



Australian Parachute Federation  
**2022 ANNUAL REPORT**  
THE NEW NORMAL

# ABOUT THIS REPORT

The Australian Parachute Federation (APF) ABN: 75 061 266 510 is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee that is domiciled in Australia and incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001.

This Annual Report is a summary of APF's operations, activities and financial position for the year ended 31 December 2022. It complies with Australian reporting requirements.

All dollar figures are expressed in Australian currency unless otherwise stated.

## OBJECTIVES

This Annual Report is provided for the benefit of all APF members, as a clear and concise summary of APF's performance during 2022 and outlook for 2023. It meets our compliance and governance requirements.

Through this report, we aim to build awareness of our operations and demonstrate how we delivered on our mission and vision, while maintaining our values and commitment to members.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

In consideration of the environmental footprint associated with producing this Annual Report, no printed copies are provided to members.

An electronic version of this report is available at [apf.com.au/members/publications](http://apf.com.au/members/publications).

## SUMMARY OF STRATEGIC PLAN: 2020 - 2024

### FOCUS

#### 1. Our Vision - by 2024

A world-leading inclusive community of engaged skydivers who share their passion for the sport through development, coaching, mentorship and mateship.

#### 2. Our Mission

To set professional standards, serve our membership and provide safe enjoyable skydiving for all.

#### 3. Our Values

- Safety
- Fun
- Service
- Community
- Inclusivity
- Innovation
- Achievement
- Environmental sustainability

#### 4. Our Distinctiveness

- Relentless pursuit of excellence and worlds-best practice safety procedures;
- Adherence to establishing qualifications that are positively recognised in adventure sports administration / coaching globally;
- Constant and open-minded attitude to safety optimisation & risk mitigation;
- Inclusive approach towards participation in whatever discipline, role, interest(s) one chooses.

### DIRECTION

#### 5. Our Plans Strategic Intent

To set, communicate, monitor, measure and review the standards that optimise the delivery of skydiving in Australia.

#### 6. Priorities & Projects

##### 6.1 Training, Safety & Risk Management

- Safety & Culture
- Standardised Training Syllabus

##### 6.2 Sport & Member Development

- Retention
- Bridge the Gap
- 'Know Thy Members'
- Competition

##### 6.3 Community & Culture

- Stakeholder Engagement
- Captain Planet
- Operation Campfire

##### 6.4 Commercial Services

- Triple Bottom Line
- Inaccessibility Reduction

### RESULTS

#### 7. KPIs – Quantitative

By 2024 – Quantitative Highlights

- 100% fatality-free - year on year
- 40% reduction of serious injuries
- 40% of members fully actively upskilling
- 100% of the standard syllabus delivered
- 75% increases in Dropzone sites participating
- 75% increases in consistency of course training delivered
- Reduction in attrition figures
- 10% increases in participation
- Maintain average duration of time in sport %
- Implement a certified member satisfaction survey e.g. NPS figures\*
- Determine 'members for life'
- Determine new member churn
- Determine new member growth
- Increases in retention over time
- Increases in competency
- 10% increases in competition participants

#### 8. KPIs – Qualitative

By 2024 – Qualitative Highlights

- Better risk mitigation due to the embedding of APF procedures and policies resulting in zero fatalities;
- Empowered intrinsically motivated front-line jump staff (e.g. CIs, DZs Operators, Coaches) who are motivated by more than just regulations;
- Streamlined regulations and stronger adherence to safety procedures in general;
- Better safety due to the greater emphasis on instructor training;
- Better resources for professional development of coaches and instructors;
- Strong encouragement and support for the next generation of coaches and instructors
- Reduction in the tandem injury rate and claims due to the focus on tandem instruction
- Complete understanding of our members
- Strong and targeted marketing campaigns
- More members transitioning into different i.e. multiple connections to the sport e.g. moving from jumpers to coaches to judges etc. as their motivations change.



**Our vision is to be a world-leading inclusive community of engaged skydivers who share their passion for the sport through development, coaching, mentorship and mateship.**



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## About us

The Australian Parachute Federation (APF) was established in 1960 as the peak body for the regulation, administration and representation of Australian sport parachuting. By maintaining a high level of safety and improving the standard of the sport, the APF promotes participation and performance excellence.

APF has been issued the first Certificate as an Aviation Self Administration Organisation (ASAO) under CASR 149 which means APF is the co regulator with CASA of the rules for parachuting from aircraft in Australia.

APF is a membership-based, not-for-profit organisation that controls skydiving and parachuting at all but one of the 54 civilian operations in Australia. Through Part 149 of the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations and a Deed of Agreement with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), APF sets the standards of operation, issues licenses, certifications and instructor ratings, conducts exams and competitions, and distributes various publications to keep its members informed of current events and safety standards. It also assists CASA with safety and surveillance duties, controls parachute rigger and packer standards, and Jump Pilot Authorisations in Australia.

The APF Office is located south of Brisbane, Queensland and employs a team of 13 that is supported by volunteers across all Australian jurisdictions. It is affiliated with the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale through the Australian Sport Aviation Confederation and International Skydiving Commission.

Membership benefits include the right to skydive in Australia, public liability insurance, representation, information and standards setting.

# Message from the Chair

There is a saying 'don't waste a good crisis' and Covid 19 presented APF, as well as the rest of the world, with a once-in-a-century crisis. Not only did jumping cease completely for a time in Australia but international travel was seriously disrupted and has not yet fully recovered.

APF had come to rely on tandem parachutists – many of whom are overseas visitors – to fund our sport and industry to such an extent that a 'regular jumper' got many times their membership fee in value from APF. In fact, membership fees have not increased for more than 10-years because the income from tandems has subsidised APF operations. Tandem income offset cost increases that would normally be passed onto members through fee increases.

Additionally, financial support for sport development and competition in the past has been provided to members below the real cost for providing such services. Think coaching, and competitions where APF traditionally subsidises these at minimal cost to participants. APF has subsidised these 'membership services' through tandem-passenger membership fees.

Covid 19 changed all that. APF income has reduced to less than half of that before Covid but, many of the expenses remained unchanged. Safety and Training and regulatory compliance costs cannot be turned off. APF has an obligation to CASA to manage safety standards and to ASIC to run APF Ltd in accordance with the Corporations Act. So while travel costs for staff and APF Officers reduced – and staff working from home kept things ticking along – 'discretionary' membership services were trimmed down so that APF could remain solvent. This remains the case and, it will be one or two more years before tandem numbers return to pre-2019 levels.

This crisis has forced the APF Board and Management to reflect on how APF had been operating for many years, with ever increasing tandem numbers contributing to increased income year-on-year until 2019 when the tap was suddenly turned off.



This prompted a rethink on: 'what is the role of APF and what services should the organisation deliver to members and who will pay for these?'

Sport development funding rules have recently changed. Competition and what APF can afford to spend on the Australian Parachute Team, along with the ever-increasing number of disciplines is being investigated. Can APF afford to support all of them, or should we select those where we can excel? Does APF exist to simply 'facilitate' sport parachuting or do members expect and want APF to actively 'foster and promote' sport parachuting and skydiving? If the latter, then the costs of fostering and promoting need to be met through membership fees. These are the questions the Board will be examining in 2023 and you can expect survey questions at renewal time to seek the views of members to inform the Board and guide the direction APF takes in the years ahead.

***At the very last meeting of 2022 the Board reviewed and updated the APF Strategic Plan and saw Dave Smith stand down and Trevor Collins take on the Board Chair role so this message is a shared message from both of us.***

Mutually, we would like to thank all of our passionate and dedicated committee volunteers, National Officers and staff for their ongoing commitment to the Federation.



***APF Directors, taken at the November meeting.***

# Message from the CEO

We experienced skydiving fatalities this year at Hillman Farm, Torquay and Latrobe Valley. All three fatalities involved experienced skydivers and two involved high-performance landings. These incidents are upsetting for all involved. APF continue to offer support to those members and families directly affected. Safety and injury prevention will always remain at the forefront of everything we do.

APF are still recovering from the COVID related drop in first jump students. Domestic students have now fully returned, international students are still well down on 2019. Licensed skydivers number around 3,000, which has remained steady for some years.

A significant portion of APF revenues are generated from first jump students, so our 2022 student revenues were still down nearly 50% on pre COVID. Expenses were cut in all areas except safety. We managed to effectively break even for the 2022 year (excluding an accounting policy change that provided an additional \$170,000 benefit).

Nationals was set for Nagambie this year however due to key illness and a heightened COVID threat, we moved this to a virtual event. This worked well but was not our preference. APF understand a physical event and the associated camaraderie is important to competitors.

The Sport Development team launched two new initiatives this year. The Spotlight on Sport and Future Champions programs were both developed with considerable consultation with members. We look forward to seeing the results in coming years.

Controversially, an entity encompassing a number of our member organisations advised they intended breaking away from APF and setting up their own self-governing body under CASA part 149 provisions. This is potentially possible however the arduous CASA processes and the \$20,000,000 public liability insurance requirements make this extremely challenging. This breakaway concept has since been discontinued by that particular entity. APF has monitored the breakaway concept in New Zealand and still believe the current system best serves the long-term survival of the sport.

APF invested considerable time in preparing and evaluating this year's Member Survey. More than 40% of all members responded to the August survey which provided the most engaged members ever. These responses were extremely helpful in guiding the board and management on what members think. This data is more indicative than the views of a few members on social media or of the small percentage of members who attend meetings.



*Impromptu reunion at Ramblers  
Pic by Marco DeBoni*



## Message from the CEO *(cont'd)*

After recommendations from a special purpose committee, a new Area Council funding model was launched this year. We believe this to be a more equitable spread of funds based on where licenced skydivers are located, rather than where first jumps are made.

APF reviewed IT security this year. As a result, a number of changes were made. The Member Lookup facility was upgraded to require three search fields, rather than the previous two. Dual authentication was also implemented so as to better protect member personal information.

Student legal waivers required applicants to acknowledge and accept the content via a tick box. Legal advice was to upgrade this to require an online signature. After upgrading the IT system, this was introduced this year so as to better protect Group Members (Clubs) and the APF.

Netball, cricket, rugby and many other sporting associations needed significant bailouts as a result of COVID, however due to tight management controls APF have remained financially secure. I am pleased to say APF has weathered the worst of COVID and is expected to start the road back towards normal revenues and service levels.

Thank you to all the staff who worked so hard and supported the APF this year. This is the third year that involved significant cutbacks.



