderness over the Christmas holidays for both PPG and PG pilots who were either loitering close to their properties and disturbing their guests, breaking speed limits going up to launch, or, in the case of PPG flying low over built up areas. Most of these issues we managed to address swiftly, however, when local residents start speaking of attempting to get our flying sites closed, we do need to take a serious look at the way we as a community are perceived – especially as the local

## Membership Stats

(Total membership to March 2014)  
Full members: 708, Current students: 115



585



149



69

## SAHPA's Purpose

**SAHPA has been established in order to:**

- Institute and enforce the safety and ethics of foot launched\* flying as regards pilot responsibility within a framework of minimum regulation.
- Represent the interests of its members in consultation with government agencies and other regulatory authorities.
- Recommend members for licensing once they have completed the requirements.
- Foster and publicise the technical development of flying equipment and techniques.
- Expand the number of flying sites and protect

them against any threats including airspace and access.

- Monitor the activities of its members.
- Record, investigate, evaluate and report on all safety-related matters involving or affecting its members.
- Co-ordinate and supervise competitions within the various codes.
- Maintain pilot ranking lists within each code.
- Select the National Team(s) and officials.
- Undertake fund raising and marketing activities.
- Motivate and inspire disadvantaged individuals through targeted community initiatives and outreaches in geographical areas of operation – driven by club activities and/or competitions.
- Provide the platform as the initial 'stepping stone' into recreational and professional aviation.

## SAHPA Vision

- Promote, encourage and advance the development of safe and accessible foot launched flying\* amongst all South African residents regardless of sex, race, religion, creed or culture.
- Promote South Africa as an adventure tourist destination to both free flyers and amateur sportsmen across the world.
- Grow membership year on year by bringing new members into the association as well as attracting lapsed members.

pilots/clubs are left to restore these relationships post holiday. If you are feeling a little told off right now, please remember to pack your manners and your common sense next holiday.

Enjoy the read, and I wish you all many happy and safe flights,

*Chrissi*

## Paragliding MOP

The Paragliding MOP is on the website for member comments. Please take the time to peruse the contents of this revision and let Louise have your comments by 6 April 2014. We will consider all comments and post a revision by the end of that week, giving members another week for final feedback. The PPG and Hang Gliding MOPs will be put on the website for comment as soon as the section chairmen feel the documents are ready for public perusal.

## SAHPA office closure

Everyone needs a holiday and Louise will be taking hers from 24 March, back 6 April, so please try to be independent and responsible till she is back. Failing that, call one of your committee members for assistance or advice if required.



# SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION REGULATIONS

AN EXTRACTION 2012  
FOR RECREATIONAL PILOTS

SECOND EDITION



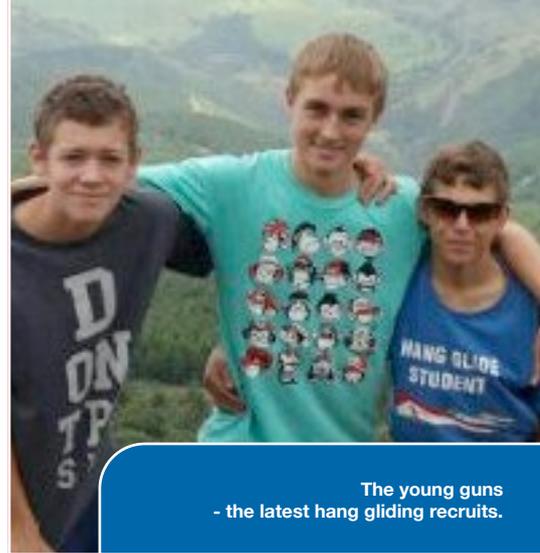
RECREATION AVIATION ADMINISTRATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

## Remedial processes

The MOP governance section states the process our disciplinary processes will follow. If our remedial processes function as they should and are respected by our members, we do not need to escalate up the ladder to Aero Club or RAASA. And while we endeavor to handle things internally within the ARO as much as possible, sometimes we are left no option other than to escalate up the ladder.

If the SAHPA committee deems it necessary or they have exhausted all remedial avenues open to them, the association can suspend the privileges of membership. If it reaches the next level in the chain of command, the level of penalty increases. This is a very simplistic explanation of the process, but hopefully this puts a few things into perspective.

Fortunately, the vast majority of our members are fantastic people, great pilots and good examples that have no issues with voluntary compliance. Unfortunately, the few that aren't, keep the voluntary committee pretty busy, sometimes even harming our public image, which unfortunately takes a long time to be undone. We would also definitely rather spend our time thinking of innovative ways of realising our vision and fulfilling our purpose than having to play the disciplinarian role. Voluntary compliance would certainly be a win win situation.



The young guns - the latest hang gliding recruits.



## Today's legislation lesson

Part 94.06.1 (2) states: *Any person operating a non-type certificated aircraft for aviation recreational purposes shall be a bona fide member of an applicable aviation recreation organization designated by the Director in terms of Part 149 and abide by its constitution and code of conduct, if any.*

As we conduct our recreational aviation disciplines in an informal environment and dispersed geography, we rely heavily on our peer and club system to ensure oversight over the conduct, ethics, safe and responsible practice of our disciplines thus providing a "quality control" function of our members voluntary compliance with the regulations that govern us.

