



**Victorian Soaring Association
Together More Active
VSA Women in Gliding Project
#YesGirlsGlide**

**To initiate programs to gain and
retain women and girls in the sport of gliding**

PROJECT SYNOPSIS

1. PROJECT AIM

The aim of this project is to initiate a campaign to promote programs to gain and retain women and girls in the sport of gliding and showcase gliding as an alternative sport and/or career pathway to aviation by improving access and removing barriers to enable more females to participate.

2. BACKGROUND

Gliding is a sport that has struggled to attract females and youth, whether by cultural or social aspects. With the advent of the Gliding Federation of Australia's [Soaring to the Future Participation Strategy](#) to increase membership and reference to the GFA [Women In Gliding – an International Perspective 2013](#) and the Victorian Government's Change the Game strategies, and the focus on gender equality, gliding continues to target participation by females and young people.

The implementation and delivery of [#YesGirlsGlide](#) program will provide a platform to initiate options and opportunities for girls and women to be involved in the sport of gliding and provide a successful gateway to commercial flying.

3. PROJECT SCOPE

The project scope is to identify initiatives to gain and retain women and girls in the sport of gliding.

3.1 Key Deliverables

- Women's "mini soaring camp" weekends,
- Training for more women to become instructors,
- Roadshows with training for clubs on creating a female friendly atmosphere,
- Women specific Beginner courses (trial at Benalla),
- Key event – the Australian Women in Gliding Week being hosted by a VSA club in summer 2020/2021 (dates to be confirmed).

3.2 Costs

- Costs would be highest for subsidising participants taking part in instructor courses.
- Roadshows will have costs associated with travel and accommodation.
- Beginner courses will have the costs met by the participants,
- Women's mini gliding camp weekends would have the majority of costs met by the participants with a subsidy available based on funding criteria and eligibility, ie., Junior pilots
- Women in Gliding Week will have subsidies for travel, accommodation and operational fees based on funding criteria and eligibility, ie, Junior pilots and glider hire if applicable.

3.3 Risk

- There is a low risk from running instructor courses in that the participants may not remain in soaring as long as expected, with VSA therefore not gaining full benefit from the initiative.

4. PROJECT SCHEDULE

| TIMETABLE | KEY ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINES |
|------------------------------|--|
| PHASE 1 | July to September 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete proposal guidelines and update the VSA marketing plan last prepared in 2012. • Consult with member clubs to plan pilot programs |
| PHASE 2 | November 2019 – March 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women’s “mini soaring camp” weekends x 4 per year |
| PHASE 3 | October 2019 – March 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for more women to become instructors, • Women specific beginner courses (trial at State Gliding Centre, Benalla) |
| PHASE 4 | July 2019 – July 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roadshows with training for clubs on creating a female friendly atmosphere. |
| PHASE 5 | February / March 2021 (to be confirmed) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Women in Gliding Week being hosted by a VSA club in summer 2020/2021 (dates to be confirmed). |
| Review and Assessment | July 2019 – June 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed review process of programs including surveys and focus groups • Make necessary changes for programs and formats for State-wide implementation to progress to 2020-2021. |

5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Project Team will meet with the VSA President throughout the project and be responsible for overseeing the implementation, reporting and financial management of programs to the VSA Board.

The Project Team will consist of, but not limited to:

Project Team

Project leads:

- Ailsa McMillan (VSA committee and instructor)
- Sonja Fabig (Instructor)
- Vivienne Drew (VSA President and instructor)

6. BUDGET

The budget is \$20,000 from SRV and \$6,160 from VSA over a 2 year period which will be managed by the VSA Treasury.

7. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information can be obtained by contacting VSA President at president@gliding.asn.au