Richard McCooey F206  
**Chief Executive Officer**



*APF's delegation at SafeSkies Conference 2022 along with Grahame Hill, Safeski's Board Member and Secretary, and ASAC President*

# Safety

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## INCIDENTS

The percentages of incident types remained consistent with previous years. Landing incidents and malfunctions/use of reserve parachute remain the two largest incident categories.

In 2022 there was a slight increase in serious incidents relating to landings, resulting in serious injuries.

## PARACHUTING FATALITIES

Sadly, 2022 had three fatal incidents in which three sports jumpers lost their lives. Our heartfelt thoughts and condolences to all those involved. All three investigations were fully concluded with reports submitted to the Coroners by the end of 2022. The aim is to determine how and why these accidents happened, what the contributing causes were, and how we can prevent similar accidents. Where possible, information was shared with members for the purpose of education and prevention. APF remains committed to proactively educating and guiding members in order to reduce the likelihood of such tragic accidents happening.

## COMPLIANCE AND REGULATORY

Following approval as a CASR Part 149 Approved Self-administrating Aviation Organisation (ASAO) in 2020, APF was involved in developing the Part 105 (Parachuting from Aircraft) Manual of Standards (MOS) as part of a working group guided by CASA. This required many hours of scrutinising proposed regulations and analysing potential impact of APF operations and members. It is envisaged the MOS will come into effect by the end of 2023.

The updated APF Change Management Procedures Manual (CMPM) and Misconduct Policy and Procedures Manual (MPPM) were finalised and approved by CASA in 2022, with the processes of the former being “tested” through various changes, including two Technical Directives.

With the relaxing of COVID related restrictions, APF officials could travel more freely in 2022 with regular DZ visits and audits resuming the usual pattern.

## MEMBER COMMUNICATION

Following the success of the online conference in 2021, APF again hosted an Annual Online Conference on 26 and 27 October 2022 via Zoom. This was comprised of eight different online sessions over the two days, hosted by a variety of knowledgeable presenters (some international), including educational sessions on:

- Different tools for different trades – *Wingsuiting*, by Robert “Scotty Bob” Morgan
- *Canopy piloting confidence and decision making*, by Jules McConnel
- *Equipment evolution – What’s hiding under the hood?* By Kenneth Gajda
- *Running the pond*, by Cameron 'Putz' Jarrett & Melissa Harvie
- *Incident and fatality review*, by Charl Rootman & Wade Challenor
- *Aircraft safety*, by Mark Edwards
- *Make 2023 a great year for events*, by Melissa Harvie
- *Tandem instructing – Procedures that maximise safety*, by Noah Watts

The Online Conference was well attended, with in excess of 100 participants during each session.

In 2022 existing communication platforms for communication with, and education of, members were continued, including ASM articles, E-news, targeted emails to reach specific groups and the monthly Incident Stats and Facts document – with the latter one of the APF’s most-read publications.

## TRAINING

It was encouraging to see the high number of instructor level courses being conducted at Group Members around Australia, with courses being run in all states. We welcome these new rating holders and instructors and look forward to seeing them contribute to growing skydiving and mentoring students. Despite these initiatives, many Group Members are still struggling with limited instructor numbers, and we saw a surge of overseas instructor rating conversions at the end of 2022.

Two successful Senior Instructor (SI) courses were again hosted at the APF office, with eight candidates going through the structured SI programme. This format is now the standardised norm for this level of rating and has proven very successful. Some of the new SI's were already appointed CI in 2022, and this has now become a pattern over the last few years.

A successful Display Organiser (DO) course was also hosted at the APF office in 2022, with four quality candidates successfully completing it. The same structured approach was followed as with the SI course, with multiple presenters and a realistic practical assessment involving an actual display.



February 2022 Instructor Course



September 2022 Instructor Course

## TRAINING RESOURCES

As part of the APF project to standardise instructor level courses, and to support the new guides published in 2021, standardised course syllabi are in development for each rating/endorsement. Much progress has been made on this in 2022, with the finalisation and publishing of these expected in 2023.

## INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION

APF has continued with its good working relationships with other national parachuting associations, with regular online meetings of the safety managers of the APF, British Skydiving (BS), United States Parachute Association (USPA), the Canadian Sport Parachuting Association (CSPA) and the Belgian Parachute Association.



Through sharing of information, knowledge and learning, we contribute to improving safety and training outcomes for all as the challenges we face are very similar. APF continues to make significant contributions in this forum.



# Safety Statistics

## OVERVIEW: WHERE DO THESE STATISTICS COME FROM?

Incident notifications and Aircraft incidents are lodged by APF Group Members. Equipment Reports are lodged by Riggers/Packer As. All reports are entered into the APF incident database under appropriate categories.

## INCIDENT STATISTICS FOR 2022

Except where mentioned, the following data reflects the 2022 calendar year.



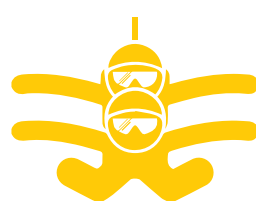
**540**  
Incident  
Reports

Comparison to 2021:  
513



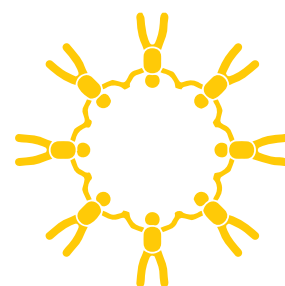
**236,9401**  
Jumps  
(Total)

Comparison to 2021:  
240,401



**85,664**  
Jumps  
(Tandem)

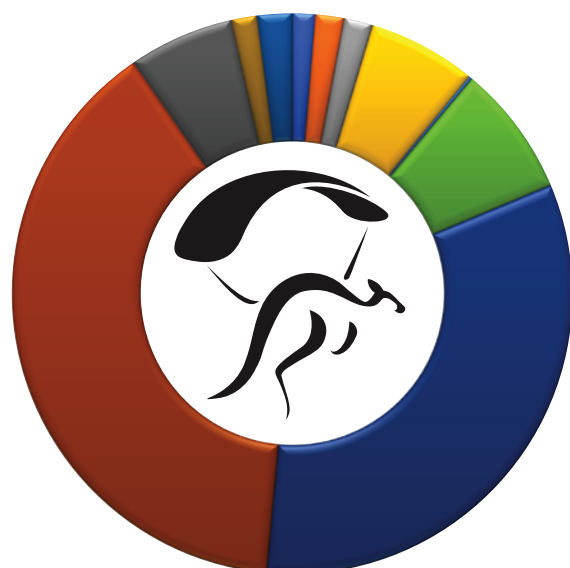
Comparison to 2021:  
73,448



**151,276\***  
Jumps  
(Sport)

Comparison to 2021:  
166,953

*\*Membership year 2021-2022*



## 2022 INCIDENT CATEGORIES

- 1% Aircraft Only
- 2% Aircraft / Exit
- 2% Canopy Control
- 6% Deployment
- 0% Disciplinary
- 8% Freefall
- 33% Landing
- 39% Malfunction
- 6% Other
- 1% Procedural
- 2% Rigging

The combination of 'Malfunction' and 'Deployment' categories continue to make up a significant proportion (45%) of the total. 92% of these resulted in cutaways.

The combination of 'Landing' and 'Canopy Control' categories also continue to make up a significant proportion (35%) of the total. The percentages of each category are consistent with previous years.

## SERIOUS INJURIES & RESERVE ACTIVATIONS PER DISCIPLINE

### TANDEM

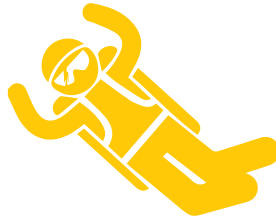


**85,664**  
Tandems

1 Serious Injury per  
4079 Jumps

1 Reserve Activation per  
1680 Jumps

### STUDENT (non tandem)

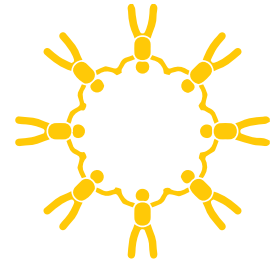


**619**  
1st Jumps

14 Serious Injuries

15 Reserve Activations

### SPORTS JUMPERS



**151,276**  
Sports Jumps

1 Serious Injury per  
4584 Jumps

1 Reserve Activation per  
874 Jumps

*Note: Serious injuries include broken bones, multiple injuries and dislocations.*

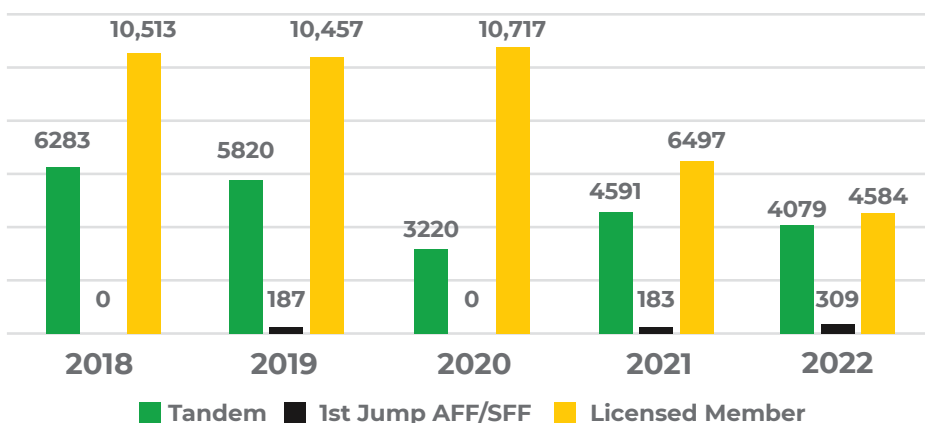
## INJURIES & RESERVE ACTIVATIONS STATISTICS

APF members reported 68 incidents resulting in serious injuries from an estimated 236,940 jumps, which equals **one serious injury every 3484 jumps**.

When compared to previous years, the number of serious injuries to Licensed Members has increased during 2021 and 2022.

First Jump Student injuries have improved slightly, while Tandem serious injuries have slightly increased over the past 3 years.

