



Safety Management System

Safety Bulletin

No. 05/22

4 August 2022

Gliding Safety Network

This Bulletin seeks member support in establishing then maintaining a Gliding Safety Network to provide safety-focussed expertise, skills and knowledge to clubs and members.

Consider these scenarios and their potential application to your members and clubs.

Help needed: Local Airspace Procedures – A club operating from a multi-user aerodrome, with a complex local mix of aviation users and high risks of unintended violations of controlled airspace, seeks help in negotiations with other airspace users on potential changes to boundaries and local operational procedures. The Gliding Australia Operations team including the Regional Airspace Airfields Avionics Officer (AAAO) are assisting. The club seeks a “sanity check” on their safety case arguments for improvements. Who else can help?

Help needed: Winch Upgrade – A club is upgrading their winch, installing new drums and potentially changing the rope used. The club seeks second opinions on the safety implications of different drum sizes, rope material, cutter and feeder mechanisms. Who can help?

Help needed: Pest Control - A club operating from a grass strip has increasing problems with rabbit, hare and wombat holes under structures, on runways and hangar apron areas. Higher risks of personal injury and glider damage are faced, and pest control options must be considered. Local wildlife and public risks must be addressed. Concerns are expressed about shooting and poison baiting options. What do Landcare experts recommend? Who can help?

Help needed: Safety Case on Runway Lights – A club operating from a council-owned aerodrome has an unpleasant surprise when non-flush markers and runway lights on stalks are installed. The council is unwilling to change and cites cost barriers. Gliding Australia and Regional Airspace Airfields Avionics Officers (AAAO) are assisting. The club seeks advice on CASA MOS 139 requirements and how they should frame safety case arguments for change. Who can help?

Help needed: Medical Fitness to Fly – A club seeks advice on how best to manage an ageing pilot who has been cleared by a GP to fly but is easily fatigued, dehydrated and overheated. How do other clubs handle this? What are the right medical questions to be addressed? Who can help?

In each of these scenarios, assistance is sought to manage credible hazards and reduce risks that may have adverse consequences. Clubs and members are not seeking to offload problems, rather they need help to help themselves. They need to find credible experts who may give advice or sanity checks, who may be able to help them at minimal cost, across club or regional boundaries.

In developing a modernised Gliding Australia Safety Management System (SMS) to better support clubs and members whilst meeting regulatory obligations, important guiding principles were applied:

1. Safety is not a separate department; gliding safety outcomes are achieved through airworthiness, operations and soaring development departments, with supporting governance.
2. National effort to achieve safety outcomes must be focussed on clubs and members.
3. Gliding Australia systems must support the sort of gliding, primarily through volunteer effort.
4. Costs and complex bureaucracy must be minimised. KISS.
5. Expertise, skills, knowledge and talent must be leveraged with minimised costs.
6. No one person has all the answers!

Gliding Australia already taps into members volunteer effort and expertise in airworthiness, operations, training, coaching, competition management, many supporting roles. Airworthiness, Operational and Competition Qualifications and Credentials are tracked, those people with requisite skills can be identified and contacted. We appreciate their contributions to safety.

Gliding Australia has relied on informal networks to identify individuals with specialist safety skills. We now seek to establish and maintain a simple database of Safety volunteers, members with useful skills, expertise, knowledge, qualifications, and experience in safety-related fields. We seek to enable clubs to reach out to get help and advice, to be informed by credible volunteer experts.

Attached is a pro-forma to support this call for expressions of interest, where we ask members: Who wants to help? Who wants to be part of a Gliding Safety Network? Who might be part of a broader talent pool, with useful non-gliding expertise that can be used to mutual advantage?

Gliding Australia Safety Manager will maintain a confidential contact list, allowing inquiries by area of subject matter expertise, and by location or region. This will better enable us to put clubs in contact with potential sources of advice and assistance, in a more structured, less ad-hoc manner. Section 12.3 of Gliding Australia [MOSP Part 5 SMS](#) refers.

The Gliding Safety Network may, in future, also assist in safety education, awareness, development of bulletins and positive safety culture. Better safety conversations, information exchange and proactive measures can be enabled through a pool of multidisciplinary expertise.

To all volunteers who wish to be part of this Gliding Safety Network, I thank you. Please send completed pro-formas to safety@glidingaustralia.org, docx or pdf formats preferred.



A.R. (Drew) McKinnie
GFA Safety Manager

4 August 2022

SENSITIVE – PERSONAL INFORMATION

GLIDING SAFETY NETWORK – VOLUNTEER EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

WHO AM I?

FULL NAME

PREFERRED FIRST NAME

GFA MEMBERSHIP NO

CLUB

CONTACT DETAILS & PREFERRED CONTACT METHOD(S)

EMAIL

PHONE

OTHER (SPECIFY)

PREFERRED CONTACT METHOD EMAIL Y/N PHONE Y/N OTHER Y/N/NA

WHAT CAN I DO?

SUMMARY STATEMENT

QUALIFICATIONS

EXPERIENCE

REFERENCES / EXAMPLES

CONSTRAINTS

COMMENTS

SENSITIVE – PERSONAL INFORMATION

GLIDING SAFETY NETWORK – VOLUNTEER EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - EXAMPLE

WHO AM I?

FULL NAME
PREFERRED FIRST NAME
GFA MEMBERSHIP NO
CLUB

CONTACT DETAILS & PREFERRED CONTACT METHOD(S)

EMAIL
PHONE
OTHER (SPECIFY)

PREFERRED CONTACT METHOD EMAIL /X PHONE /N OTHER /N//NA

WHAT CAN I DO?

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Metalworking production safety, workshop safety, laser cutting, welding, compressed gases, oxygen safety. Non destructive testing. Workshop WHS. Protective equipment. O2 decanting. Regulator and bottle servicing. O2 test rigs.

QUALIFICATIONS

*BSc UNSW
AS/NZS IEC 60825.14 Laser Safety, ISO 9100 Quality Standards, Pressure Plant Compliance
AS 1796 Certificates 1-9 inclusive, AWI Workshop supervisor, WHS Supervisor
PADI O2 systems. AW ROC and Form 2 Inspector. Minor repairs Metal.
Risk Management Graduate Diploma UTS*

EXPERIENCE

*30+ years welding metalwork practice, 14 yrs workshop supervisor, 12 years AWI training, workshop safety auditor.
40+ years scuba diving, working with O2 systems and all equipment, testing, regulators, compressed and mixed gases
Safety investigations support to NSW AWI welding industry since 2008
Built Woop Woop SC O2 decanting and testing systems*

REFERENCES / EXAMPLES

*President Woop Woop Region Scuba Club 2000-2015
LinkedIn Profile [linkedin.com/in/chuckles_mcziffel_123456](https://www.linkedin.com/in/chuckles_mcziffel_123456)*

CONSTRAINTS

*NSW and VIC only for on-site support. Anywhere by email or Zoom.
On call NSW RFS all summer. Work Mon-Fri.*

COMMENTS

*O2 safety rare experience level. Interested in hyperbarics, partner works in hyperbaric medicine.
Too many untested O2 bottles in gliders! AW problem.*