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# Airwaves



**HGFA Airwaves**  
Election Bulletin 2011

## Greetings!

Welcome to the HGFA Election Bulletin - 2011.

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## Know Your Candidates

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## Moyes

This Special issue of Airwaves gives details provided by the Candidates for the forthcoming election and I urge you to review them with forensic intent to determine what they are saying (and maybe what they are not saying) and what their vision and intention is for your organisation over the next two years.

I also suggest that members avail themselves of the forum attached to the HGFA website to direct questions to the candidates and hopefully get replies which may influence your vote.

To have a workable, cohesive Committee that still allows for a diverse range of opinions and robust discussion is, I believe, what we should all be hoping to achieve

Rob Woodward  
President HGFA

## Take an Interest!

This is a request to all members of the HGFA to take an active interest in the upcoming elections. Regardless of which candidates you prefer, to not vote guarantees that you will have no say in who represents your interests.

It has been said we get the governments we deserve. If you do not take the time to review the candidates, look to see what they stand for, make an informed decision and take the time to cast your vote, you will get the committee others elect.

If all members took the time to vote and made their decision based on candidates who put the interests of the HGFA first, who they feel can represent their sport, their interests and their concerns, then we would have a truly representative committee to take the HGFA into the future and progress sports aviation.

Now is the time to stand up and accept responsibility for your sport and access your right to representation - I urge you to exercise that right and take the time to follow the process and VOTE!

G Lowry  
Secretary HGFA

## Alex Grieve

I wish to apply for the HGFA board. I have been flying for over five years now. I practice all sort of flying, XC, comps and also acro. Through my travels I have noticed that Australia is very much behind the rest of the worlds when it comes to pilots' rights or value for money with the license.

My main focus would be to improve the insurance cover for the pilots. I recently had an accident in France and the Australian license was covering nothing. I would be more covered in Australia with a FFVL license than a HGFA license. I would like to put in place a system that provides a different insurance coverage for different pilots. The occasional/leisure pilot that flies twice a year does not need to pay \$350 however an acro , comp or tandem pilot does need a higher coverage.

I also want to bring equipment and 'first party liability' coverage and not only third party. Things like transport to hospital covered. Along with that I will keep going with the democratization of free style and acro in Australia.

Regards  
Alex

## Alex Jones

Please find under my application for election to the HGFA Committee of Management in the upcoming elections.

I have been a member of the HGFA since the early eighties and was the main protagonist of the Requisition for Special General Meeting (SGM) which replaced a number of Committee members in 2009.

Following the successful SGM I served on the Committee which reduced the HGFA membership fee, reaffirmed the States right to annual levies, and instituted a lapsed member recovery project. Our efforts were confirmed with an increase in membership and, despite the fee decrease, a budget surplus.

Due to the current constitution the HGFA is still at risk from an interest group similar to that which caused such conflict in 2008-2009. My goal is to return



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## State Associations

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the HGFA to a States based Management Committee to ensure balanced decisions are made.

Regards,  
Alex Jones

## Brett Coupland

Hi All,

I have been involved in the flying world for a number of years now. I first flew a hang glider in 1977 at age 15 but due to school and my parents hating the thought, my participation expired.

I started Paragliding around 10 years ago and around 4-5 years ago, added a motor to my repertoire. This is not to say I don't like free flying. Both disciplines I find enthralling. I have been involved in the re-invigoration of the Sydney Paragliding & Hang Gliding Club, serving as it's Vice President for around 4 years now. The structure, strength and membership of the club has grown and I look forward to handing over my role to some fresh blood in April next year. To all those on the clubs current & recent committee's, thankyou for the effort you have put in.

For the past 2 years I have been on the board of the Pico Club and am currently it's President. (Poobah to those that know)

Grant Cassar has also been there with me and we have seen the club go through turmoil and transformation. Over the last year Grant & I have been working hard to create a national PPG structure that gives the PPG community recognition within the HGFA and by State Associations, while fitting an HGFA model that already exists for HG & PG. This is not quite a done deal yet, but both of us believe it is not too far away.