The ARO / its members play their part in carrying it out. If for example someone is flying unsafe equipment, or is drunk and about to launch, or preparing to launch in obviously unsafe conditions, is blatantly breaking site rules etc. etc. there is nothing preventing you as a SAHPA member from voicing your concern to your fellow member. Do it in the right spirit when dishing it out, and take it in the right spirit when it comes your way.



Western Cape Open Winners, photograph courtesy of Paragliding Pics by Sybe Bakker

## General Manager

Currently the administrative load on SAHPA is such that the committee has been discussing the appointment of a General Manager for a period of at least a year. We are preparing a job description and will advertise the position on our website and various other forums.

## Feedback on the Bewick lawsuit

The appeal was lodged late last year and our lawyers are preparing the heads of argument. We will notify you as soon as there are any new developments and we have received a court date.



# Aero Club Airweek

This first time event, which will run from 1 - 4 May in Bethlehem, is based on the US Oshkosh – a flying festival for recreational aviators. Aero Club's vision is to grow the event year on year, and all the other AeCSA sections will be there in some or other form, doing fly ins, demonstrations, exhibitions, static displays, talks, aviation retail etc.

SAHPA will also be represented and if you can get there please make an effort to drop in – either by plane, or by car. We'd like to see all our disciplines represented. If you have a business selling aviation related 'stuff' then please get in touch with us so we can coordinate the SAHPA community presence.

Also, if you have any wonderful suggestions on how we can showcase SAHPA, please feel free to share them with [chrissi@gerberabm.co.za](mailto:chrissi@gerberabm.co.za) or with Louise.



## Events

- Linda Willemse has organised for paragliding to be one of the activities at the Volksrust Dam Fest on the 29 March – so if you just happen to be in the area...
- The FlyTribe is holding a Flying Festival at the end of the month, which should be a lot of fun.
- The X-Africa is currently underway in the Drakensberg – currently (Wednesday evening 19h14) being led by Nick Neynens (cycling?) at 116.2km with Pierre Carter (flying / hiking) at 110km.
- The Western Cape Open concluded with five tasks, many happy pilots and a win for Cape Town pilot Stef Juncker followed by Jon Pio and then Andrew Smith. First lady was Khobi-Jane Bowden, who also finished 5th overall.
- The Barberton Paragliding Nationals will take place at the end of June. It would be great to see Hang gliding and PPG competitions held in Mpumalanga during the same time frame – so please encourage your clubs / sections to look into hosting these events.

## Tandem Flight Instruction

RAASA has tried to get a general exemption from the Air Services Licencing Act for 'flipping' - however this has not been granted. RAASA, AeroClub and its sections are exploring different ways of approaching this challenge as everyone concurs that 'flipping' in its proper context plays a large part in promoting recreational aviation. RAASA together with AeCSA has formed a work group to set out how best to approach the matter - either by continuing to try to get an exemption for Part 62 from the Air Services Licence, or via a toned down version of an AOC (the current form was not developed for recreational aviation); or by trying to get the Act changed (this is a long process). We are looking for a SAHPA member to represent the TFIs in this group – if you are willing to offer your time on this important initiative that affects the TFI community please get in touch with Louise.

**Tandem flight instruction - passenger age**  
SAHPA solo instruction for paragliding may commence at the age of 14. Members of the Paragliding MOP working group, together with AeCSA have agreed that for dual instruction, we will specify the age of 10 in our MOP, and only with parental permission (as per the TFI indemnity form) and all other TFI specified requirements.

## Industry Liaison Forum

### Recreational Aviation (ILF-RA)

On 18 March 2014 the first meeting of this RAASA initiative was held at their Rand Airport offices. The forum is based on the CAA industry liaison forum and it has been established for the purpose of:

- Reflecting on issues impacting on the development of the recreational aviation industry;
- To identify the necessity for strategies and policies to foster aviation development;
- To resolve existing problems; and
- Share high-level information on development in the industry.

Quarterly meetings will take place at which the AROs are represented by their elected leadership. This is a great initiative which gives us a forum to raise our concerns re regulations, training, threats to our industry, how to grow recreational aviation, safety, hazards and so forth. The SAHPA committee will need to nominate one representative, and one alternative. If you feel you would like to help make a difference in recreational aviation, and have the time to participate in these forums, please indicate your interest to Louise.



2014 Flying Festival  
29th & 30th March • Dunnottar winch park



Live Band • DJ & Music • Bonfire • Camping • Fire dancers  
Paragliding • Tandem flights • Powered paragliders • Microlights  
Model planes • Jumping Castle • Face painting • T-shirts & Caps  
Mountain bike race • Flying games • Prizes • Beer & cold drinks

## Aviation Restricted Radio course, Gauteng

Date & Time: 24 & 25 May 2014 - 8am to 3:30pm  
Venue: Henley Air, Rand Airport, Germiston  
Directions: [www.henleyair.co.za/directions.htm](http://www.henleyair.co.za/directions.htm)

Cost: R1000.00  
RSVP by: Friday, 16 May 2014  
RSVP to: SAHPA - [office@sahpa.co.za](mailto:office@sahpa.co.za)

