

VICTORIAN SOARING ASSOCIATION INC: ACT A0026788B

Honorary Secretary: David Cleland, 13 Montrose Court, Greenvale VIC 3059
Email : davidcleland@gmail.com ABN 334 265 99 881

VSA Presidents' Meeting Minutes, April 16, 2016

Venue: Bacchus Marsh Club Rooms Start: 13:00 Finish

Attendance list attached, 18 individual members and 11 clubs

Apologies: Andrew Evans, Mt Beauty President, Tim Shirley, VSA RTO/Sports

Welcome from the President

Condolences were expressed for the recent deaths of: John Ashford,

Geoff Vincent, John Buchanan and Michelle Lappin

Introduced new committee member Rachael Richards & Regional

Safety Manager, Mark White.

Vacancies: Regional Development Officer

President address:

1 . Planning for SRV funding.

The new SRV funding application document had been circulated to Presidents prior to the meeting. Government funding will now be \$20,000 pa for 3 ½ years starting 2016 in line with the objectives suggested by SRV.

The President advised that the purpose of today's special Presidents meeting is to review this funding application and reach agreement on the objectives. A major change is the provision of funding for a paid, part time resource to assist the VSA support the development of individual clubs. Negotiations are underway to recruit a qualified person.

Although SRV funding cannot be utilised for capital expenditures, the SRV funding frees up VSA's own funds to support club projects.

Peter Buskens reported on VSA expenditures from 2012 to 2016 which showed a total of \$103,000 comprising SRV grants as well as the use of VSA's own funds. This level of funding is the highest of any State Association in Australia.

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Presidents reviewed the SRV proposals and agreed the future objectives as follows:

Club development:

Paid part time help will be utilised to assist the VSA work with 2- 3 clubs at a time to establish and implement a development plan for their club.

Several clubs offered to share their successful experiences and two examples were :

- Graham Cassidy (Tasmania) told of their success through installing a series of site information and directional signs which have attracted new members who had been driving by.
- Geelong has an Internet forum (chat style) for members communication.

There was also comment on the fact that ageing of members is now becoming a significant factor in some clubs which will demand a focus on recruitment.

Coaching/Instructing:

Over the last 3 years this has been 2/3 of our total spend. VSA continues to support instructor training and refresher courses. The new GFA head coach is working on new initiatives. Airworthiness training is lagging, nothing for 3 years. Solution for the latter may be paid trainers. Some clubs may not be supporting their instructors eg consider free glider time.

Inclusion and Equity: WIG's are only 5% of VSA clubs, 6% nationally. International numbers appear to be similar. Rachael Richards, our new committee member Rachael Richards has some initiatives for improvements in female participation. Disabled groups have a degree of difficulty but it is an opportunity and grant money is available.

Improved communications: VSA website has been refreshed, needs continual attention. Facebook can be very successful for clubs.

Innovation: Simulators. GCV have the only club simulator and of course the VSA has a mobile one. GCV have offered to

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demonstrate it. It has assisted pre solo training especially landing. The VSA simulator is available for all VSA clubs to borrow but is under repair at the moment. A new portable simulator is required for the VSA. The Gliding Museum advised they have an IS28 fuselage available for a simulator and there is provision for a simulator installation in the new GGC workshop. Funds may be available from the GFA.

2. Infrastructure funds: Ian Grant reminded members that VSA funds are available on the basis of a 50/50 subsidy. Preference is given to clubs which host activities/events for the benefit of the broader VSA membership.

3. VSA events 2016/17 - copy of calendar distributed.

John Switala advised the World Comps will be held Jan 2nd to 22nd 2017 with flying starting on the 9th. CD Terry Cubley, Manager John Switala, Operations Peter Gray. Clubs should get an increased interest in gliding before and after the comps. Expect 100 gliders Benalla max is 120. Scrutineering will be intensive. John seeking support for the various activities.

GFA Grand prix will be held at Horsham Dec 12 to 20, 2016. Arnold Neiwand provided an outline of the proposed arrangements.

4. Regional Safety Manager report (Mark White):

Safety is not about complying with GFA documentation requirements for Safety Management Systems. Safety is about VSA clubs taking active responsibility for their own safety.

- There was great variation in quality of the SMS plans that had been submitted by the clubs.
- Many clubs had submitted generic Emergency Response Plans [ERP] even though every club has its own unique set of operating conditions [e.g. BMG operations].
- My initial goal was to have each club have a highly customized ERP. My expectations are that every club keep an up-to-date record of all occurrences/hazards/incidents
- Every club should have an up-to-date Risk Management Plan, which can be assisted by the occurrence log.

5. Australian Gliding Museum: Paint shop being commissioned in April

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at a cost of \$30k including \$7,500 from the VSA . It will be available for VSA clubs at a nominal sum for trailer or glider painting. Will be requesting VSA support for toilet facilities. Museum covers the whole of Australia. Looking for memorabilia on the history of gliding. They have 61 aircraft.

6. Other source of funds: Presidents were reminded that funding support is available from Councils and State government (Vic and Tas) in addition to Sports & Recreation Victoria.

7. Questions:

Q1 AN: How has the VSA built up its \$68k bank balance (2010 balance was \$50k). Answer income has exceeded capacity to implement responsible spending activity.

Q2 GC: What is the WIG participation in other countries? Answer 5% in UK other countries, Soaring Society of America is 6%, France increased from 7 to 10% in 2013 and Italy 4.5%, all quite low

Actions/suggestions:

1. Distribute recent Marketing and Development report to Presidents
Action DC
2. Prepare a generic welcome pack
3. Geelong use a buddy system for new members and a chat forum
4. Sunraysia need to get the younger people involved
5. Consider sponsoring an international coach to coach the coaches or present coaching courses eg G Dale. **Action VSA**
6. Clubs should support new and existing instructors over and above the VSA subsidies
7. The VSA looks forward to receiving future funding requests in line with the SRV guidelines and the VSA own funding initiatives.

Bacchus Marsh April 2016 VSA Presidents meeting	
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	Name	Club		Clubs
1	Jim Barton	Aust Gliding Museum	1	1
2	Dave Goldsmith	Aust Gliding Museum Pres	1	1
3	Peter Champness	Beaufort Pres	1	1
4	Rod Jewell	Bendigo Pres	1	1
5	John Switala	GCV Pres	1	1
6	David Fynmore	Geelong Pres	1	1
7	Arnold Niewand	Horsham Pres	1	1
8	Mark White	Regional Safety Mgr	1	
9	Eddie Madden	Sportavia Pres	1	1
10	Max Speedy	Sth Gippsland Pres	1	1
11	Kevin Owen	Sth Gippsland VP	1	
12	Ian Benning	Sunraysia	1	1
13	Dave Nugent	Sunraysia	1	
14	Graham Cassidy	Tasmania	1	1
15	Rachael Richards	VSA Committee	1	
16	Ian Grant	VSA President	1	
17	David Cleland	VSA Secretary	1	
18	Peter Buskens	VSA Treasurer	1	
			18	11