I have always believed that participation and communication are the key to growth and development. One cannot properly make decisions or pass judgement on something, unless one has been there, participated in and understands the processes or parameters that control an area of governance. This is one of the reasons I got involved in the NSW State Association.

I currently serve as it's Vice President and have learnt a lot from the experience of people like Bruce Wynne & Ray Firth. I have always been interested in doing what is best for pilots and if that is to the detriment of an administration, so be it.

Administrations are there to serve members... Not vice versa... We have seen the HGFA go through its own turmoil in the past years, with some of the dust still settling... I believe that we have an opportunity to re-invigorate the growth of the HGFA, to streamline some of its processes and to enhance participation & returns for all members.

Obviously for me, this will be another learning curve and I am not about to make promises or commitments until I fully understand the processes and parameters. What I will attempt to do, is what's best for HGFA pilots of all disciplines.

Regards to all,  
Brett Coupland.

## Brian Webb

My goals for the HGFA for this next 2 year term on the Committee are to:

- Consolidate and build on the web based membership renewals and new memberships.
- Implement an accessible, easy to use, web based incident reporting system.
- Develop a "Just culture" principle that encourages accident and incident reporting to help develop improved safety, learning and flying technique.
- Settle in the bi monthly full colour printed magazine.
- Expand the electronic eAirwaves publication.

## Chris Fogg

I place my nomination to the HGFA Committee of Management (Board) for the term 2012 - 2014 with the view to support the progressive projects that are required to position the HGFA favorably within the wider Australian aviation environment. I believe that past Committees of Management have suffered from lack of insight to the responsibilities of board members. I also believe that the past Committees of Management have missed much of the membership's desired direction for this organization.

I believe that by sitting among other members of the Board, at Board level, I can contribute to a positive and clearly stated direction of policy within the HGFA. I am well aware of the types of works that are needed at this level, learnt through my time as a previous General Manager of this organization. I will also look to hold the Board to its declaration of transparency and member inclusion in the policy setting that directly affect the membership.

I believe that the HGFA has a place of difference within the wider aviation group, unique by its nature and its member types. I believe I can bring a necessary balance to the committee of management as a result of having worked previously in the GM role of this organization based from experience in working with these member groups and the external aviation oversight groups such as CASA and other recreational aviation organizations.

I believe the board needs this type of inclusion for its balance from the instructor and other personal agenda type memberships in order to maintain the higher general focus of organization direction.

I look forward to you, the membership, giving me the opportunity to work within this level of organizational oversight for this very unique group of the flying community.

## Grant Cassar

Dear HGFA Pilots

I've been involved with the HGFA in since 1995 - 1998 and then again in 2008 to the present. Originally as a hanglider pilot and more recently as a paraglider pilot and paramotoring administrator.

Over the years I have been involved at the local club and national level which includes as a founding member of the Paradise Flyers Inc, The Picolight Club Inc, and most recently as a member of the HGFA PPG Sub committee.

I have been heavily involved in hosting, organising and competing in paramotoring events over the last 2 years and believe that I can be of greater service to the HGFA as a committee member. I have been an Army Officer for the best part of 23 years and have a masters degree in Strategy and Management. These skills and professional education, combined with my hang gliding and paragliding back ground will serve me well as a board member of the HGFA.

I get a great deal of enjoyment from this sport and have a strong commitment to help develop current and new pilots. I'm passionate about creating effective management and come at the HGFA issues from a multi discipline free flying and and motoring background. I wish to be nominated to be on the HGFA Board to carry the baton forward as the HGFA provides greater support to our members, encourages the development of new clubs and encourages greater participation from future, current and former members. Yours Truly Grant Cassar

## Greg Lowry

Positions Held:

- Treasurer HGAWA
- Treasurer Western Soarers
- Treasurer HGFA
- Current Secretary HGFA
- Current Committee member Industry Standards Panel for Outdoor Pursuits in WA
- Current Chair Curriculum Advisory Committee Marine and Maritime Studies WA
- Associate Principal Yule Brook College Maddington WA.

