

Outcomes: 15 February Board Meeting

The first Board meeting for 2022 was held by video conference on 15 February. While the budget for 2022 was provisionally approved in November, the Board had asked Management what fee increases should be considered to meet the income shortfall expected to continue until mid to late 2022.

A decision was made to increase short-term membership charges from \$17 to \$18 with immediate effect and, APF will discontinue the early-bird discount for those renewing in June rather than on 1 July. Club membership will increase by \$100pa for training and \$50pa for non-training operations from 1 July. Rather than in-person conferences being held, these will be online and, Board meetings will continue via video conference with only one meeting being face-to-face in the next 12 months – all to save money. Reducing travel also reduces the APF carbon footprint.

The Board and Operational Committee Charters was updated and approved. An updated Board Charter was also approved. These are now available on the website. A new document change management policy that CASA requires APF to implement was Board-endorsed. This should see APF being allowed to use a risk-based-approach to internally-approve many of its operational documents rather than having these submitted to CASA for approval.

Two risk-management initiatives were put forward for possible introduction. A committee has been set up to explore the issue of "fit and proper" and how it may be revised and applied in the future. A second initiative is to seek to reduce the risk of Worker's Compensation Insurers investigating incidents and accidents on Drop Zones where contractor/employees and student parachutists are injured.

At each Board meeting, Directors review the level of activity by jump type, male versus female, by Council Area/Drop Zone, and the issue of certificates which gives the Board and Management a picture of how APF is travelling.

Apart from the much-reduced activity across the country due to lack of international visitors, a pleasing trend is the significant number of AFF first jumps which should translate in an increase in full term members to replace those who have abandoned the sport when COVID prevented jumping. Over time this same increase in new members will need to be encouraged to join the skydiving workforce as instructors/packers, etc to replace those who also left seeking alternative employment opportunities.

The Board authorised the Returning Officer to conduct elections for South Australia and West Australia for two Director positions that become vacant at the May 2022 AGM of Federation Members. The next AGM will be held by videoconference on the same day as the May Board Meeting.