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magazine

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Formation
Record

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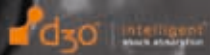
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Australia's new Canopy Formation record, a 36-way Diamond, over Nagambie DZ, Victoria. The photographer was very patient, waiting about one mile upwind for 10 minutes while the formation built, then flew towards the formation (on his Vengeance canopy with a tailwind) with only one chance to get the money shot.

Photographer: Steve Fitchett



Rick Meerkin stylin' through the hoop to celebrate his 300th jump, over Toogoolawah DZ during a Learning Curve Camp. Rick started jumping in the 60s and made 250 jumps in that era. Since the POPS World Championships in Australia last year, Rick got inspired to lose weight and get back in the air again after a long 30 year break.

Hoop holder and photographer: Belgium Steve Geens

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Editorial

What a wonderful time of year for jumping; the change of season when skydivers all around the country embrace picture postcard weather with moderate temperatures and clear skies. Even in the extreme temperatures of our seasons, from tropical drop zones in the far northern reaches and 6,000 kilometres south to Tasmania, in Australia we jump all year around; 'tis always the season to be jolly jumpers. We're the lucky country indeed; spare a thought for those European countries and North American States where most jumpers have been in hibernation for the best part of the year or the fortunate ones who spent a lot to become tunnel rats or jetsetting boogie pimps. Wherever jumpers are in the world, rest assured they are making the most of their situation, because that's what we do; we're resourceful, energetic people, with a one track mind – let's job!



Train them young I say

This season marks two special jumping anniversaries: 30 years of Ramblers Drop Zone at Toogoolawah in June and 30 years of the Territory Rel Week in July. Diamond formations will surely be the flavour of the jumping festivities. Further, next year the Newcastle Sport Parachute Club, Commandos and the APF will all celebrate their golden 50th anniversaries! Keep an eye out for these historical events; hopefully they will encourage some of the retired jumpers to dust off their rigs and rediscover their love of the sport.

As the seasons change, our passion for skydiving remains constant; it still tickles our fancy and gives us a spring in our stride. Not even the change in financial climate can dampen our spirits, we still want more and this country has it on a silver platter; enjoy.

Susie Mc

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The Editor retains the right to withdraw any advertisement, article, photo or other at her discretion and does not accept liability for delay in publication or for errors, although every care is taken to avoid mistakes.

The information in this magazine was, to the best of our ability, correct at the time of going to press. Production and mailing takes a total of 5 weeks, so some information may be out of date or superseded.

Photos submitted will be returned if supplied with a self-addressed stamped envelope.

The parameters of the Australian Parachute Federation lie in sport

parachuting operations from aircraft and while the APF is aware that parachuting descents are being made from other than aircraft, APF rules do not cover these descents and the APF are not in a position to control them. Note: The ASM may include BASE jumping, providing the APF does not appear to condone the activity.

Pursuant to my contract with the APF in relation to the publication of Australian Skydiver Magazine, I am required to make a general statement about the nature of any pecuniary interest that I have in a particular brand of parachuting equipment, service or event being promoted in ASM. I am a Director of Toogoolawah Drop Zone Pty Ltd and I am a part-time employee of Ramblers Parachute Centre which organises various events and is a dealer for various equipment, some of which companies advertise in the ASM from time to time.

DEADLINES

Contribution Deadlines

10th June, 2009
15th August, 2009

On the Streets

End July, 2009
End September, 2009

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Curtis Morton
Sam Moss
Julie Nichol
Daryl Norris
Jay Norris
Yoko Okasaki
Milly Onis
Andrew Preston
Mike Rae
Bella Smart
Dave Smith
Howard White

MAIL CHUTE



Hi ASM,

Long time reader first time writing in... Here is a pic of my Dad and me (Greg Puttick and Nicole Dunne) doing my first tandem jump, looking at doing my AFF very soon. Thought you guys would like a copy of the pic for the ASM mag.

This tandem was done over Innisfail in Far North Queensland, the photo was taken by Sam Firth.

This was the best experience of my life and I can't wait to see this sport grow and be apart of that new growth by getting my AFF started as soon as I can!