Other Professional Experience:

- 1988 SCUBA instructor.
- 2006 First Aid Instructor Examiner,
- 2007 Coxswain
- 2007 National Boating Certificate Instructor
- 2007 Recreational Skippers Ticket Assessor
- 2008 Technical Working Committee Chair into standards review of Snorkelling

with Wild Life and SCUBA.

- 2009 Committee member of Industry Standards Panel to review all Outdoor Pursuit Standards in WA.

Flying Experience:

- 2008: Learned to Hang Glide (Newcastle)
- 2009- 2011 Novice rating and flying in WA

I ask for your vote and my re-election in the October elections of the next HGFA Committee of Management.

It is my belief that Committee members need to work within the current CASA corporate protocols and to demonstrate open and accountable governance to be able to establish strong trust in HGFA operations. Without committee members who can think and work logically and have an understanding of how bureaucratic processes work, we run the risk of the errors of the past.

Emotive decision making, misinformation and changing the rules and documents to suit personal agendas have no place on the Committee of Management. I stand for due diligence, facts not rumour and due process. I make no apologies for this, as the Committee must work within the bounds of the Constitution, Operations Manual and CASA Governance documents.

As a current member of Committee I represent not only a continuity of the improvements and processes initiated since 2009 but also a stability to administer the changes still required to move forward over the next two years.

I believe the future of the HGFA can be strengthened by a strong Federal structure. With the appropriate delineation of responsibilities within a hierarchical structure of Clubs, States and Regions, Sports Aviation can move to a better future. Much money can be saved if a representative change is made to the constitution to allow for a true Federation model which is lacking in our current structure.

I have been on the committee since August of 2009 and recently took on the role of secretary. I accepted this responsibility to move towards greater open and accountable decision making processes. I have since created far more detail in minutes and have ensured these minutes have been posted on the forum in a timely manner since taking on the role in June.

If re-elected to the Committee I will continue to press for greater open and accountable due governance, and press to ensure due process is adhered to both by the Committee and the HGFA administration.

Greg Lowry  
Current Secretary HGFA

## John Twomey

John Twomey 33651

I ask for your vote and my re-election in the upcoming election of the next HGFA Committee of Management.

The HGFA Committee of Management requires some degree of continuity in its membership so it can avoid reinventing the wheel and does not lose its way in progressing those developments and improvements which are in train to better our administration, our member service and cost efficiency.

I joined the HGFA Committee of Management through the Special General Meeting held in September 2009 and became Secretary. I was again voted on to the Committee for two years at the subsequent Election and occupy the office of Treasurer at this time.

I was HGFA Operations Manager for the period from 24 August 2010 to 24 December 2010 taking up the position when the previous occupant resigned with one week of notice. I stood down from the Committee for this period. I hold an Advanced Hang-glider rating and a Restricted Novice Paraglider rating.

I am a past President and Secretary of the VHPA serving on the Committee for 3years in the 90's and 4years in the 00's.

I believe the first responsibility of the HGFA is to administer a high standard of training for those would be pilots attracted to our sports and to encourage and support their development into knowledgeable, capable and self sufficient decision makers.

To achieve this we have to first attract them and then retain them and to do that we need to provide grass roots supportive structures. This comes from developing a culture of involved participation, an interest in belonging and community.

We have to encourage our pilots' active participation in Clubs, State and Regional Associations, HGFA Sub-committees and the HGFA Committee of Management.

John Twomey

## Lee Scott

Dear HGFA Pilots

I've been flying since 1978, originally hang gliding, but these days far more involved in Paragliding and Paramotoring.

Over the years I have held instructor ratings for Microlites, Hang gliding and Paragliding and have competed Nationally and Internationally in 2 disciplines, so have an understanding of all Pilots needs, the changes and concerns that are happening within our Federation.

