



Saturday 8 August

## Clarity on members fees

Dear Peter,

In this newsletter update from your HGFA we want to clarify the miss-information that is being promoted by certain members and causing confusion and mistrust amongst others in our membership.

Depending on state of residence, the fee increase ranges from a low of \$26.75 a year to a high of \$66.75 a year or 8.3% to 23.6%. **That calculates out to an average increase across all states of 15.1%** — which is just a little short of the 56% being claimed.

Paul Coffey  
HGFA Secretary

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## The real extent of the fee rise...

Before calculating the exact extent of the rise, we must first understand the parameters upon which these calculations are based.

First we must acknowledge that there are **different states and different disciplines and that the move to one single, equal membership fee for all members** of the HGFA regardless of state of residence or discipline will have differing impacts on differing groups. But, that difference will be only for this one year. **Thereafter, all fees are the same for all members.**

Why are there differing impacts on differing groups? There are a number of considerations here.

First, taking into account the former State levy, members paid different amounts calculated on their postal address and that levy was passed to the State Association. Those funds were passed to the States for state projects.

The Board has guaranteed to continue those payments at the same rate as previously for this interim financial year. For example, \$91,000 was passed back to the states last financial

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## In other news

### Nominations due for the next board

As you are all aware the nominations will be closing on **14 August 2009 for the 2010 - 2012 Board.**

A list of nominees will be included in the September Soaring Australia issue, along with their profile and contact details for members to make direct enquiries on views, visions, etc to those standing.

Ballot will be sent also in the September issue with a closing date to be received by the **HGFA Office by 2 October 2009**

Any member nominating for the Committee of management position should read all the latest issues of Soaring Australia on the recent direction changes initiated by CASA for sport and recreation aviation administration organisations.

Successful candidates of this election will be in the seat to ensure

year and approximately the same amount will be passed on this financial year.

The current SARSIG project is working to determine how these funds will be shared equitably between the various state and special-interest groups.

So, the final parameter needed to make a comparative determination of the extent of the fee rise is to show the effect on each state and each discipline group. To clarify the actual fee rise and the differing effects on differing groups, HGFA membership has to be separated into State groups and into discipline groups as like disciplines have paid like fees.

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## Today we are a collection of different disciplines...

The three discipline groups are

- Hang glider and Paraglider members,
- Motorised members (excluding trikes) and
- Weight- Shift Microlight members.

Then, to be fair and reasonable, much has been said about a CPI rise being acceptable, so I have included a CPI rise in the figures calculated. I have even heard it said that a rise of double CPI would also be acceptable, but that has not been included.

Finally, remember the membership **renewal fee is \$350 — not \$390**. The extra \$40 is a “fine” you will impose on yourself if your fees are not received at least 14 days prior to your due date.

This incentive is offered because 60% of members pay their fees late thus putting themselves at risk of having no insurance while continuing to operate. **Both CASA and the insurer are very definite on this— there is no “period of grace” if your licence is out-of-date.**

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## For the exact details...

Again, depending on state of residence, the fee increase ranges from a **low of \$26.75 a year to a high of \$66.75 a year or 8.3% to 23.6%**. That calculates out to an **average increase across all states of 15.1%** — which is just a little short of the 56% being claiming.

The reasons for the need to increase fees have been clearly enunciated and widely disseminated in **recent years by previous boards (as minuted)** and by way of the President's Reports and the General Manager's Reports in “*Soaring Australia*”. Then, when the maximum membership fee rise in Australia is \$66.75 and the average increase is \$45.32, one could be excused for asking, “*What's the fuss about?*”

Paul Coffey, HGFA Secretary

For a full view of Paul's report please go to the [HGFA web site](#) and [download](#) his report in pdf format.

that these CASA initiatives are carried through.

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## Forbes Flatlands Hang Gliding Championships 2010

Forbes is on again next January bigger and better than ever. 10 days of competition flying, \$10,000 worth of cash and prizes.

**WHEN:** Practice day Saturday 2nd January, 2010  
Competition Days Sunday 3rd – Tuesday 12th January, 2010  
**WHERE:** Forbes Airport, Forbes NSW Australia (8 kms from town)

**LAUNCH:** Aerotow Only

**SANCTIONING:** HGFA AAA and FAI WPRS

**REGISTRATION & PRACTICE DAY:** Saturday 2nd January, 2010

### ON-LINE REGISTRATION:

Reserve your place by entering online at

[www.moyes.com.au/Forbes2010](http://www.moyes.com.au/Forbes2010)

Pay your entry fee before the 25th November to receive a competition T-shirt free.

Entry Fee \$250 Includes Welcome party BBQ and presentation dinner. Pay by direct deposit or credit card. Phone or email your card number and expiry date.

Direct deposit into account.

BSB Number: 032-251

Acc No: 110-905

Acc Name: Moyes Delta Gliders Pty. Ltd.

Be sure to quote your name with an EFT payment.

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