Thank you, Nicole Dunne



Hi Susie,

I have been reading the ASM for the past 12 months or so as my partner is a skydiver and receives the magazine. It's a great read! Fantastic pictures, interesting stories and invaluable incident reports, which help improve the safety of the sport.

I have been doing my AFF Course at Moruya and wanted to send in a thank you note to the staff at Moruya. They deserve a pat on the back for their contribution to my and many others' experience as newcomers to the sport.

I hope that you might be willing to publish this as an encouragement to all the drop zone operators that probably don't get enough praise for the fantastic job which most of them do.

Sincerely, Matt Baker, AFF Student

Hi ya Susiebabe,

My boy Jay turned 10 on the 14th February and taking advantage of the waiver we went for a lob here in Cairns on the last load of the day on Sunday 15th. We jumped from the Navajo aircraft with Jack Noordyk on camera.

He loved it all apart from my customary forward roll on exit - pretty emphatic about that bit so I will remove that from my routine from now on for first time jumpers. Well, most of them anyway!

We are both very happy about the waiver and look forward to a reduction or removal of the blanket lower age limit and it's replacement with a more reasonable guideline.

He wrote some words for ASM.... **Daryl Norris**



"I am glad that I actually got a chance to jump because I was waiting a very long time for this. My Dad took me on the jump for my 10th birthday. I think that 9 year olds would be able to enjoy jumping. I think freefall was the best bit, the parachute ride was good too. I also enjoyed looking down. When my Dad offered for me to fly it I refused. It was cool to see Jacko flying in front with the camera. He was smiling a lot. When the chute opened it pulled me up a bit. I really want to do it again!" **From Jay Norris**

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HELP OUR COMPETITORS – BECOME AN ETERNAL MEMBER OF THE APF

How about this - what if there was a new class of membership that gives you **Eternal Membership** in the APF. That is, your membership continues into the afterlife. I can hear you say – but why?

Let's say you become an **Eternal Member** and afterwards fall off the perch. I'm thinking that in the afterlife you can carry on jumping. With the special privileges of **Eternal Membership** after your death, all jumps would be free. Reserve parachutes do not need repacking – after all what's the point; also there is no DZSO to ground you – if by chance you opened low – again, what's the downside in opening low anyway? Sound mildly interesting – but definitely quirky?

Well, now that I have aroused your curiosity, let me tell you the real purpose of this little aside. First, let me explain how our national parachute team is given financial assistance – and then suggest one as yet untried avenue, ie **Eternal Membership** – to significantly boost funding available for competitors.

Now for a brief explanation of funding sources and criteria:

Direct assistance by the APF: The APF covers competition entry fees and uniforms and some part of the Team managers costs and provides some money for miscellaneous expenses. This is for World Parachuting Championships but, sometimes, second-level World Cup competitions are provided with some assistance for uniforms. This funding comes from APF general revenue.

Team Fund: Donations by members, and friends of members, go towards the next competing Australian Team. A donation can be for a specifically named team or the whole team. Money comes in at membership renewal time or leading up to a competition.

APTAC Team Trust: The Australian Parachute Team Advancement Company (APTAC) Team Trust provides financial support for the Australian Parachute Team – expressly for training – for FAI sanctioned world parachuting championships. Funding is based on performance guidelines of the team and the performance of the underlying investments of the Trust. Money comes from earnings on investments from a pool of money donated years ago, essentially, in exchange for Life Membership. There is very little donated to the Trust these days and this is a problem!

Tax Deductible Donations: Under certain conditions, donations can be tax deductible. If made directly to the Australian Sports Foundation this is possible because ASF is not obliged to pass it onto APF although it generally does respect your request. Make enquiries of APF Office if you want further information on ASF.

Now let's go back to the Eternal Membership proposition.

I am one of six APTAC Trustees and I have a way you can help boost the size of this fund – through a bequest in your Will or an undertaking (Codicil) over your estate. In appreciation of such a generous gesture, I propose you will receive **Eternal Membership of the APF** and an impressive certificate confirming this and the privileges it confers.