My school has brought many members into the HGFA over the years and we have been running 2 day free Paragliding courses for the last 3 years to help bring in new members to our federation, with no support in any way from the HGFA funds.

We also run many other free weekends of tuition for our newly licensed pilots and take them to Competitions to introduce them to the full spectrum of the sport at no cost to them. I'm merely stating this not to brag but to rather show that I have a commitment to this sport, to look after our new Pilots and I'm passionate about encouraging more people from the community to join or try, the varied disciplines of our free and motor flying.

It is by this means I wish to be Nominated to be on the HGFA Board to offer far greater support to our new pilots/members and treat them as a customer not a nuisance and support clubs that do likewise and help encourage greater participation and also to gain greater respect from within the Public and our members.

Yours Truly  
Lee Scott

## Mark Mitsos

### Personal Details:

- Mark Sun Mitsos
- 12th October 1948
- Divorced, two children
- HGFA Number: 13894
- Financial member since 1978

### Previous Positions Held:

- PG and HG Regional Examiner for southern NSW
- PG Representative on National Coaching Committee
- Member of the National PG Committee
- PG Representative on Certification Committee
- Current Committee member SPHGPC, assisted in drafting local site procedures
- Previous HGFA Treasurer 2008-2010

### Professional Experience:

- 1979: Skyland Kites, Queensland: HG Manufacturer.
- 1980 - 1984: Skyland Sail Gliders, Byron Bay. HG design and manufacture (Orion, Pulsar and Altair series)
- 1984 - 1985: Worked for Austflight Aviation, Ballina NSW, ultralight manufacturing and servicing
- 1985 - 1987: Founded Enterprise Wings. HG design and manufacturer. (Foil Series, GYRO II and the Aero)
- May - November 1987: Airwave Gliders, UK, HG designer. (KISS and Calypso)
- 1988 - Present: Started Future Wings Pty Ltd. Airwave importer and manufacturer of HG and PG harnesses and accessories. Now Future Wings Pty Ltd sits above The Sydney Paragliding Centre.
- 1990: PG Instructor Certificate, started Future Wings Paragliding, and now operating under the name, Sydney Paragliding.

Flying Experience:

- 1978: Learned to Hang Glide (Byron Bay)
- 1982: Qualified as a HG Instructor
- 1989: Learned to Paraglide (U.K)
- 1990: Qualified as a HGFA PG Instructor
- 1995: Attained PG CFI Certificate.
- Advanced pilot rating in both HG and PG
- Towing endorsement for HG and PG
- Tandem endorsement for PG
- Motorised endorsement for PG
- Extensive flying experience both HG and PG in Europe, including UK, and have flown in many parts of Australia.

Comments:

I have run my own school and taught PG since September 1990. Most of my teaching is on the coast, and I have developed specific ground handling and take off techniques for moderate to strong wind conditions. Running a flying school has increased my knowledge and experience in many areas.

I am dedicated to the sport of PG.

I have had experience working on a number of HGFA committees, sometimes in a difficult political environment. I have been involved in the sports of HG and PG from club to national levels for more than 30 yrs. I have extensive knowledge of design, manufacturing and certification of HG and PG, plus a good working knowledge of motorised HG and PG.

I am well known within the HG and PG communities in Australia and overseas, and have played a major role in the development of the sport of HG and PG in Australia.

Vision:

I am concerned with the direction the HGFA needs to take for it to grow and prosper. Board members need to understand and work with the current changing bureaucratic environment. We must work with and support each other as a team to ensure the sports survival and growth.

We must look for new funding sources and new ways to promote the sport, through the WWW as well as through the general media. The HGFA represents a unique group of sports aviation enthusiasts in the community.

As a board member representing this group, I will work actively for the promotion and safety of the sport. We must look at securing our rightful place in the big picture of Sport Aviation in Australia.