### Jumps per Serious Injury (1 in ...)

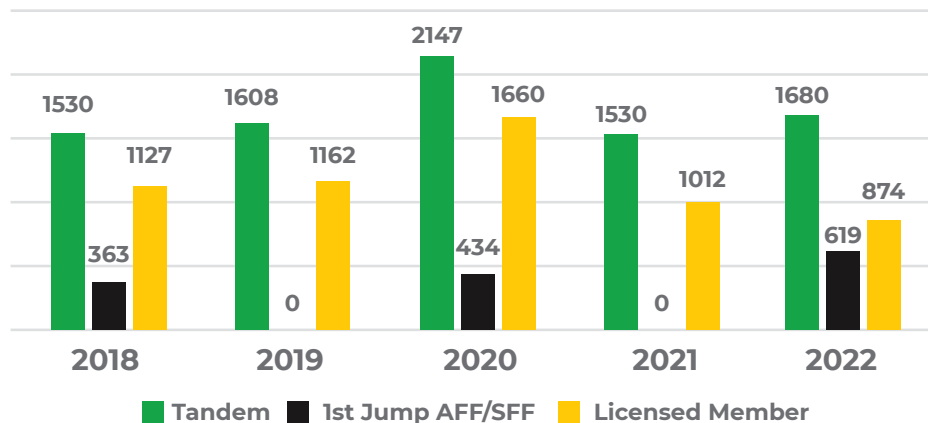


APF members reported 239 reserve activations from an estimated 236,940 jumps, which equates to **one reserve activation every 991 jumps**.

## INJURIES & RESERVE ACTIVATIONS STATISTICS - cont'd

When compared to the previous five years, the ratio of reserve activations per jumps has remained relatively consistent for Tandem and First Jump Students. Licensed Members slightly increased in 2022

### Jumps per Reserve Activation (1 in ...)



*Note: The APF only has data for number of Student (non-tandem) first jumps and not total number of Student jumps completed. Therefore, we do not have an accurate ratio of Student jumps per reserve activation or serious injury.*

## FATALITY STATISTICS

2022 was an unfortunate year for the Australian skydiving community, with three fatalities. The Australian 10 year average up to 2022 is two fatalities per year. The five-year average shows one fatality per 215,886 jumps in Australia versus the world-wide five-year average of one fatality per 159,156 jumps.

Numbers of fatalities in Australia are deemed too small to derive meaningful statistical data from which causes and trends can be derived. Cause and trend analysis is best achieved by examining cases individually.

### 2022 FATALITIES

Date	Age	Certificate	Jumps	Summary
17-04-22	36 y/o male	Cert D	672	Display Jump. Low turn from which the canopy did not recover.
10-07-22	34 y/o male	Cert D	328	First wingsuit Jump. Became unstable. No deployment of the main or reserve parachute.
30-07-22	56 y/o male	Cert E	2086	High performance landing - Low turn from which the canopy did not recover.



# Sport Development

## WORKING TOGETHER

2022 saw a huge effort on the part of independent event organisers and key influencers within our community, who did a fantastic job of delivering sport development and retention initiatives in the context of events, competitions and load organising strategies. It was a privilege to be able to bring event organisers around the country together for a session during the APF Online Conference to share tips, ideas, concerns and future plans. Connecting these key players who so often work in isolation, was a great way to gain a better understanding of some of the challenges they face, while also proving to be a valuable opportunity for newer organisers to learn from some of the best brains in the country.



Tim Kolln, Event Organiser at Far North Freefall.

Photo by Cameron Puttee.

**"Success is best when it's shared." – Howard Schultz**

## PROGRESSION & ACTIVITY

Members wanting to progress in the sport were spoilt for choice with a plethora of events catering to an ever-growing number of disciplines, many of which have no competitive element (e.g Angles, XRW, Canopy Flocking). Pond Froth was the new kid on the block in 21/22 for Canopy Pilots, with a focus on grassroots progression in the context of a fun competition. Moruya Skydivers Club formed and proved to be highly successful, with a variety of events being organised by the club for local jumpers.



Marley-Nolan Duncan at Pond Froth.  
Photo by Greg Hamilton

Belly Bash, a new load organising initiative at Skydive Ramblers, resulted in a series of excellent events for newer jumpers wanting to get coaching and meet with others of a similar skill level, similar to the ongoing Wicked Wednesdays event at Sydney Skydivers. Far North Freefall once again hosted a wide variety of events that encouraged both grassroots and international participation, while Pride Boogie celebrated diversity in our community for a second year in a row.

**"There is no such thing as a self-made man or woman. You will reach your goals only with the help of others." – George Shinn**

### HELPING SKYDIVERS THRIVE

NSWPC successfully secured funding from the 'Her Sport Her Way' grant, an initiative by the NSW government to increase participation of women in sport. 'Coach the Coach' received funding from this grant to help build a new generation of mentors and coaches, which aligns with the grant goals of fostering leadership projects that aim to attract, develop and retain female coaches. A series of canopy courses were also funded by this grant, with a focus on female participation, which aligned with the grant goals of reducing barriers to participation by creating inclusive, sporting experiences for women.



Canopy Course at Skydive Oz funded by the Her Sport Her Way grant. Photo by Headstrong Films.

Over in Western Australia, APF & WAPC funded a High Performance Canopy Coaching initiative led by Bubba Phillips. With no active High Performance Canopy Coaches in the state, this program invested in local capability in order to support a safer and more sustainable training pathway for the WA Canopy Piloting community. Four participants took part in this course and gained their High Performance Canopy Coach ratings, who will in turn give back to the sport and enable others to make safer Canopy Piloting related decisions.

***"If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants."***  
– Isaac Newton

### COMPETITION



Western Australia's continued border closures with the rest of the country in early 2022 led to another year of virtual Nationals competition, which understandably disappointed many competitors who had been looking forward to competing and catching up in person. Natisha Dingle set another Australian Speed Skydiving record (female) during Nationals; and went on to set a Speed Skydiving World Record (female) of 491.99 km/hour at the 2022 World Skydiving Championships in October. The Australian Parachute Team put on an incredible performance at this event, with medals attained in 4 way VFS, Wingsuit Performance, Speed Skydiving, Canopy Piloting and Canopy Piloting Freestyle.

Whilst positive feedback was received over the last two years regarding the ability to compete virtually, many competitors expressed a preference for 'in person' competitions, and so, a Nationals Working Group was formed in order to scope, deliberate and put forward an approach for how the 2023 Nationals would be run.

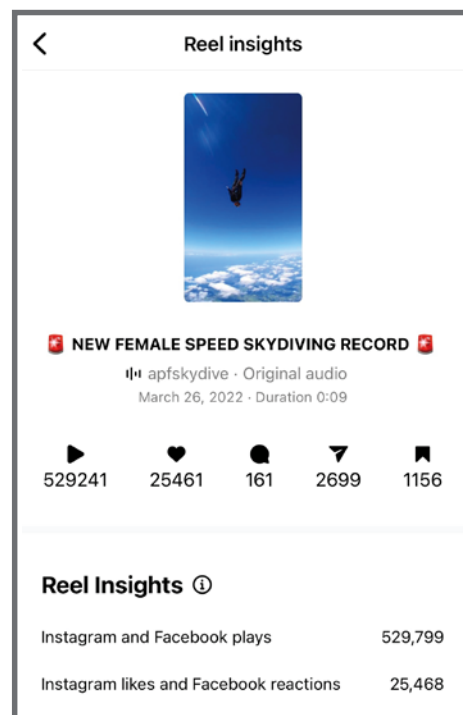
# Sport Development *(cont'd)*

## SHOWCASING OUR SPORT

APF social media channels continued to showcase our sport, celebrate achievements, and inspire the next generation of skydivers by reaching huge audiences through engaging content that was aligned with APF's Strategic Plan.

A big thank you to organisers, competitors and camera flyers that promptly supplied media following our best practice guidelines, which enabled us to curate content that will help to grow our membership base, as well as inspiring tandem skydiving which funds the sport.

*Right:  
Insights from APF's most popular & far-reaching Instagram reel of 2022*



## SPENDING ON SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

An overview to show spending on activities that developed the sport in 2022.