Why would you do this: Early last year the APTAC Team Fund almost reached the magic \$1,000,000 in investments due to the exceptional performance of the share market in the preceding 15 years. And, we gave \$130,000 to last year's Australian Team because the underlying investments had been doing well and our team's prospects were good.

The market has now turned – and the trust fund has dropped in value. We need to grow the fund by encouraging cash donations and bequests. It's a perpetual trust where grants come exclusively from earnings – so the capital base remains intact. Our capital base now needs a boost.

How to proceed: Make a cash donation if you can through ASF. These are tax deductible. Otherwise consider the alternative of a bequest.

While most people leave their property and money to family members – some do not have family and leave their estate to a charity like the RSPCA, Salvation Army, a museum, a church, a university, and sometimes a sporting club for a particular purpose. If no Will exists there is a pre-determined order for distribution of a deceased person's estate and, if no family exists the Government gets it all!

So, if you love the sport – are maybe a former competitor – and want to give something back to benefit future competitors, then consider specifying this in your Will. A bequest of this kind can be money or property. All such bequests will be invested to grow the Team Trust.

Need help with your donation or bequest?: I would really love to see some former jumper come out of the woodwork and make a donation or bequest of a few hundred thousand dollars and really give the trust a boost. That might not happen but it would be great.

Phil Hindley was the Trust Manager for many years and his vision was to have enough money to fully fund every team every year. Ambitious to say the least! Having said that, I would like to see his vision become a reality, someday. Give if you can, please.

Email me on dave@airsafetysolutions.com.au if you would like my help in setting up a bequest.

Dave Smith, APF President / APTAC Trustee



Congratulations to all those who recently competed in our National Championships in Canopy Piloting (Picton, NSW), Accuracy, Style and Sport Accuracy (La Trobe, VIC) and Formation Skydiving, Artistics and Canopy Formation (Picton, NSW). Altogether, 135 competitors challenged in these different events.

Sport Accuracy and Vertical Formation Skydiving (VFS) joined our competition schedule for the first time this year. Sport Accuracy was held as a test event last year and the rules developed were based originally on the POPS rules but modified for general "consumption". VFS rules came from the IPC and this year we used the intermediate dive pool to try to entice more teams to compete. All these rules are in our Sporting Code.

New rules have been set internationally at the IPC meeting in January. Some of these rules will be adopted following the competitor's meetings held at Nationals and the annual Board meeting, so a new APF Sporting Code will be available by the end of June. A brief summary of the IPC Changes appear elsewhere in the edition.



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It has been a busy period for Instructor Courses throughout Australia since the last APF Conference in Sydney. With a couple more advertised before May 09 we are well and truly into double digits for a 12 month period.

I have been fortunate enough to attend almost half of these including a dedicated IB DZO course held in Cairns in late March. Developed and headed up by course trainer Paul Osborne, this syllabus addressed the qualifications and skills necessary to act as a DZSO at a high volume Tandem operation based close to a major airport. Although the standard first jump course component was not included this was no "walk in the park". Teaching techniques, lesson plans, lesson presentation and practical skills were all covered specific to the requirements of the rating. Long days followed by a lot homework coined the often used phrase of "brain fry" amongst the eight candidates. After a week of hard work the exams were done and the course graduated. Congratulations to Mike Howell, Wayne Bishop, Ronny Perry, Sam McKay, Damien Johnson, Andrew Knowles, Cameron Cooper and Karl Eitrich on a job well done. Kudos too to IPC Glen Bolton for facilitating the entire operation as well as looking after all the logistics. Finally, thanks to the examination panels (2) Glen Bolton, Todd Gerard, Toby Turner, Cameron Sherrington, Keiron Rundle and Max Wallace, who put in a massive ten hour day to get the job done. My thanks to Paul for this innovative course and to all for the opportunity to participate.

Mike Carre, APF Director Instructors



The Performance Based Funding Guidelines are also being reviewed and some changes will be made for next year.

Congratulations to all those who set new records in the last year, both in the performance and competition categories.

