

Out of the Blue

Waikerie Gliding Club Newsletter

May 2010

Waikerie Operations

1. Students

This year, we have had four "student pilots" join the Club. It is with great pleasure we welcome Bradley McKay, Matt Morgan, Sam Doecke and Alannah Jones into the Club.

Already, after around 30 flights each, Bradley (on 8.5.2010) and Matt (on 9.5.2010) have soloed. Congratulations to you both.

2. Airspace Changes

On Thursday June 3, CASA will introduce changes to the airspace system that relates to **Non-towered (non-controlled)** aerodromes. The changes include circuit and circuit entry procedures and radio requirements. Waikerie aerodrome, as a Registered Aerodrome is specifically impacted (as is Renmark from a gliding perspective), and radio becomes a mandated requirement.

Notes about the changes are available on the Club website.

Calendar – 2011

A "Calendar" of dates relevant to Club activities over the summer soaring season and next year will be distributed on the web for comments. This planning exercise will give you plenty of time to book your Holidays and apply for gliders.

3. Checkflight Weekends

It is planned to conduct another "Check-flight" weekend in late July / August (over consecutive weekends). While the main objective of the event is to get Club pilot's check-flights aligned, it also presents the opportunity for pilots to fly with pilots they would not normally fly with, Instructors to fly with pilots and Instructors they would not normally fly with and Tug pilots to fly with pilots they would not normally fly with – it would, for example – be great to see Greg and Pete Siddall in the '21 while I flew the Tug. The selected dates are July 31 / August 1 and Aug 14 / Aug 15.

4. 75th Anniversary

On the 25th May 1937, the Waikerie Gliding Club was formed at a meeting in Waikerie. May the 25th, 2012 is the 75th anniversary of the Clubs formation.

Preparations have started to assemble a list of names of Club members over the years, so that we can locate them and invite them to Waikerie for the occasion.

A date, as close as possible to the date of formation, will be chosen to allow extended notice to be provided to invitees.

5. Chamois In The Pie-Cart

In order to help pilots keep the canopies clean on the sailplanes, a chamois has been placed in a holder in the Pie-Cart. If you use the chamois with plenty of clean water, please return it to the holder.

Flying Weekends

Over winter on the Saturday evenings at the conclusion of flying we will enjoy a sunset café meal in the member's kitchen and have a further series of "Discussion Topics" covering subjects of great interest to all. Wine gliding and song (flying, sport) etc.

DIARY DATES

Annual General Meeting	Next AGM May 14 th 2011
Next Committee Meeting	2 nd July 2010
Member's Flying Days	22 nd & 23 rd May 5 th & 6 th June 2010
Full Time Operations	26 th Dec 2010-09 th Jan 2011

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Annual General Meeting, 8 May, 2010.

The Club's Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday 8th May, 2010. It was great to see a large number of members attending the meeting, which took place in the Clubrooms after an early cessation of flying. The 2009 – 2010 period was rewarding for the Club in a number of respects;

- there were no serious injuries suffered by members.
- there were some serious accidents, which we all must consider "free lessons"
- there were a number of successful events hosted by the Club.
- No doubt the highlight for the year was 4 new local "student" members joining the Club – **Welcome** to Bradley McKay, Sam Doecke, Matt Morgan and Alannah Jones.

Apart from the normal business of the meeting, which highlighted another successful year, safety in every aspect of our operations remains an area we can all contribute to an improvement. While there were no serious injuries sustained, there were some accidents & incidents (significantly all HUMAN FACTOR events).

An election was held for various Committee positions. I was privileged to be re-elected President for another term. Congratulations to Peter Robinson, John Ridge and Craig Vinall also re-elected to the positions of Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

Committee members Peter Paine, Greg Jackson and elected were Aiden Baker (2nd term) and Dion Baker. On behalf of Club members, I express our appreciation to Allen Hudson for his commitment and involvement with the Committee over many many years.

In the Other Business section of the Agenda, there were three items listed. These were

1. **The Club Constitution.** I have written a separate item for this issue of "OUT OF THEBLUE" to address the significance of this proposal. From an AGM perspective, it is appropriate to highlight that the current Constitution does not satisfy today's legal situation nor does it reflect the opportunities provided by technology. It is hoped to be in a position at the next AGM in May 2011 to approve the document – that is 12 months. Please take the time to read, review and make comment as the year progresses (don't leave it to the last minute in May next year)..

2. Facilities Lease. The Club's lease of facilities expires in 2011. Arrangements are in hand with the Council to progress this.
3. 75th Anniversary. The 75th Anniversary of the formation of the Waikerie Gliding Club occurs in 2012. Preparations have now commenced in preparation for the event. It is planned to build on the information that was generated for the 70th Anniversary.

Again, I thank the members for their strong attendance at the AGM and for the expression of support for the direction and initiatives being implemented.

John Hudson President

AGM/Presentation Dinner 2011

A tentative date of Saturday 14th May 2011 has been set for the next AGM. It has been proposed that on future AGM days, we continue the recent tradition of a Dinner in the evening but will re-install an *Annual Presentation of Awards and Club Trophies* event in the evening. This will include the presentation of wings to pilot's who have soloed during the year.