**\$111k to Councils from APF**

**\$109k earned in Grants and other sources by Councils**

**\$52k APF sport development funding**

**\$83k APF allocation for Performance-Based Funding to APT athletes**

**\$2.5k Lisa Perdichizzi scholarship**

**\$35k APF National Championships budget**



# 2022 *The Year in Pictures*



**Flocking Camps**  
Pics by Cam Puttee



**GROUP SUPERRAD**

Kerrie Weldon

KEMPSEY FLYING CLUB LTD

Blair Dan

Blair Dan

Blair Dan

**Coffs Skydivers  
Superrad Boogie**



# 2022 *The Year in Pictures*



**NSWPC  
Coach the Coach**  
Elderslie Wicked Wednesday



**WAPC High  
Performance  
Canopy  
Coaching**





# 2022 *The Year in Pictures*



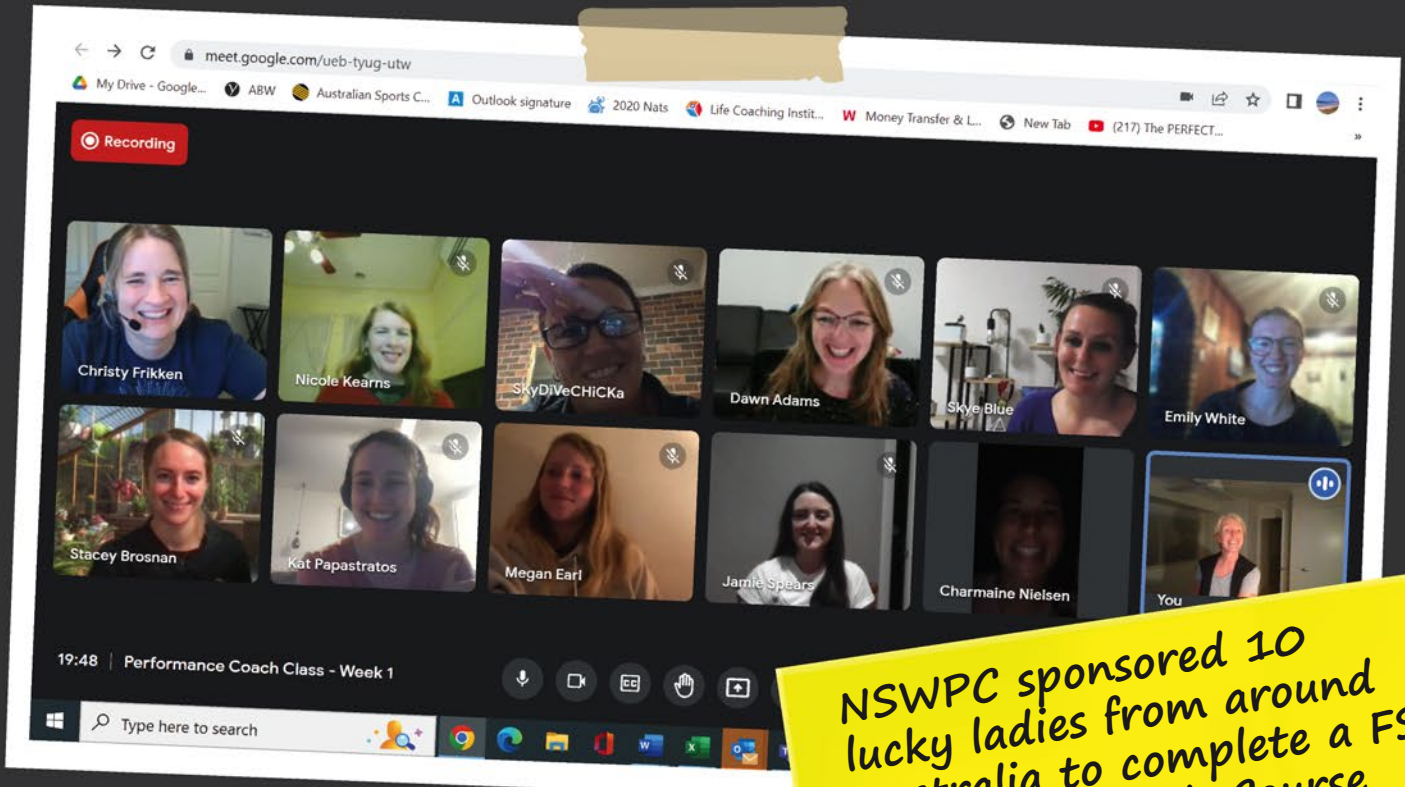
**JBay  
Advanced  
Angles Camp**  
by J Brazier



**Accuracy  
Champs**  
by  
Justin de Waard  
& Peter Beasley



# 2022 *The Year in Pictures*



NSWPC sponsored 10 lucky ladies from around Australia to complete a FS Coach the Coach Course run by Christy Frikken & Melissa Harvie

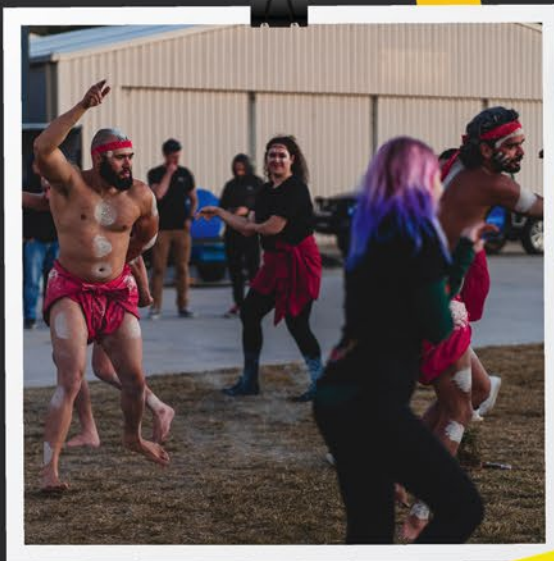


**Pond Froth**  
Pics by Mark (Stretch) Szulmayer



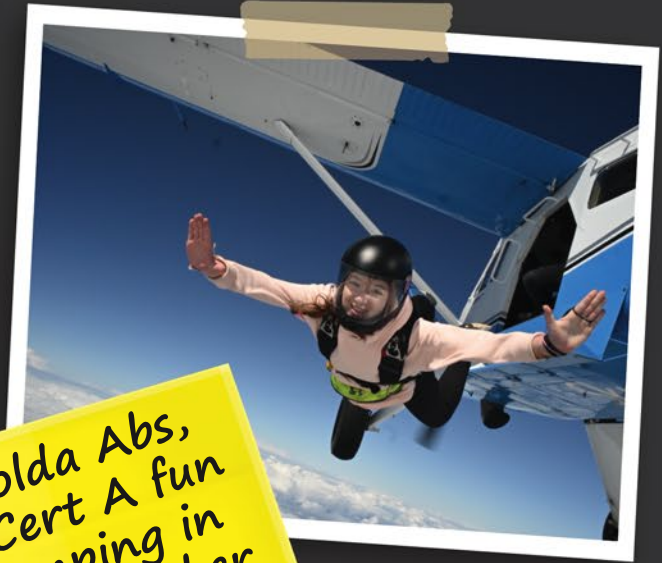
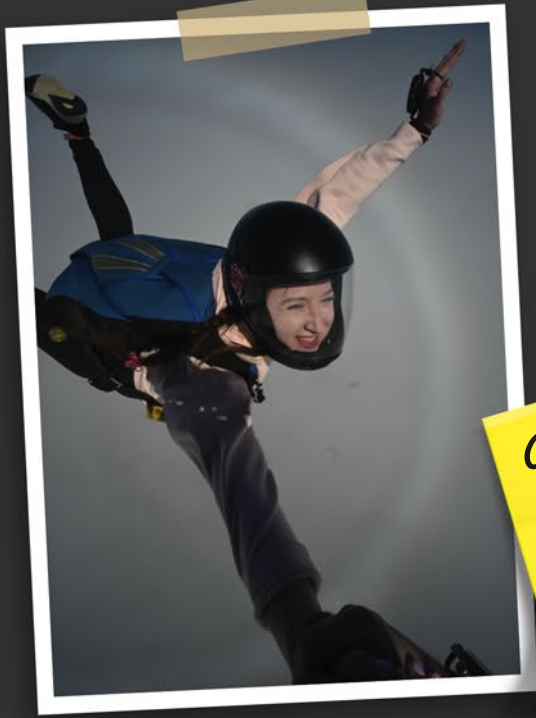


# 2022 *The Year in Pictures*



**Pride Boogie**  
by Marcus Bourget

# 2022 *The Year in Pictures*



Golda Abs,  
Cert A fun  
jumping in  
September  
by Shane Sparkes



Reunion  
at Ramblers





# 2022 *The Year in Pictures*

Safeski's  
Conference at  
Parliament House  
by Shane Sparkes



# Records & Awards



## MASTER OF SPORT PARACHUTING

1) **Paul Osborne** – One of the great pioneers and contributors to the sport of parachuting, in particular in Safety and Training

## APF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

2) The inaugural recipient is **Kim Hardwick** – for her commitment to skydiving excellence and safety, as well as coaching and leadership spanning nearly four decades.

## SERVICE AWARD

3) **Grahame Hill** – For decades of service to the APF in the areas of Aviation and Safety

4) **Keith Perrott** – Outstanding and sustained service in the fields of competition and leadership

## FAI OCEANIA CONTINENTAL REGION RECORD

NAME	DISCIPLINE	RECORD DETAIL	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Team: Focus: Tim Golsby-Smith, James Cooper, Kyle Chick & Kim Hopwood, Mark Gazley (video)	Vertical Formation Skydiving	VFS Longest Sequence: 25 Formations & Highest Average 19.1 formations	21/10/2022	25th FAI World Formation Skydiving Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Shane Turner	Speed Skydiving	Speed Skydiving Highest Average Speed: 518.68 km/hour	21/10/2022	4th FAI World Speed Skydiving Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona

## PARTICIPATION IN A WORLD RECORD

NAME	DISCIPLINE	RECORD DETAIL	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Natisha Dingle	Speed Skydiving	World and Oceania Continental Record, Speed Skydiving - Female, Highest Average Speed: 472.42 km/hour	21/10/2022	4th FAI World Speed Skydiving Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Natisha Dingle	Speed Skydiving	World and Oceania Continental Record, Speed Skydiving - Female, Highest Average Speed: 477.88 km/hour	22/10/2022	4th FAI World Speed Skydiving Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Natisha Dingle	Speed Skydiving	World and Oceania Continental Record, Speed Skydiving - Female, Highest Average Speed: 491.99 km/hour	24/10/2022	4th FAI World Speed Skydiving Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Andrew Preston	Canopy Formation	Sequential Canopy Formation world record (2 point 54 way)	1/11/2022		USA, Florida Skydiving Centre
Cath Comyns, Jill Grantham, Jenny Hopwood, Amy Jamieson, Emma Merritt, Bella Smart, Erica Tadokoro, Sonnica van Zijl	Vertical (head down)	72 way Women's Vertical World Record	1/11/2022	Project 19 - Women's Vertical World Record	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Alana Bertram, Cath Comyns, Jill Grantham, Jenny Hopwood, Amy Jamieson, Emma Merritt, Bella Smart, Erica Tadokoro, Sonnica van Zijl	Vertical (head down)	80 way Women's Vertical World Record	1/11/2022	Project 19 - Women's Vertical World Record	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona

## Records & Awards *(cont'd)*

### MEDAL AT A WORLD CUP

NAME	DISCIPLINE	RECORD DETAIL	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Natisha Dingle	Speed Skydiving - Female	Gold Medal	29/10/2022	4th FAI World Speed Skydiving Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Focus: Mark Gazley (video), Tim Golsby-Smith, James Cooper, Kyle Chick & Kim Hopwood	4-Way VFS	Silver Medal	29/10/2022	25th FAI World Formation Skydiving Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Shane Turner, Natisha Dingle, Bruno Chagas	Speed Skydiving - National Team	Bronze Medal	29/10/2022	4th FAI World Speed Skydiving Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Leigh McCormack, Shane Onis, Sean Haysom	Canopy Piloting Freestyle - National Team	Bronze Medal	16/10/2022	3rd World Canopy Piloting Freestyle Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Luke Rogers	Wingsuit Performance - Furthest Horizontal Distance	Gold Medal	16/10/2022	4th FAI World Wingsuit Flying Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Luke Rogers	Wingsuit Performance - Longest Time	Bronze Medal	16/10/2022	4th FAI World Wingsuit Flying Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Luke Rogers	Wingsuit Performance - Individual Overall	Bronze Medal	16/10/2022	4th FAI World Wingsuit Flying Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Luke Rogers, Tomic Kluzniak, Jason Dodunski	Wingsuit Performance - National Team	Silver Medal	16/10/2022	4th FAI World Wingsuit Flying Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Tahi-Paul Munroe	Wingsuit Performance - Fastest Speed	Gold Medal	16/10/2022	4th FAI World Wingsuit Flying Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Richard Healy, Leigh McCormack, Sean Haysom	Canopy Piloting - National Team	Bronze Medal	16/10/2022	9th FAI World Canopy Piloting Championships	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
NAME	DISCIPLINE	RECORD DETAIL	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION



## Records & Awards *(cont'd)*

### AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION RECORDS

NAME	DISCIPLINE	RECORD DETAIL	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Natisha Dingle	Speed Skydiving	Australian Record, Speed Skydiving - Female: Highest Average Speed: 483.61 km/hour	27/03/2022	2022 Australian Parachuting Championships	Skydive Ramblers, Toogoolawah, QLD
Natisha Dingle	Speed Skydiving	Australian Record, Speed Skydiving - Female: Highest Average Speed: 488.21 km/hour	04/04/2022	2022 Australian Parachuting Championships	Skydive Ramblers, Toogoolawah, QLD
Luke Rogers	Wingsuit Performance	Australian Record, Wingsuit Performance: Longest Time: 107.3 seconds	12/10/2022	4th FAI World Wingsuit Flying Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Fiona Jansen	Wingsuit Performance	Australian Record, Wingsuit Performance: Longest Time (Female): 80.5 seconds	14/10/2022	4th FAI World Wingsuit Flying Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Fiona Jansen	Wingsuit Performance	Australian Record, Wingsuit Performance: Furthest Horizontal Distance (Female): 3176m	12/10/2022	4th FAI World Wingsuit Flying Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona
Fiona Jansen	Wingsuit Performance	Australian Record, Wingsuit Performance: Fastest Speed (Female): 248.5 km/h	12/10/2022	4th FAI World Wingsuit Flying Championships 2022	USA, Eloy, Skydive Arizona

### AUSTRALIAN PERFORMANCE RECORDS

NAME	DISCIPLINE	RECORD DETAIL	DATE	LOCATION
Kristina Hicks, Tayia Merrett, Laura Fitzpatrick, Cat Brown, Maria Rau, Dawn Adams, Emily Hatfield, Melinda Sims, Natisha Dingle, Jag Wei, Anna van der Vlugt, Beatrice Argenti, Susie McLachlan, Karen Fuller, Skye Parsons, Nicole Kearns, Kristina Provcj, Caroline Loh, Terry Irving	Largest Women's Star (Australia)	Largest Women's Star Formation - 19 way Star	12/06/2022	Skydive Ramblers, Toogoolawah, QLD

# Captain Planet

APF is committed to sustainable practices and has continued the move towards triple bottom line accounting to provide the focus the APF Board seeks. Of course, multiple approaches are necessary. Ideally, in the first instance, as a sport and its associated administrative structure, we should be emitting as little carbon as possible. Reducing in-person meetings is part of this, and Area Councils have also increasingly moved to virtual meetings, which helps keep those fossil fuelled cars off the road. APF held no in-person conferences in 2022. Virtual conferences are a much “greener” way to share information. Of course, the reality is that our sport is currently based on jumping from fossil fuelled aircraft. This will continue until such time as practical and hopefully carbon neutral electric jump planes are available. That brings us to carbon offsetting. For the first time, in 2022, APF members were given the option of offsetting their skydiving carbon emissions when renewing their APF membership. We made a small start in the first year, but member involvement enabled us to purchase 10 carbon units which equates to 10 tonnes of carbon removed from the atmosphere.

In 2022 2.5% of members opted in for the APF carbon offsetting, for a total of 1.5% of reported jumps, or approximately \$300 in total. We will be seeking a greater level of member involvement in APF’s Carbon Offsetting scheme in 2023. This was a member initiative and it deserves more support if it is to continue.

Moving forward, we may well see increasing recognition that being good global citizens is more than a project in a strategic plan. It must be embedded in everything we do as a sport and as an organisation.

On 3 August, 2022 the ABC stated *“Flying electric aircraft by 2024 a realistic timeframe for short-haul trips, insiders say”*. There will be many APF members welcoming the day when that happens.

## WASTE

### E-Waste & Batteries

Our IT Support provider, Evolve Technologies, dispose of all e-waste produced by APF responsibly through a local e-waste recycling/disposal business.

Drained batteries are disposed of through a local battery recycling centre.

### Plastics & Paper

We continue to move away from paper documents and manuals to digital format. The APF app has removed the need for plastic membership cards. The Board has gone virtually paperless with all agendas and board documents no longer being printed.

## PEOPLE

Spotlight On Sport program has been developed to support the growth of our sport and members in a sustainable way with mapped-out initiatives. This aims to engage skydivers to thrive in any area of the sport they choose to pursue.

APF promptly reimburses volunteers for properly evidenced out-of-pocket expenses, and offers a supportive environment for staff through flexible work arrangements, meeting or exceeding award conditions, and salary increases in line with the Consumer Price Index.

## SOCIETY & COMMUNITY

### Inclusivity, diversity, and equality

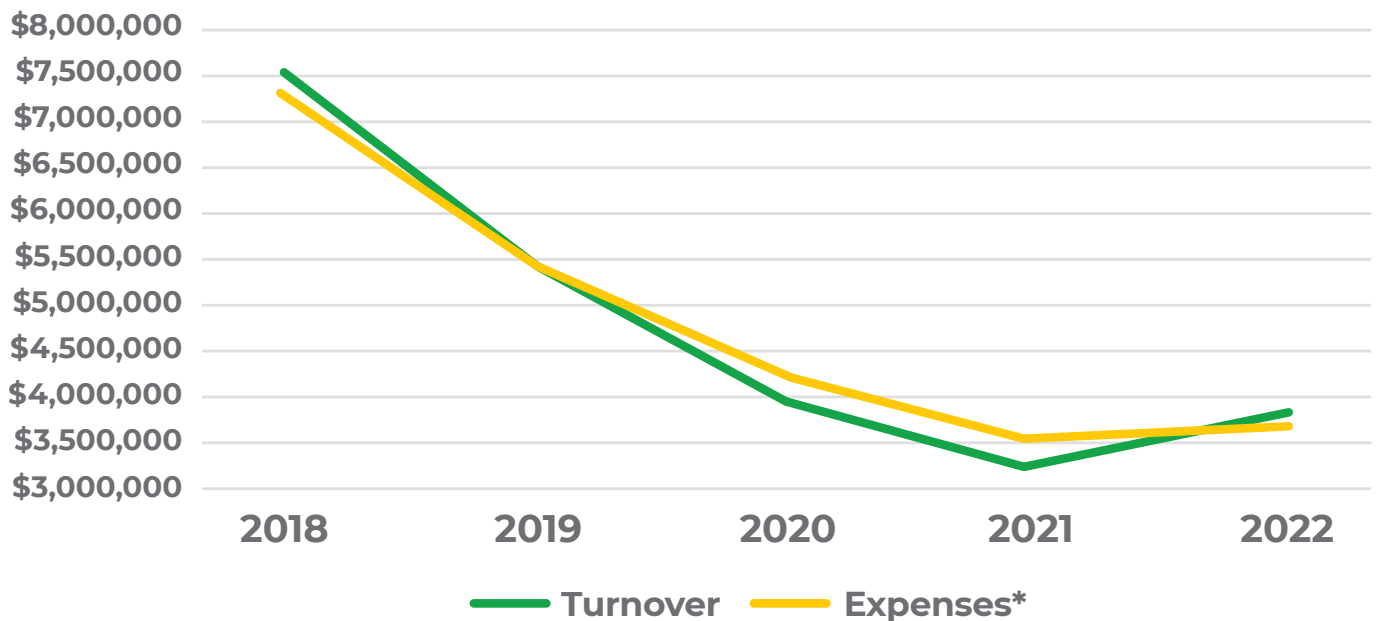
Initiatives from both APF and the broader community in 2022 included:

- Pride Boogie - a skydiving festival celebrating the LGBTQIA+ community, ran for a second year.
- Members no longer need to identify as binary when filling in APF forms.  
We recognise this has been an issue for some.
- The Board approved a completely re-written Member Protection Policy in 2022.  
This includes a Code of Conduct which clarifies expectations of members.



# Financial Highlights

## INCOME vs. EXPENSES

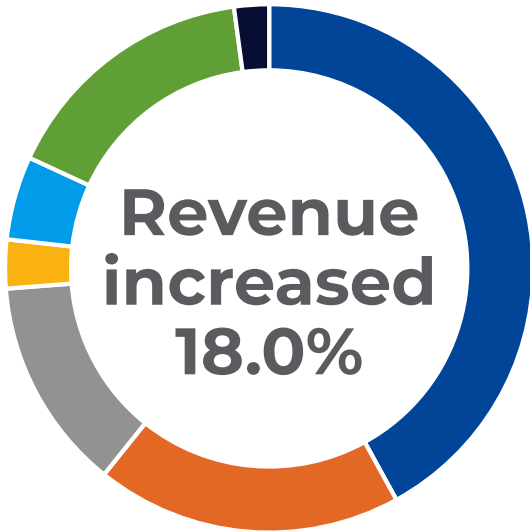


\* Expenses Exclude distributions to APTAC made on a voluntary basis

### 2022:

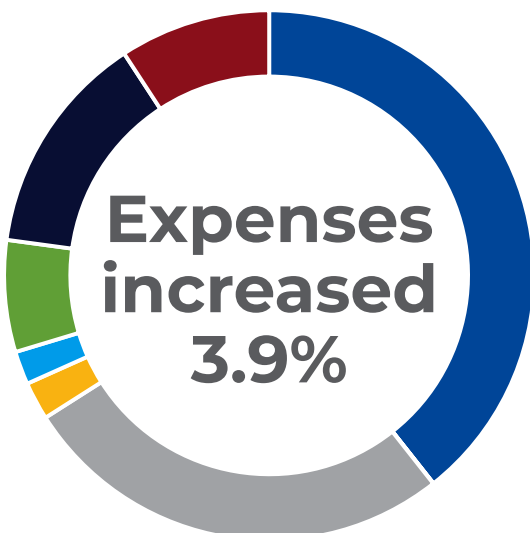
- Annual Turnover: **\$3.8M**
- Annual Expenses: **\$3.7M**
- Gain attributed to Members: **\$137,791**
- Operational Revenues remain 35% lower than pre-COVID-19 levels
- Returned to small profit after 2 years of sizeable COVID-19 losses
- No further COVID Government Support Grants available or received