Now is the time to take stock of your skydiving competition goals and to make plans and new teams for next year as we head out of this competition year and into the next, an "on" year, when we compete to be part of the Australian team and to represent our country in our sport.

A special congratulations and wishes go to Rob McMillan (Canopy Piloting) who will be Australia's only representative at the World Air Games to be held in Turin in June and will also represent Australia in the World Games in Kaioshung, Taiwan in July. Team Oookoonono (Michael Vaughan, Jules McConnel and Craig Bennett) will also represent Australia in Canopy Formation in Taiwan. These athletes were chosen based on their placings at the World Parachuting Championships in 2008.

Happy competing,

Fiona McEachern, Director Competitions



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DIAMOND QUEST

36-Way Australian Canopy Formation Record

1-8 March, 2009

By Tom Begic Outside Photos: Steve Fitchett (www.fitchimages.com), Wayne McLachlan & Pam Pangburn

Detailed information about the record can be found at: www.canopyformation.info

The momentum is growing in Australian big way CF. Make that any way CF. In the end, lots of little ways make a big way. Hot on the heels of the 2007 Australian 25-way diamond record at Toogoolawah and the 2007 World Record at Lake Wales in Florida, it was about time to have another attempt at increasing the size of Australia's largest-ever CF formation.

Bigger formations are becoming easier to build because our pool of knowledge, skilled jumpers and tutors and compatible

equipment is growing. This is the direct result of years of hard work from organisers, tutors, and great coaches who have driven the sport forward in Australia. Coupled with great support from the APF and the various State Councils, and CRW friendly Drop Zones means that all those keen new CRW pups out there are seeing the CRW light.

Starting in early 2008, a number of CF seminars were run around the country as lead ups to this event. Places such as Nagambie, Toogoolawah, York, Batchelor, Lower Light, and Moruya were struck by Lightning of the PD variety - the canopy of choice for big way CF formations.

The momentum reached critical mass when most of the 48 participants circled up (Dipsy, that's your cue for a big "Yeehaa") on Sat 28th Feb to be introduced to the organisers, coaches and a host of new faces that we had not seen before.

There were a few immediate highlights for me. Present were almost double the number of participants from the last attempt and we were missing 8 people from the 25-way record! And not only were there old faces who had not done CF in years, but CF pups with not many jumps, passion in their eyes and talent to burn. They are the future of our sport and the following week would show that the future of Australian CF is bright! The fact that I had to wear shades for the week had nothing to do with the rain and low cloud!

The weekend started off slowly due to lift capacity, weekend jumping commitments and the obligatory wheeling, dealing and reconfiguring of CF gear, characteristic of all big way attempts. CF can be an equipment intensive sport – hook knives, line burn proof gloves, personally configured risers, nappy bags for large mains, weights, outer a/b lazy lines, vet wrap tape, kill cones, spider / mesh sliders No wonder they don't like cameras in formations! Lucky the old CF dogs are there to teach the new CF pups equipment tricks – and wear cameras.

We adopted principles and techniques for both equipment and dive engineering which were the foundation of the World Record attempts for the last five years. This meant using a canopy that would give us a wing loading around 1.30 to 1.375 to maximise compatibility. A game of musical canopies ensued and each jumper almost invariably ended up with a canopy which they had not jumped before. There are exceptions of course. Even after he lost almost half his size in weight in order to slim down for his tandem rating, Dipsy could not let go of his pin slot. He was happy to wear 11kg to maintain the position up at the top next to Mitch on a 218 canopy. Is anything going on with you two guys?

Australian 36-Way Canopy Formation Record Team - Immediately after the record jump.



36-Way Australian Canopy Formation Record

On the first official day of jumping, jumpers were paired in similar canopy sizes, preferably a more experienced jumper with a newer jumper. The focus for the two ways were: develop currency & experience, learning to fly the canopy you were given, adjusting the canopy setup (riser grips, canopy trim, pilot chute contraction) and most importantly, learning the art of wing docking by docking stair steps.

