

Since my last report there has not been a meeting of the ABF Executive. Despite this formality there has been a large amount of e-mail traffic between the Executive on various Topics.

#### Nationals

The Abf has received expressions of interest from two groups wishing to hold the 2011 nationals.

The expressions of interest were received from BAV to hold the event at Benalla and Canowindra through Graham and Jan Kerr to hold the event at Canowindra during the NSW Easter holidays.

#### Insurance

Following the 2009 Nationals serious deficiencies were found with the ABF insurance. As a result of this Glenda Dennler has put in a mound of work sourcing a more tailored policy for the ABF and affiliated clubs. Proper insurance cover is critical for all members and this is a priority to be resolved by the ABF.

#### Balloon instructor seminar

At the Balloon PDP held late last year a suggestion was made that an Instructor seminar would be of benefit for balloon instructors.

As a follow up to this we received notification from Roger Weeks of CASA expressing CASA's interest in running a Balloon Instructor Seminar. It is proposed to conduct this seminar at the time of the Canberra Balloon Festival

Any one who has not already expressed interest in attending should get in contact with Dale.

#### Aviation Safety Network

As previously outlined Aerosafe Risk Management has been engaged by CASA to assist all Self Administration Organisations implement their safety and risk management systems. This is an important part of the CASA's self administration program for sport aviation bodies.

Aerosafe Risk Management held a webinar titled 'Self Administration Organisation: CASA's viewpoint' at the end of January. Following this webinar a copy of the power point presentation was sent to the ABF executive. It is planned to put this presentation on the ABF web site subject to both Aerosafe and CASA authority.

Aerosafe Risk Management sent out the first edition of their new monthly newsletter, ASN Insider. This newsletter been sent to the various sport aviation

bodies and attendees of their webinars. It is hoped that this informative news letter will be made available on the ABF web site.

#### Pilot currency

BAV has forwarded a letter to the ABF requesting careful consideration by the ABF on the introduction of a system of flight reviews. It was viewed by BAV that a system of biennial flight reviews for private pilots may be difficult for a large number of pilots to complete due to the availability of instructors and suitable weather.

Any pilot concerned about this, which all private pilots should be, I would recommend get familiar with CAAP 5.81-1(0).

#### Event planning and Sanction guide

To assist those wanting to run a ballooning event and seeking the event to be sanctioned by the ABF, the ABF has updated the event planning and Sanction Guide. This is an excellent and up to date document and is essential to those wanting to run an ABF sanctioned event.

#### Permit to operate in the vicinity of aerodromes.

Niall Higgins, president Phoenix Club, wrote to the regional clubs requesting that each individual club write to CASA regarding the 'permit to fly balloon in the vicinity of aerodromes'

It was felt the ABF would have little chance of accelerating this process as the CASA project for Rec aviation is to establish improved management systems before even considering delegating any further responsibility. The ABF is currently working with CASA on this requirement. This project is being managed overall by Aerosafe with current active meetings and interaction with the ABF and other recreational air sports.

BAV does have an open ended permit issued in the 1990 to fly at Benalla. CASA no longer issue these open ended permits. Should this issue of permits be pursued it was felt that CASA may withdraw this BAV permit which would not be good for pilots wishing to fly at Benalla.

#### Phoenix Balloon club NSW

The Phoenix club has requested affiliation with the ABF. As part of the affiliation the ABF received a copy of the clubs constitution and by laws along with details of the new club's executive. No objections were received from any members of the ABF executive to the clubs affiliation.

Happy, safe and soft landings till my next report.

Capt Bob

Your friendly Vic/Tas ABF representative