*NOTE: 2022 Full financial report is available online anytime.  
Hard copy will be mailed upon request.*



**REVENUE**

- 42.0% Student Memberships (+21.2%)
- 18.8% Insurance Policies (+29%)
- 13.0% Club & Licensed Memberships (+27.0%)
- 3.0% Other Fees & Ratings (+18.8%)
- 5.1% Grants\*\* (-32.3%)
- 16.0% Trust Receipts (+14.7%)
- 2.1% Other (+63.9%)



**EXPENSES**

- 37.9% Insurances (+8%)
- 0.0% Special Projects (-99%)
- 25.6% Employee Benefits (-0.3%)
- 2.2% Sports Development (-8.3%)
- 2.0% Competitions & Teams (+69%)
- 6.6% Council Expenses (-16.6%)
- 13.1% Administrative Costs (+23.2%)
- 8.9% Other (+12.2%)

*\*\*Grants Receipts fell with the withdrawal of government COVID-19 support*

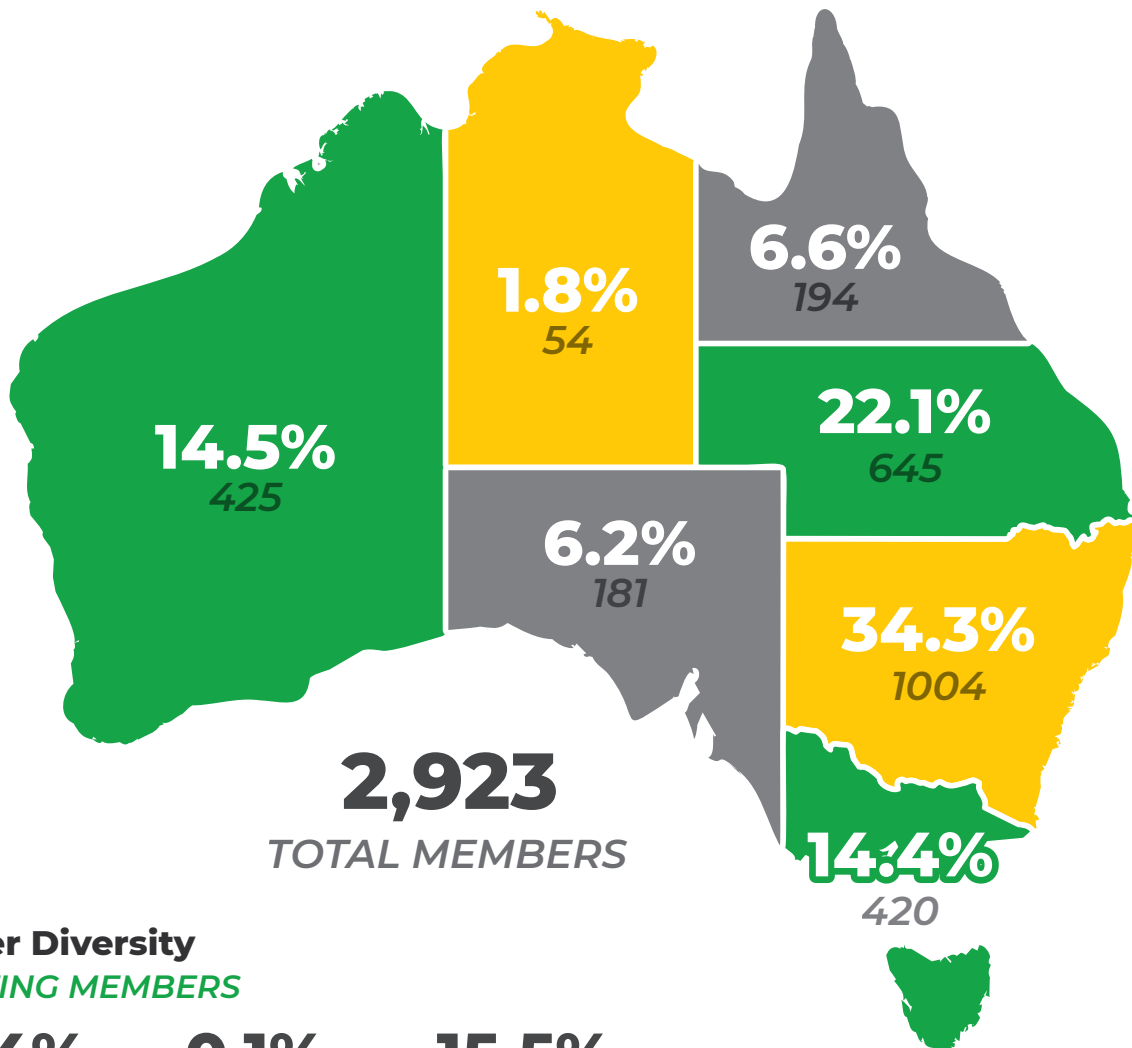


# Membership *Statistics*

## MEMBERSHIP YEAR STATISTICS: 1 JULY 2021 TO 30 JUNE 2022

Membership year statistics are those statistics which are reported based on a year from 1st of July through to 30th June.

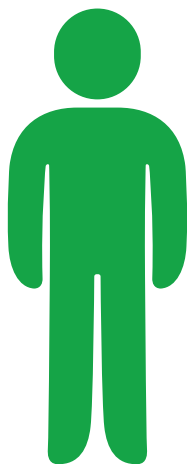
### Sporting Licensed Members by State



### Gender Diversity

#### SPORTING MEMBERS

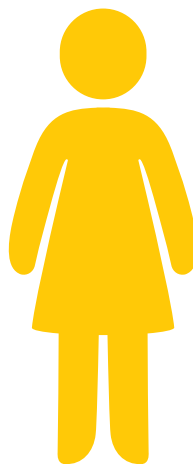
<b>84.4%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>
2,467	1	455



MALE



GENDER  
NEUTRAL



FEMALE

Sporting  
Members' average  
time in the sport:  
**1519 days**

Annual average decrease  
in Sporting Members  
time in the sport:  
**-1.5%**

## CALENDAR YEAR STATISTICS

INSTRUCTORS - HELD AT	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Master Instructor	17	15	14	13	13
Instructor A / Snr Instructor	89	83	76	74	75
Instructor / B / C / D	587	555	486	436	434
<b>Totals</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>522</b>

*NOTE: The new Instructor Structure was implemented in 2018. The table above has been adjusted to more readily reflect the comparisons between the old and new Instructor Structure.*

COACHES - HELD AT	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Canopy		5	8	11	9
Certificate B	96	103	87	95	97
CRW	6	9	10	9	7
Freefly	73	90	84	87	83
High Performance Canopy	11	14	14	14	12
Wingsuit	39	38	30	29	31

CRESTS - ISSUED AT	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Canopy	29	6	7	13	10
Freefly Head Up	119	72	33	17	57
Freefly Head Down	156	166	64	61	114
Night Star Crest	7	4	1	3	2
Star	321	206	105	169	222
Wingsuit	51	44	16	32	24

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Solo Students numbers	1551	1370	981	1325	1528

	NSW	Nth QLD	NT	SA	Sth QLD	V/T	WA
Tandem Jumps in 2022	23,043	19,193	192	3,266	19,765	13,618	8,505



# Membership *Statistics (cont'd)*

## MEMBERSHIP

### Life Members

In 2022, APF had 452 life members

### Chief Instructor appointments

The following Chief Instructor appointments were approved in 2022:

CLUB NAME	NAME	DATE
SKYDIVE MELBOURNE	MAX MOTZO	3/3/2022
SKYDIVE YARRA VALLEY	MAX MOTZO	3/3/2022
SKYDIVE BYRON BAY	DAN PIERCE	20/4/2022
FAR NORTH FREEFALL	THOM BOEM	9/3/2022 - 17/10/2022
SKYDIVE GREAT OCEAN ROAD	THOM BOEM	24/10/2022
SKYDIVE GREAT OCEAN ROAD	ALEX PEREIRA	3/3/2022 - 23/10/2022
THE SKYDIVE SCHOOL	PAUL MORTON	27/10/2022

## NEW AND NON-RENEWING CLUBS

A new training organisation, The Skydive School was approved to operate in 2022, along with one new non-training organisation, Gold Rush Skydivers.

Learn to Skydive and Skydive Uluru did not renew their membership in 2021/2022.

## PARACHUTE DISPLAYS

There were 141 display notifications lodged in 2021 and 155 in 2022, an increase of 9% from the previous year.



*Archie Jamieson, Cam Cooper and Rodney Benson*

# Our People

## APF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022

### Trevor Collins – Chair

Chair from November 2022; Deputy Chair from July 2015; Member of PBF Committee; Member of ICT Committee.



Trevor was appointed Board Director more than 35 years ago and held the position of Chair of the Board from 2001 to 2008. He is currently Deputy Chair of the Board and an active skydiver of over 45 years. He was the Chief Instructor of Darwin Parachute Club NT for more than 20 years and is an Honorary Life Member of the Club. He is again Chief Instructor of the Club. He is Public Officer of the Darwin Parachute Club and Top End Aerial Sports Association and Area Safety Officer NT for more than 30 years.

In his professional life, Trevor held many project management and program director roles over the years in the NT Government. He was a Director and Owners Representative for seven years in New Future Alliance for the construction and renovation of housing in remote areas of the NT, with an annual turnover of up to \$80m. He is now retired.

Trevor is a Director of two other skydiving related companies and is a Life Member of the APF.

### David Smith – Deputy Chair

Chair from December 2018 (retired Nov 2022); member of the Governance Committee (until November 2020); Chair of Remuneration Committee; Member of Governance Committee (from Nov 2020)



David was appointed Board Director in 2015 after the APF moved to become a company limited by guarantee and the APF President position was abolished. He then went on to be appointed Chair in December 2018. David has 51 years in skydiving having joined the APF in 1968 and was a CI of Wilton Parachute Centre for five years and part-owner of Parachutes Australia for 20 years. David is an expert in parachute certification, manufacture and maintenance and held the position of Director Rigging for 17 years.

David is a pilot, Director of two other skydiving related companies and a Life Member of the APF.

### John Swanland

**Qualifications:**  
Dip Computer Education (Melb);  
M Ed (Melb)  
Chair of the Governance Committee (from Nov 2020)  
John joined the Board of Directors in September 2020.



