

Southern Hang Gliding and Paragliding Club

Annual General Meeting – Minutes

Location: The Flight Park, Malaghans Road, Queenstown

Date: 21st November, 2019

Time: 1930 – 2115

Apologies: Peter Grieve, Daniel Diaz Rizo, Edwin Goh, Chris Shaw, Phil Ryan,
Tim Shoultz, Dean Orton, Michael Karnik

Attendees: Tim Brown, Paula Race, Blake Round, Craig Smith, Kat Cerna, Ben Kellet (committee), and approximately 40 members

Proxies: None

1. 2018 AGM Minutes read and agreed correct

- Accepted: Blake Round
- Seconded: Helen Jefferies

2. Financial Report

- 2018 financial report read by Tim. The following was noted:
- Club are still paying Spark costs for the Terraces, this should be cancelled as the Holfuy wind meter uses Vodafone.
- Crown Terraces lease fee was overdue last year which contributed to exceeding budget.
- Landowner gifts cost was very low \$37.99. Perhaps we forgot – let's not forget again.
- Discussion on site development fund of \$3k being increased, but decided to leave it.
- Discussion around long term plan with finances. Continue to let the funds build up, an example was for skyline shares or for funding landowners to develop launch/landing for us. Can be used for lawyers' fees, which we should expect more of in the future. General agreement to continue to save.
- Accepted: Kat Cerna
- Seconded: Blake Round

3. President's Report – Tim Brown:

- Thanks to Ben and Kat for organising the venue and catering
- Thanks to Blake for continually putting out fires after incidents
- Regional comp has been planned for this year, following a successful competition last year. It will concentrate on flying unusual sites.
- 2 injuries this year: Brian Moore and Peter Grieve
- There was a death at Isthmus peak. A speed flyer with no formal training.
- TC ownership is changing – TC's Zero Harm Farm system is actively being looked after by Kat West, Nico San and Darren Hassett (incorrectly stated as Dean Orton during meeting). Dean is in contact with the TC and DoC.
- Wanaka airport user group/ stakeholder group. Agreed that the Southern Club should join as a group
- A proposed new low flying area at long gully was submitted to CAA. Currently on hold by CAA
- Air space is busy, pilots are encouraged to fly with air band radios. New flight instruments incorporate FLARM which allows you to see other air users. We will see this more on paragliding instruments in the future.
- Louis Tapper and Mark Hardman went to the PG World Championship representing NZ. They were sponsored in part by the Club.

- Mark was recognised by the FAI (FAI Sports Medal) for his contribution to paragliding
- Nico did well in the GIN Wide Open competition
- Mt Dick development has been stymied by DOC. We are just sitting on this for the moment.
- New Club WhatsApp group started by Paula.
- Incident at Frankton where a pilot was seen ‘flying’ in airspace, sparked a lively discussion. Alan Swan advised that club members should support each other , especially on Facebook until proven that they did something intentionally against rules/agreements. It could have been a low airtime pilot who made a mistake.
- Thanks to Louis Tapper for organising the film night in January.
- Thanks to Melanie Heather for organising the Paragliding Emergency Response Course (PERC) and the Hike n Fly evening
- Thanks to Justine for allowing use of Flight Park. This sparked a discussion around using the Flight Park cafe as our headquarters and a good place to hang out. Paraglider pilots should try to support the business to become successful. Licence is coming.

4. Safety Officers Report - Blake Round:

- Losing Isthmus Peak due to the unlicensed Speed Flyer fatality is a major blow to us. A low air time person, who went straight to speed flying, with no formal training was caught out resulting in his death.
- We must look out for each other, understand our skills and limitations and the skill levels of others. Don’t be so brazen.
- A speed flying endorsement is coming. It will be added to the PG licence and administered by the NZHGPA. In the future, in order to fly a speed wing in NZ you will need this rating. There will be a grace period when it comes into play.
- Accident reporting – the NZHGPA has a no blame reporting system. It is difficult to get all accidents reported but if we don’t put reports in we don’t learn from them. Blake is pushing to get better statistics out but unless we have reports we can’t produce any statistics. If you witness or are involved in an accident put it in the system via the NZHGPA website.
- Keeping good relationships with landowners – please if something doesn’t go according to plan and you have an ‘off’ landing, do have a quiet word to Blake or the Club. This makes the Club’s job a lot easier if the landowner complains. It is better for the Club to be informed rather than having to go to social media and request a confession or information.
- Statistically – pilots are most vulnerable in their first two years of flying.
- Frankton Beach – every year there is an incident. Club members need to take responsibility for other pilots – if you see someone doing the wrong thing, go and have a word. These are our sites that we need to protect. Ground handling here is considered a ‘grey’ area both for the Club and ATC but it currently works well, let’s not lose it.
- Flying with the right gear – whether you’re planning on doing vol biv or acro recognise what gear you need and have, recognise your skills and limits. Do not rely on a PLB to get you out if you have an unplanned landing but use it if you need it.

5. Election of committee

Re-elected committee:

- Tim Brown – president
- Paula Race – secretary
- Kat Cerna – treasurer
- Blake Round – Paragliding Safety Officer
- Pete Helliwell – HNG Gliding Safety Officer
- Cathal McLoughlin (inadvertently missed during meeting) – sites officer
- Dan Diaz Rizo – IT/Web Officer
- Craig Smith – committee
- Ben Kellet – committee
- Louis Tapper – committee

Newly elected committee:

- Nathan Hyslop - committee
- Billee Waller – sites officer

The following committee members resigned:

- Dean Orton
- Chris Shaw
- Chris Streat
- Club is looking for an Airspace officer
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6. Other business

- T shirts are still available
- For Southern Club members
- Discussion around Club events for summer - anyone can organise these
- TC developments – Wanaka pilots Kat, Mark and Mal have been asked to stay involved in the TC buy out by Cardrona
- Note about being careful what you put on social media
- Discussion on TC access- – Advice was to still use the current Southern club’s system until we hear otherwise from TC
- There have been complaints from the land owners of the landing field at the Terraces about pilots landing in the dear paddock and even in their back yard. Please be careful and report any off landings to the club.
- Discussion around Coronet Peak. Commercial operators can come to club and club can facilitate a toilet at CP.
- Coronet Peak car park 4 launch needs some development – carpet is in pieces which is a safety hazard. It was suggested to build a fence around the launch to protect it from the grader.
- Abelardo Laguna advised that Coronet Peak Management have requested that he pass on that they are not happy that pilots and passengers have been going to the ‘toilet’ around launch where there are no toilets installed.

Meeting ended 2115