## Matt Fox

Details:

- Aged42

Professional Experience:

- Head Theatre Technician 1992 - 1999
- Hotel Manager 1999 - 2003
- Sales Manager 2003 - 2007
- National Sales / Marketing/ Training Manager 2007 - 2008
- TAFE Campus Manager 2008- 2009
- Client Executive / Sales Manager Current

Flight Experience:

- 1991 Learned Hang Gliding
- 2004 Learnt Paragliding
- 2005 Formed the Toowoomba Club
- 2007 Apprentice PG Instructor rating

Comments:

I saw the potential for flying in my home town of Toowoomba, and to aid my passion, wanting others to fly with and seeing good potential sites in the area, I started building the team to establish the Toowoomba Paragliding Club.

Acting in the position of Club President, I had to become proficient in promoting the sport to media, landowners, councils and government bodies. This allowed the club to gain access to sites and grants which helped the club become one of the fastest growing PG/HG clubs in Australia at the time.

I have always tried to take a "Can Do", organised and professional attitude to

the sport I love and believe I have demonstrated this with the earlier development of the Toowoomba Club and the recent SIV clinic that was run locally with enormous success. With my passion for the flying, I would like to be in a position to coordinate, promote and develop all aspects of our sports.

My vision is to see the HGFA be more proactive in improving the skills of pilots, looking at new ways of marketing our sports by organising and overseeing promotional opportunities and taking them to the non-flying community which will attract more interest. Always considering safety, I believe we should look at enhancing the ability of pilots through training, coaching clinics and competitions aimed at improving all skill levels.

Introducing programs to motivate the more experienced pilots and clubs to nurture the less experienced pilots and therefore keep membership numbers and experience levels growing. I would also like to help the HGFA promote more interaction between clubs so issues are being discussed by the active pilots in clubs.

## Paul Cox

I wish to nominate for a position on the HGFA board . I first learnt to Paraglide at Thredbo in 1986 and have been a member of the HGFA for 20 years.

Over the years I have been a committee member of many clubs and the NSWHPA State Association. In 2009 I achieved my Flight Instructor Rating and have been a Club Safety Officer for 10 years.

I am totally committed to the sport of paragliding. I love to teach students to fly and help pilots to develop their skills. Nothing makes me happier than seeing the joy on a pilots face when they catch their first thermal or experience their first high flight. The stories of achievement after a big day flying are great to hear back at the pub, or around the campfire, and there should be more of them.

This is a great sport that we all love. Let's cut the politics and think in terms of what's best for our members and best for the sport.

Two of the biggest problems facing the HGFA is compliance and retention. Without strong clubs to uphold the aims and objective of the HGFA, pilots ask themselves why should I pay this money to be a HGFA member? If no-one is checking my licence, if no-one is giving me guidance, if no club is looking after the sites I fly, and I have no means of being heard by the HGFA, then am I to pay my fees just for insurance? Too many pilots give up flying and choose another recreation because they are not being heard or mentored.

My focus would be on strong clubs that are built on procedural and organisational fairness, that give a voice to all members, and consistently focus on pilot development, safety at our sites and the simple joys of flying with friends. I would like to see pilots want to be part of their local club, enjoying the camaraderie of fellow pilots, and having a voice in the decisions made about their club and their sport .

By improving members services at club level, clubs would be actively involved in attracting and retaining members. The HGFA can do much more with its resources to support and guide clubs, eg:

- Similar to the GFA, appoint 'Club Development Officers'
- Set up reporting tools to research what members want from their club.
- Ensure that clubs fulfil basic requirements to continue affiliation with the HGFA.
- Guide clubs in governance where the need arises to ensure fairness, equality, and that club committees are acting in the best interest of their members.
- Supply information, support and resources for clubs to engage in pilot development, grant applications, site development/retention and maintaining low fees.