John is currently serving his sixth term as Chair of the Victorian Tasmanian Parachute Council and is currently serving his fourth term as Treasurer of the same body. John has also served multiple terms as Chair of the Area Board of Review and is currently the appointed APF National Review Officer and Appeals Officer.

In his professional life, John had a long career in education where he was promoted several times to positions including Head of Faculty, Head of Department and Head of School.

After retiring from his professional career at the end of 2007, John now spends much of his time in volunteer and charity work.

### Mark Gazley

Mark was appointed to the Board in 2019.



Mark has been a career skydiver since 1997, prior to this he was involved in retail and logistics management.

Mark is a Chief Instructor and has owned and operated predominantly Tandem DZ's since 2004. He recently opened Malaysia's first commercial skydive operation, a project which challenged him for 4 years. He has represented Australia at 2 WPC's, firstly in 2003, and was a medallist recently in 2018. He also represented Australia on the recent 200 way World Record Vertical attempts.

In the role of Director, his goals are to seek positive change, whilst respecting and progressing the contributions and values of previous generations. Strategies include: The development of systemised sustainable programs, fostering and harnessing the skills/energy of new members and encouraging them to step up and contribute; a more targeted and realistic approach to sport sustainability.

Mark intends to draw from his diverse exposure within skydiving and links within the broader community, to ensure the needs of all members are met.

### Vivian Merz

**Qualifications:**  
Masters in Mathematics;  
Diploma of Paramedical Science  
Member of the Risk and Audit Committee.



Vivian joined the Board in 2019 by election at a meeting of NSWPC members.



## Our People (cont'd)

She has completed 7 years in skydiving, and has coached for 2 years. She also has 100+ hours in vertical wind tunnels.

Vivian's vision for the APF is to increase transparency between the Board, the members and the overall community and to aid sport safety, increase and retain sports jumpers through a prudent and effective governing body in the sport.

Being a former credit risk manager for a large global investment bank, Vivian took up skydiving in 2014, and has since completed over 600 jumps, has competed in various competitions in Europe and Australia, and holds multiple Australian sequential bigway records.

Prior to the appointment onto the Board she held the NSW State Coach role for 18 months and has been actively engaged in coaching and helping develop the sport at a local level.

**Zai Pieper**  
Member of the Funding Committee and Chair of the Rigging Committee.



Zai was elected to the APF Board in May 2021 and has held multiple committee positions including on the Funding Committee, Rigging Committee (Chair), and previously the North Queensland Parachute Council.

Zai is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has worked in the skydiving industry since 2018 having held instructor, DZSO, and DZ management roles in addition to being the owner and Managing Director of a skydiving related company.

**Anna Van Der Vlugt**  
Qualifications: Bach Business – Accounting & Finance, Bach Social Work;



Anna joined the Board in 2018 by election at a meeting of NQPC members and is also the NQPC treasurer.

Upon beginning skydiving in 2007, Anna bought herself the AFF course as a graduation present for completing studies in social work and business.

She has been working full time in the sport since from 2015 to 2020, working in positions from ground crew to Tandem Instructor.

**Heath Baird (resigned December)**  
Qualifications: Associated Diploma & Cert IV – Computers Systems Engineering



Heath was elected to the Board in February 2020 and has 22 years' experience in skydiving. He first received an instructor rating in 2009 and holds a current Instructor rating with endorsements in AFF & Tandem and as a Course Trainer and DZSO.

Heath has worked at several drop zones across Australia and is currently employed as the operations manager and DZSO at an active full training club having previously held the same position at another club.

**Joe Stein (resigned May)**  
Qualifications: Certificate IV in Training and Assessment  
Member of Remuneration Committee



Joe joined the Board in 2019 by election at a meeting of SQPC members.

Joe has been an APF member since 1997. He was a tandem instructor who has competed in two World Championships. He is Operations Manager and Chief Instructor at Skydive Byron Bay.

**Andrew Mulholland – Company Secretary and Public Officer**  
Qualifications: Bach of Economics; Bach of Arts; Fellow FINSIA (ret), Associate CPA Australia (ret) Company Secretary; Public Officer; Chair of Risk & Audit Committee.



Andrew was an APF Board Director from 2015 through to 2018. He was previously the Treasurer of VPC (now VTPC) in the 1990s and President and Treasurer of Commandos Skydivers in the 2000s.

Andrew began skydiving in 1976 and has been a recreational skydiver for over 40 years, with 3200 jumps and 10 years in both instructing and flag and demonstration jumps.

He was on each Australian largest freefall formation record since the 81 way in October 1999, and competed at State, National and International levels.

He holds a commercial pilot licence. Andrew is a Director of two other Skydiving related companies, has been an Awards Committee member and is a Life Member of the APF.

# External Relations

## CIVIL AVIATION SAFETY AUTHORITY (CASA)



### The Deed of Agreement

APF operates under a Deed of Agreement with CASA, for APF to perform certain functions for and on behalf of CASA. In return, CASA provides limited financial assistance. APF's responsibilities under the Deed of Agreement can be summarised as the control and administration of:

- Parachuting Operations – General;
- Parachuting Training Operations;
- Aircraft Operations in Support of Parachuting;
- Parachute Airworthiness.

To achieve the APF's Objects under its Constitution and satisfy the requirements of the Deed of Agreement, APF has the organisational and management systems in place for these functions.

## AIRSERVICES AUSTRALIA



### Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

APF has a formal MOU with AirServices Australia. Its purpose includes facilitating communications and supporting equitable and consistent access to airspace for parachuting operations.

### Drop Zones on Air Navigation Charts

APF notifies AirServices when a drop zone is first established so other airspace users are alerted with a parachute symbol or warning on applicable air navigation charts.

### Publications that deal with Parachuting Operations

APF liaises with AirServices Australia where changes are proposed to (AIP) ENR 5.5 requirements in respect to parachuting operations at Licensed Aerodromes, Class B, C, D and E airspace and CTAFs, and Manual of Air Traffic Services (MATS) 18-3-5 procedures on how ATC will separate jump aircraft from other traffic.

## STATE POLICE, CORONERS & ATSB – FATALITY INVESTIGATION ASSISTANCE



APF has arrangements in place with most States and Territory Police through MOAs. These facilitate efficient and effective relationships with Police and Coroners on investigations involving fatalities and life-threatening injuries resulting from parachuting.

## PARACHUTE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION (PIA)



APF is a member of PIA which sets international standards in respect to certification and ongoing airworthiness requirements for personnel parachutes.



AIR SPORT AUSTRALIA CONFEDERATION

## AFFILIATION TO ASAC AND FAI

APF is the Australian representative for sport parachuting internationally through its membership of the Air Sport Australia Confederation (ASAC) and its affiliation to the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI).

## INTERNATIONAL SKYDIVING COMMISSION (ISC)

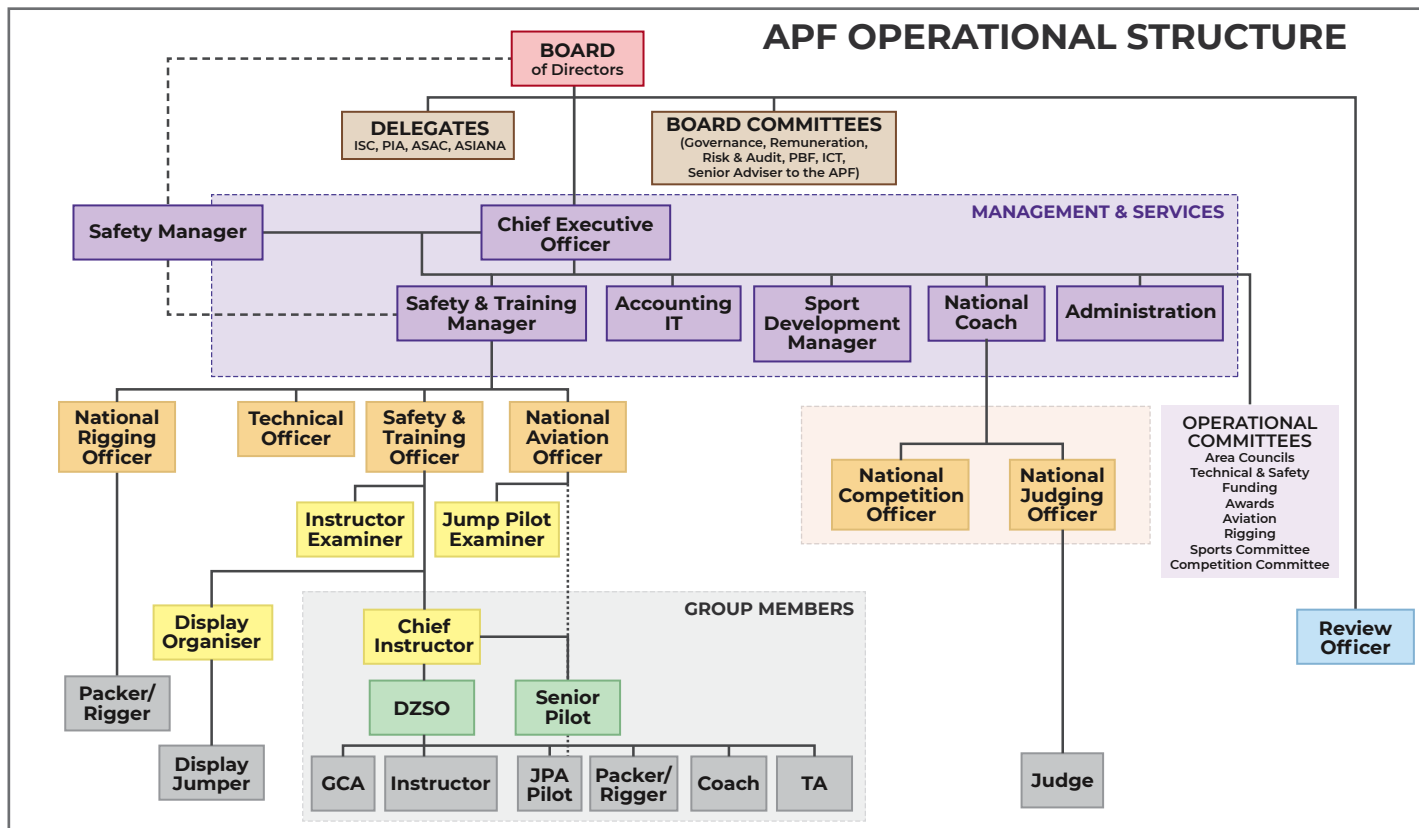


APF holds direct membership of the ISC, being the sport-specific arm of the FAI, which sets the rules for international competition and record-setting within the aviation and aeronautics sphere.