The wing dock would be performed mainly by the bottom person and can be broken down into five steps: approach, setup position, dock, catch and fly-in-formation. The top person would get heading, piloting and catching practice, and sometimes learning how to wear a Lightning like a toga. Two-ways are a safer way of learning wing docks as the pilot can readily adjust for rough docks. It's easier to get out of your toga when you're only wearing one.

This becomes more difficult for 3-ways and bigger. The exercise proved valuable and necessary. The way big-ways build these days – by approaching from the sides rather than from below to dock – means that every person on the record attempt (except the pilot) is effectively performing a wing dock on the person who takes the initial grip on the canopy of the person docking.

On the second day we got 5 to 6 jumps in each and graduated to 3-way snakes. The second person would now get practice at flying a wing and catching without having to worry about piloting.

Chris Gay emphasised very strongly the need to control the dock on the bottom of the snake or the wings as they were a higher potential for wrapping. There was also some mention that small-ways were the time to find out your limits – speed or otherwise. Sequential wings are a little different to rotations plane docks. You need to stop when you dock and you can't just grab a handful of whatever lines are given to you. Some of the formations ended up looking like kiddies' Christmas presents – all wrapped up in colourful nylon. That day resulted in a number of reserve rides due to messy docks and unstable formations, lost shoes, about seven recoverable wraps and a few out landings. Sharky, who has no limits, and Pauley B took this to heart... Dipsy copped a Lightning hat from Sharky, threw him off and was alarmed to see Sharky coming back for another bite. All of this makes you realise why,

according to some, drop zone operators never check reserve cards at CF boogies – if they are not already in date, they will be by the end of the week!

Dimensions

- Height of Formation approximately: 40 metres
- Width of Formation approximately: 27 metres
- Weight of Formation approximately: 3,500 kg
- Wing Loading Range: 1.300 to 1.375
- Canopies: 5,568 ft² of canopies
 - 218 x 2
 - 193 x 2
 - 176 x 4
 - 160 x 9
 - 143 x 13
 - 126 x 5
 - 113 x 1

Cameron Cooper & Jody Blunden wrap & double cutaway



16-way practice for leftovers



Next, the 4-way base and stingers started practicing and ironing out their issues. Later in the day some 9-ways were sent up. For the record to happen, we needed each successive diamond to complete in a set time. The 4-way in a minute, 9-way in two minutes and the 16-way in approximately 3 minutes. The key for us would be a fast 16-way built by around 10000 ft. This would give the remaining two echelons or lines on each side, plenty of time to complete the formation. Whilst the base nine were practicing their job, the remaining jumpers would continue working on their wing docking and catching skills.

A great deal of time was spent with the group debriefing each and every dive. We finished our briefing at 9.30pm on the third night. It was not only important to provide feedback to the actual jumpers, but to learn from other people's experience. Most people improved greatly through the day.

The newer jumpers were just starting to "ah ha" about the other canopy control inputs – those not including the toggles! They were learning about cross control (opposite front riser and toggle), patiently using risers to drive to the slot, adding rear riser links to reduce float or fronts to increase it, the impact of high drag jumpsuits or inflating pilot chutes on canopy performance, brake settings and how they impact the use of front risers, setting up adjacent to a formation and maintaining the setup point using all available controls, and many other things. Nothing teaches a person more about canopy performance than sitting two feet behind a large canopy formation and not being able to dock onto it. Again, all of this work was necessary to prevent this from happening when the big-way goes up.

Dirt diving the 26 way



Breaking down a 16-way



By the end of the day, many participants were getting very sore arms from front riser all the way down from 14000 feet. The next CF record attempt should involve a couple of months in the gym as well.

Tuesday the 3rd March was forecast a long way out as a high fire risk day. Victorian schools were out, the Victorian Police issued fire warnings via SMS and visibility from dry dust blowing everywhere was down to metres

at some times. Twenty minutes down the road, there was ash blowing around amidst the dust. Whilst we were disappointed not to make training jumps, it was an opportunity to reflect on the disaster that occurred just down the road and to appreciate what we were doing. There were strong winds, light rain, cloud cover and dust storms.