If pilots are happy in their clubs we will keep our pilots in the sport, continuing to achieve their ratings, and delivering great experiences. They will be the ambassadors for our sport, bringing new blood and increasing HGFA membership. Let's help our sport grow.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Kind Regards,  
Paul Cox,

Peter Allen

Date of Birth: 28/03/1963  
Married with kids.  
HGFA Number: 56320

Financial member since : - 1992 - (with a couple of small gaps)  
Positions Held:

- Club: SAHGA - Senior safety Officer / Safety Officer
- State/Region: SA
- Other: Non Exec member of SAHGA committee.
- Other Professional Experience:
- TAFE teacher since 1992
- Degree in Education
- Computer support tech.
- Other Non HGFA positions:
- AUF Club Rep in the 90's
- AUF Senior Instructor 3 Axis (inactive)

Flying Experience:

- Learned to fly G.A at Parafield airport in 1986.
- Switched to ultralights a year or so later.
- Started doing instruction and Air experience flights in 1988
- Passed CASA commercial pilot theory Exam
- Started hang gliding in 1992
- Built an ultralight aircraft in my lounge room in the 90's ( I was single back then)
- Started paragliding in 2000.

I have a more complete description of my flying experience at the following site: -  
<https://sites.google.com/site/pallenflyingbio/>

Comments:

When it comes to flying I have a broad range of experiences that cover a number of flying disciplines. I have been flying since 1986. I have worked as a senior instructor sending people solo and running a satellite training facility with remote supervision. In my day job, I am a TAFE lecturer with expertise in the Information Technology field.

Vision:

What you see as your role to guide the HGFA into the future and what you stand for. There are three things that I would like to make happen in the HGFA.

1- Change the constitution

I think we have a strange system of representation in the HGFA. : - we have clubs represented by people on the state associations committee, but we don't have state association representatives on the board. At the last HGFA state association meeting - the current HGFA structure of board, state associations and clubs was ratified by all that were present. But we have this "disconnect" between the board and the state associations.

I would like the HGFA structure changed so that each state association had a representative on the board.

(probably means changing the constitution)

2. Update the instructor / training systems the HGFA use.

In my day job I work as a TAFE lecturer - and yeah - I have a teaching degree. as such I am familiar with the current reforms happening in the vocational education sector. I can tell you now the training system that the HGFA use dates back to about 1992.

Here's some changes I'd like to get happening.

In almost every other training sector in Australia the qualification of Cert IV in Training and Assessment is the minimum standard for an instructor - ( including community education). I would like to see the Cert IV in TAA implemented as the start of instructor training. The advantages of this are: -

- Easier entry into HGFA instructor training.
- HGFA instructors can pick up other training jobs in the off season.
- Better quality training by HGFA instructors.
- Easier for HGFA to show compliance of standards to CASA.

and this can be done where current instructor's skills can be recognized so that it incurs no extra cost to them.

Other advantages are : - HGFA instructors could work towards a Cert IV in aviation ( commercial pilot ) meaning better career opportunities for instructors and a better outcomes for the HGFA.

note : - this isnt a criticism of the instructors we have in the HGFA - but the HGFA needs to think about replacing retiring instructors, and making the career of HGFA instructor attractive.

all of this can be done by the HGFA " in house" if the HGFA register as a private "registered training organization"

3. Improve the exam system

The current exam system we use for ratings and qualifications is a bit old - one set of questions used for the past 10+ years? It's possible these days to do a " written" exam online with a bank of questions so that each student gets a unique exam and it can be done in such a way so that students can do practice exams online too.

This can be done using open source software at a minimal cost. The ( free) software that

does this is called Moodle and is used extensively in the Voc. training sector.

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So if I did get nominated etc, it would be on a platform of promoting these ideas and making them happen..

I also see my role - if elected to the board - is to represent South Australian members and clubs as a state association representative.

I believe that the HGFA has been ( more or less) on the right track since the extraordinary general meetings of a couple of years ago. I'd like to see us keep costs down, grow membership and play a bigger role in the sport aviation sector.