For the trophy presentations, it is necessary that pilot's enter details of all Cross Country flights into the Cross Country Record/Log – located in the Briefing Room. As there are some "miscellaneous" awards, it is important that all cross country flights are recorded – regardless of how short, long, etc together with appropriate comments.

WORKING BEE Dates

22 May 2010 and 17 July 2010

We have a working bee this weekend please come up and give a hand. Plenty of jobs, the list is on the Web page under club documents.

<http://www.waikerieglidingclub.com.au/docs/>

Some discussion has taken place in regard to taking out the glory vine and replacing it with shade cloth (good idea bad idea have your say).

The grass pads are in desperate need of water, we have a couple of major leaks in the caravan park, ASK 21 trailer fit out and the list goes on.

Ground Handling / Towing Gliders with Cars

The potential for serious damage to gliders being towed by cars is enormous. As car drivers, we probably consider ourselves great drivers – however none of us are infallible. Take a moment to review the **Human Factors** involved in Ground handling a sailplane – there are many issues.

When ground handling gliders, that is from when we begin to move them in the hangar through and until we have them back in the hangar – we must use extreme care.

Never attempt to move a glider in the hangar without assistance.

A tyre (or suitable weight – not a parachute) must always be placed on the wing of a parked glider – even if it is dead calm.

Never (ever) leave the canopy open on a parked glider.

When towing a glider behind a car;
Never exceed a “fast walking pace”.

Always ensure the Canopy/s are closed **and locked** - the sound of a canopy bouncing in its frame across a rough surface is not pretty).

Don't (ever) drive a car into a hangar – the hangar is for gliders, **NOT** cars

Don't tow a glider connected to a car **within a wingspan of any hangar, other gliders or fixed / stationary objects**.

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Ops Audit – February 2010.

In February 2010, a GFA Operational Audit was conducted of the Club's operational practices and procedures. This Audit was conducted by Paul Mason, RTO/Ops, SA.

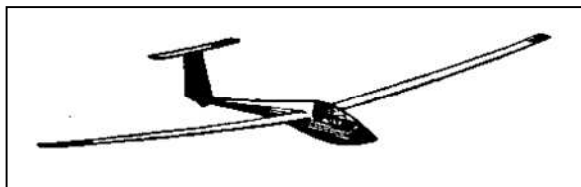
The Audit identified 3 items to be addressed,

- a) **Pie Cart position.** The Pie-cart is normally located on the airstrip boundary line, which results in people, including Visitors at the Pie-cart walking around inside the Flight Strip.
To resolve this, the Pie-cart should be located 5 – 10 metres outside the flight strips. The white markers will be moved accordingly.
- b) **Aerotow Rope.** After a tow, the tow-rope is generally left laying across the flight-strip. While this may be satisfactory for gliders with wheels (nose and tail), there is a risk that gliders with skids could snag the tow-rope and cause injury or damage. This issue can be readily resolved by removing the tow-rope from the flight-strip immediately the tug pulls up.
- c) **Visitors**
It is appropriate that there are adequate warning signs at the Pie-cart to warn Visitors and Guests of the hazards present on and near the airfield and aircraft. Some signs are present, however depending upon which way the Pie-cart is parked determines whether the existing signs can be seen. This can be readily resolved by providing additional signs for the Pie-cart.

Installation new avgas refuelling facility.

The Club has purchased a new 3000 litre above ground tank, which was constructed, by SL Tanks & Equipment Pty Ltd of Eudunda, in accordance with AS1692. A fuel bowser, hoses, swivels etc are now being identified for installation. As soon as these items are available, the design of a concrete pad, which includes bunding, will be finalised

WANTED YOUR NEWS ARTICLES



Club Constitution

The Club's Constitution was last reviewed in August 1999. Since then, there have been many changes to State and National Legislation which are not reflected in the existing Constitution. Changes include,

- The Legal responsibility of Club Officials and Clubs.
- Legislation in respect of the involvement, treatment and care of young people.
- Recognition of the Associations Incorporation Act.
- Privacy Laws.
- Additional mechanisms for the conduct of Committee Meetings (ie electronically).

Reflecting the need by Sporting Bodies to update their Constitutions, the various State Governments have developed a *pro-forma* Constitution that is able to be edited to address particular and specific Club issues and requirements across a wide range of sporting disciplines and codes.

This draft Constitution is available for review on the SA Department of Recreation and Sport website, complete with explanatory notes.

The Committee have recommended that the Constitution be upgraded and to that end have prepared a "DRAFT" document, as described above. This draft has following objectives;

- a) Maintain the Objectives, tone and spirit of the existing Constitution.
- b) Include all the relevant Legislative requirements.

The "draft" does contains some apparent numbering errors which will be addressed at the next review.,

This draft is available on the Club website for download / review / comment etc by members. Comments should be forwarded, ideally by email, to John Ridge (john.ridge@bordernet.com.au) .

Planned Time Frame for Review .

- a) Preparation of draft Document – **Completed.**
- b) **Formal** advice to members, AGM, 8.5.2010. **Completed.**
with circulation of *Initial Draft* for comment, 8.5.2010. **Completed.**
- c) Comment by members. **In progress for 12 months.**
- d) Seek formal approval, AGM, May 2011.

We hope to be in a position at the next AGM in May 2011 to approve the document – that is in 12 months. Please take the time to read, review and make comment as the year progresses (don't leave it to the last minute in May next year).

John Hudson President