



GLIDING FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA

A Meeting of the GFA Board was held on Tuesday 19 Jan 2022 commencing at 8.00 pm AEDT. The meeting was conducted remotely via Zoom, and was called to address the purchase of glider tracking devices and software for their use in competitions.

Minutes

1 OPENING OF MEETING

1.1 PRESENT:

Regional representative members:
Beryl Hartley (NSW)
Viv Drew (Vic) phone
Peter Brooks (SA/NT)
Greg Beecroft (WA) will be 10 mins late. Phone.
Lisa Turner (Qld)

Executive members:
Steve Pegler (President)
Lindsay Mitchell (Vice President)
Terry Cubley (Board Secretary and GFA Executive Officer)
Chris Bowman (Treasurer)
Richard Frawley (Chief Experience Officer)
Sarah Thompson (Chair of Marketing and Development)
Drew McKinnie (Safety Manager)
Anthony Smith (Chair of Airworthiness)
Jenny Thompson (Chair Soaring Development)

1.2 APOLOGIES

Ryan Driscoll (Junior rep.)

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM 15 DEC 2021

The president raised the matter of confirming the minutes from the previous meeting, but Board members requested more time to review so this was deferred to the next meeting.

3 TRACKERS FOR COMPETITIONS

- This board meeting was called to review the SDP proposal for the acquisition of trackers for competitions. Details of the opportunity are in the attachments to these minutes, but in summary comprises the purchase of 60 trackers and supporting software. If the budget is allocated soon, the trackers will be available for next season's racing.
- There is an approved budget in the development plan for such a system, albeit less than what is currently being requested.
- This is the best system available at the moment. There may be better systems evolve in the future (eg that use ADSB facilities) but these are not yet available.
- The board should plan for this proposed system to be used for at least three seasons before alternatives may be available.
- Jenny: The developers have done the work so far with a passion to develop gliding, but now need support to scale up to provide 60 trackers.

Points raised:

- The Board would like to see a business case; including how this purchase is to be made (staged payments) and what deliverables are expected.
- This should Include a Continuity plan and financial arrangements
- Is the cost to be borne by GFA or cost neutral – charging the comps or the pilots?
- Payment for costs for material needed to make 60 trackers needs to be paid in advance.
- Buy now, 3 year horizon. Up front capital investment. 3 year agreement with the developers for them to support it. Can we pay them an annual fee?
- Beryl – Pilots need to have some commitment to look after the trackers – a hire fee or a bond to ensure return of equipment.
- This is not a lot of money. \$8000pa for 3 years. Increase SDP levy slightly?
- Medium term – to develop a comp portal on our website which integrates with the trackers.
- Beryl noted that trackers have the great advantage of facilitating the finding and retrieving of downed gliders. Also useful for wave flying surveillance.

Business case

- Richard: We require a Basic service contract to be put in place. Payment in a scheduled manner for the services. Trackers plus a software system.. Chunked and phased to ensure deliverable outcomes. It is a good deal. Has to be good for GFA and for the developers.
- We want an agreement with the developers to ensure the system is supported for the next 3 years

Financial arrangements

- Richard: We should put a relatively simple service contract in place. A lightweight contract. Should be paid in a scheduled manner....focussing on delivery and services, not the technology.

- Query the ongoing operational costs for Telstra (LTE) network.
- 2 stage project –
 - Stage 1 business case for production of the hardware.
 - We should Pay the cost of materials up front. Jenny/ will discuss with Nick about the actual costs that need to be paid up front.
- Stage 2 is operational. Do we charge events or pilots?? how much does it cost?
- Steve/Beryl: a cost or deposit could be charged for the trackers to ensure they're not lost...that they come back. Maybe increase the competition fee, without having a specific tracker fee?
- We want equipment for Qld comps in October, which can trial the system.

Ongoing support

- Jenny: There is always a risk for lack of support ...longevity, keeping up technically, SDP will take responsibility to manage this.
- Jenny stated that the system must (will) be documented to support the system,.
- The board needs to address any liability issues that maybe foreseen, or list that there aren't any envisaged.

Next steps

- Drew and Richard to provide a draft MOU to Jenny/Steve after the weekend.
- Jenny will develop the business case for agreement by the Board shortly after

4 NEXT MEETINGS

Not discussed

5 MEETING CONCLUSION

The meeting finished at 9:07 AEST

Peter Brooks, 19/1/22