I'd like to see the HGFA respond to the challenges of self-administration under CASA, but not be a doormat.

When it comes to other board member skills eg finance - I am sure there will be other candidates better than me at this aspect. But having worked in the government for quite a while I can say I know how committees, bureaucracies, and organizations work, and how to deal with them.

Let me finish off by saying I love the sport of free flight - which is why I want to see the HGFA grow in numbers and preserve the freedoms we have now. But also make the most of new opportunities.

Thanks

Peter Allen.

## Rob Lithgow

1. CFI Paragliding, Hang gliding and motorised versions
2. Instructing 15 years, flying 40 years. Married with 4 children.
3. I grew up with hang gliding and have been flying pretty well all my life.
4. I hold a Bachelor of Business degree and spent 7 years in the RAAF.
5. I have reasonable sailplane experience.

Our sport attracts passionate people with strong opinions but it needs to be administered in a reasonable, measured and equitable way that provides opportunity for all its members. I support the culture and direction of the current Operations manager and believe I could make a useful contribution to managing the emerging directions and challenges of our sport disciplines.

I am an advocate for paramotoring and motorized hang glider harnesses and their increasing popularity. I believe that over the next decade we should position ourselves to purchase popular flying sites as they become available due to the threat of permanent loss of flying sites from the encroachment of urban sub-divisions.

## Sun Nickerson

Flying HG since 2001. Active at the WA club and association level, current member of the HGFA board, and passionate about HG/PG flying.

I believe that:

- The HGFA's number one source of political pressure stems from commercial self interests.
- The HGFA recently suffered a down-grade in training standards driven by commercial interests in a rapidly growing sector, being the potential basis for a pending court case (duty of care).
- The HGFA acts as a facilitator, regulator and setter of standards for HG/PG training for as granted by CASA.
- The HGFA needs to continue cleaning up these issues to maintain the current stability.
- The current board represents level headed individuals who all bring unique skill sets and balance.
- The current GM along with the board have vastly improved the working relationship with CASA.
- All of the current board members have equal respect for HG and PG, motorised or not.

Further, I believe that:

- The State Associations should take greater control of State issues, rather than the Federal HGFA having to deal with local disputes. (analogy would be the Federal Oz Gov dealing with local council / state disputes) - Local States know local Pilots.
- There is a growing movement to have each State / Territory with equal representation on the HGFA Board and I strongly agree with this.
- States are better allocators of funding.
- The current General Manager and Staff are doing a fine job in a difficult seat.

- The sectors of the sport which are experiencing rapid growth can be supported by the schools / businesses who are profiting, rather than hijacking the regulating body.
- There will be a major effort by commercial interests to entrench more control at the national level at the risk of the HGFA's safety regulatory reputation.
- That if Picolights feel constrained by the HGFA organisation, that they should feel free to start their own association which may be in a better position to deal with their unique regulatory and funding challenges. As a parent organisation we love you, but it's like having teenagers in the house - there's no peace and you're wrecking the joint.

Mostly, I believe that:

- I love flying and want to keep the doors open for all of our schools and clubs, in all of our disciplines so that others can experience what we do most weekends.

Happy Landings to All.

Sun

## About 'Airwaves'

'Airwaves' is the e-newsletter of the Hang Gliding Federation of Australia. It is scheduled to be sent out monthly but actual delivery dates may vary depending on events and circumstances.

Airwaves is intended to provide HGFA Members with an insight into the monthly activities of the Board and communicate pertinent notices in-between the printed magazine editions.

If anyone has any suggestions or comments about 'Airwaves' then please send them through to: [newsletter@hgfa.asn.au](mailto:newsletter@hgfa.asn.au).

## That's all Folks!!!

Questions and or feedback regarding HGFA Operations or Management are welcome! Please feel free to email the HGFA Committee ([committee@hgfa.asn.au](mailto:committee@hgfa.asn.au)).

**Sincerely,**

The HGFA

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