## ISC TECHNICAL & SAFETY COMMITTEE

The ISC Technical and Safety Committee issues Technical and Safety Bulletins and comparison data on worldwide skydiving fatalities. APF uses the comparative fatality data to measure its performance against international peers. ISC documents are linked to the APF website.

# Corporate Governance



Those positions highlighted in yellow are persons who have a responsibility to CASA as a Self Administration Aviation Organisation

## APF BOARD

The Board is bound by the Constitution of APF, as well as ASIC regulations, and facilitates the achievement of the objects of the APF as set out in the Constitution.

The role of the Board is to develop corporate governance and risk management frameworks, monitor organisational performance and compliance, and set strategy to ensure APF is successful in meeting its objectives. Directors individually and the Board as a collective must at all times act in the best interests of the APF as a whole whilst managing the interests of various stakeholders including members, regulators, service providers, employees, and the general public.

The Board's primary responsibility is to govern APF. The Board of Directors, as the governing body, is responsible for accomplishing the strategic task of setting the organisation's goals, direction,

limitations and accountability frameworks. Management is responsible for the allocation of resources and overseeing the day-to-day operations of APF. The Board is required to meet at least four times per year and must develop appropriate delegations of authority to the CEO to ensure effective day to day management of the APF.

The responsibilities of the Board include:

- a. Protect and advance the interests of the APF;
- b. Set the strategy of APF and develop a strategic plan. Approve annual and long-term budgets and significant projects.
- c. Approve annual statements and reports;
- d. Develop governance and compliance frameworks.
- e. Set organisational culture and develop associated policies including a code of conduct and statement of values.
- f. Determine the fees and charges payable by members for services;
- g. Develop and review APF's risk framework and set the organisation's risk appetite and tolerance in each area, including regulatory, financial, market, cyber, reputational, innovative, legal, compliance, and operational risk;
- h. Monitor organisational performance including the integrity and effectiveness of internal controls;
- i. Select, appoint, monitor and terminate, as necessary, the external auditors;
- j. Appoint, review and evaluate the performance and employment of the CEO, including development of a succession plan and executive remuneration policy.
- k. Ensure compliance with all disclosure requirements and agreements with CASA and other regulators;
- l. Develop delegation of authority policy for Management and Board Committees. Approve annual statements and reports;



# Committees

## BOARD COMMITTEES

### Governance Committee

The Governance Committee monitors, reviews and advises the Board on governance issues, including the APF Constitution, Board performance assessment, and regulatory, statutory and policy issues.

Committee members in 2022 were:

- John Swanland (Chair)
- Dave Smith
- Michael Binnie

### Risk and Audit Committee

The Risk and Audit Committee assists the Board in its oversight responsibilities for all matters related to risk management and reporting, external and internal financial audit and financial risk management of the APF. This brief includes operational risks that have significant financial risk consequences. It also includes providing information and advice on risk mitigation initiatives.

Committee members in 2022 were:

- Andy Mulholland (Chair)
- Vivian Merz
- Neil Fergie
- Thea O'Connor

### Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee recommends appropriate performance measures for the CEO and determines his/her remuneration. This committee is responsible for developing criteria for advertisement of the CEO position, and for the conduct of interviews of potential Chief Executive Officers.

Committee members in 2022 were:

- Dave Smith (Chair)
- Trevor Collins
- Mark Gazley
- Joe Stein (resigned 2022)

### Information and Communication Technology Committee

The Information & Communications Technology (ICT) Committee develops objectives and strategies for addressing ICT issues in APF parachuting operations.

Committee members in 2022 were:

- Craig Trimble (Chair)
- Luke Oliver
- Trevor Collins
- Jason Kerr

### ASAO Key Appointed Persons

In accordance with the requirements of CASR Part 149 Approved Self Administration Organisations (ASAO) the APF maintains an online register of those appointed as a Key Appointed Person and those persons who will substitute when the incumbent is absent or cannot carry out the duties of the position.

- Richard McCooey, Part 149 Accountable Manager
- Charl Rootman, substitute Accountable Manager
- Dave Smith, Part 149 Safety Manager
- Trevor Collins, substitute Part 149 Safety Manager

## CEO-APPOINTED COMMITTEES

### Technical and Safety Committee

The Technical and Safety Committee assists with development and implementation of technical and safety matters, including the Safety Management System, and monitors regulatory and statutory operational issues. Its role also includes ensuring that APF has a risk-based approach to change and in monitoring the effectiveness, and possible unintended consequences, of regulatory change. At all times this must be done in full compliance with CASA requirements. The Safety Manager is part of this committee. The Safety Manager is a Board appointment and having one is a CASA requirement. The Safety Manager monitors APFs Safety Management Systems and Surveillance Systems.

The Committee consists of:

- Charl Rootman (Chair)
- Dave Smith, 149 Safety Manager
- Mike Tibbitts, Safety and Training Officer
- Brandon Van Niekerk, Safety and Training Officer
- Chippe Lindberg, Safety and Training Officer
- Mark Edwards, National Aviation Officer
- Brett Newman, National Rigging Officer

# Committees *(cont'd)*

## Aviation Committee

The Aviation Committee develops objectives and strategies for addressing aviation issues in APF parachuting operations. The role of this committee includes the monitoring of compliance with CASR Part 105. Proposed changes to rules and practices must be submitted to the Technical and Safety Committee. This committee also assists the Technical and Safety Committee in developing policy and procedures for aircraft operations and airspace-related matters referred to in the APF Exposition.

Committee members in 2022 were:

- Mark Edwards (Chair)
- Ryan Roche
- Jon McWilliam
- Paul Smith
- Pete Lonnon
- Lloyd Cofield
- Brad Thomas

## Sport Committee

The Sport Committee is tasked with development and implementation of sport skydiving matters in consultation with the CEO. This committee serves as a forum for the sharing and dissemination of ideas relating to maintaining and increasing participation rates in the sport.

Committee members in 2022 were:

- Jules McConnel, National Coach (Chair)

## Sport Development (Area Coaches)

- Mark Higgins, NSW
- Vacant, SQPC
- Tim Kolln, NQPC
- David Bruce, NTPC
- Matthew Muth, SAPC
- Gavin Dell'Oro, VTPC
- Darragh Flynn, WAPC

## Competition

- Richard McCooey (acting), National Judging Officer
- Barrie Bremner, National Judging Officer - resigned
- Mike Dyer, Accuracy Landing
- Melissa Lyle, Artistic Events
- Martin Letch, Canopy Formation
- Selwyn Johnson, Canopy Piloting

- Craig Vaughan, Formation Skydiving
- Tim Golsby-Smith, Vertical Formation Skydiving
- Ash Crick, Speed Skydiving
- Luke Rogers, Wingsuiting
- Jules McConnel, National Coach (resigned 2022)
- Barrie Bremner, National Judging Officer (resigned 2022)
- Cole Ruthenberg, National Competitions Officer (resigned 2022)

## Rigging Committee

The Rigging Committee develops parachute certification and maintenance standards including developing competency standards for persons who will maintain parachutes and assists with associated issues.

Committee members in 2022 were:

- Zai Pieper (Chair)
- Tom Parker
- Jo Chitty
- Brett Newman
- Nathan Potter
- Darren Morgan

## Awards Committee

The Awards Committee assesses nominations and reviews the categories and criteria for awards. The results of its deliberations are put forward as recommendations to the board.

Committee members in 2022 were:

- Mark Gazley (Chair)
- Paul Murphy
- Sandy Nieuwenhoven
- Matt Teager

## Funding Committee

The Funding Committee develops guidelines for sports development grants and provides assistance to the APF on other funding issues as required. The Committee considers applications for certain levels of funding.

These levels are:

- Level 2: Receive, assess and approve applications for the Fiona McEachern Sport Development Fund (FMSDF/Fi Fund) and make recommendations to the CEO or Sport Development Manager

- Level 3: Receive and assess FMSDF applications and make recommendations to the Board.

Committee members in 2022 were:

- Vivian Merz (Chair)
- Mark Szulmayer
- Maybritt Prah
- Zai Pieper
- Luke Oliver

### **Performance Based Funding**

The Performance Based Funding (PBF) Committee develops guidelines for Performance Based Funding.

The purpose of this committee is to ensure that APF has a relevant, respected and user-friendly funding system relating to the support of elite athletes.

The committee is responsible for ensuring that the information published on the APF website is correct and up to date.

The committee is responsible for making relevant funding recommendations to the CEO based on published guidelines.

Committee members in 2022 were:

- Trevor Collins (Chair)
- Jules McConnel
- Archie Jamieson

### **Area Council Committees**

APF Councils are established under the authority of the Constitution of the Australian Parachute Federation Ltd as committees established by the APF Board.

The activities and performance of the Councils can be perused by reviewing the minutes of council meetings. Additionally, all members are welcome and encouraged to attend and become involved at council meetings where various positions and opportunities exist each year.

Current area councils are:

- North Queensland Parachute Council
- South Queensland Parachute Council
- New South Wales Parachute Council

- Victorian Tasmanian Parachute Council
- South Australian Parachute Council
- Western Australian Parachute Council
- Northern Territory Parachute Council

### **APF National Officers**

The National Officers' main function is to provide technical expertise to the APF industry 'experts' in key specific operational areas.

In 2022, the following members held National Officer positions:

- Mark Edwards, National Aviation Officer
- Brett Newman, National Rigging Officer
- Richard McCooey (acting), National Judging Officer
- Mike Tibbitts, Safety and Training Officer
- Brandon Van Niekerk, Safety and Training Officer
- Chippe Lindberg, Safety and Training Officer
- Cole Ruthenberg, National Competitions Officer (Resigned 2022)
- Barrie Bremner, National Judging Officer (Resigned 2022)

## **OTHER KEY APPOINTED PERSONNEL**

### **Delegates to ASAC**

Richard McCooey  
Grahame Hill (Alt)

### **ISC Delegates**

Gail Bradley  
Mark Szulmayer (Alt)

### **National Review Officer**

John Swanland

### **Delegates to ASIANIA**

Ray Williams  
Graeme Windsor (Alt)

### **PIA Delegates**

Brett Newman  
Jo Chitty (Alt)





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*Cover image: Jeremy Brazier*