We used the day to repair and reconfigure our equipment, dirt dive a number of 5 to 12-way formations and discuss big ways

in detail. The world expert on big formation arching, Sarge, gave an entertaining, yet enlightening briefing about formation internals. Participants learned how each person can affect the formation flight characteristics by body position and docking & catching techniques.

The formation is designed to fly slightly faster at the top and centreline, whereas the wings are designed to fly slower. The idea is

to prevent the wings from overtaking the formation and collapsing into the centre like a giant eggbeater. When the big-way points out, it is as though the formation is falling forward in a hard arch. Given the same wing loading, bigger canopies generally have a better glide ratio and forward speed. By default, the wing loading specification and positioning of canopies means that bigger jumpers are at the top of the formation and down the centreline. Just like freefall, the base is big and fast. The smaller canopies are placed on the outermost wings and their lock ups towards the bottom of the formation. People at the top and middle wear slick jumpsuits and the outer wings and their lockups where higher drag jumpsuits. The outer wings may also apply some outer front riser to turn the canopy out and some inner brake to increase the drag of the canopy. But whatever you do, make sure to arch, right Sarge?

There were more "ah ha's" from our newer jumpers as they have begun understanding the degree of technical information that our coaches were imparting to us. This big-way stuff is not just a case of slamming a few canopies together. It is a complete living aeronautical engineering masterpiece when you get it right. Just think of the canopies as the panels of a wing and the jumpers as the nuts, bolts and rivets. Maybe just the nuts if the next day was anything to go by...

The following day we finally got a few bigger loads up. Chris and Brian were piloting some 12 and 13-ways whilst Sarge, Jules, Coops and I took some smaller loads up. People and slots were changed so that jumpers could get experience at various slots and be assessed for the record attempt.

Coops and Jody B had a nice double cutaway after a messy off centre dock. There were a few shining lights in new slots. Split did a great job of his first and second row 3 wing docks, as did Trent on the other side. A number of the lock ups were consistent.

Then the forecast increasing winds interfered with our progress. We were back on the ground. Time and opportunity was really starting to run out. The organisers had seen glimpses of skill and performance that made them confident that most participants were safe enough to attempt a larger formation.

Several 16 and 17-ways were briefed and sent up early the following morning. One was the base and the other contained all the fearless newbies who would have to dock on it once they saw it for the first time. As in previous record attempts, the leftovers seemed to do a better job earlier on than the intended base.

Age

- Youngest person (Trent Argus): 23 y/o.
- Oldest person (Peter Barnett): 63 y/o.
- Average Age: 38 y/o
- Tom Begic had his B'Day (38th) the day after the record!

The Jump

- Formation: 36-way Diamond
- Exit Height: 14,000 ft
- Break Off Height: 4,000 ft
- Build Time: approximately 7.5 mins
- Formation Held For: 25 seconds
- Descent Rate: Approx. 1,200 feet per min.
- Aircraft:
 - Lead plane was a PAC 750XL (flown by Mark) dropping BASE at 14,000 feet.
 - Chase plane was a Skyvan (flown by Biggsy) dropping the remaining jumpers immediately after the base.
 - Extra camera persons were dropped by a Cessna 182L (flown by Don) several thousand feet lower.

The Military Guys - Daniels, Thamm, Brauman, Gray



The team after the record jump



36-Way Australian Canopy Formation Record

36-Way Record Formation just starting to break off in a starburst.



It's a shame you can't shave 20 kilos off some people without causing too much damage. That would solve a lot of selection problems! The leftovers completed a 16-way diamond whilst the base was having problems with a floaty row 3 wing and incompatible pilot's canopy. This was swiftly fixed by swapping a few people and canopies around.

There are two main goals with these bigger formations: one is to show people who have never seen something this big what it looks like and to get a feel of how it is moving, where to set up, what approach to use and how to control the "awe" of the situation. The other is obviously to increase the size of the base and make any adjustments as required. The "wows" and smiles showed that people were impressed.

These formations involved two aircraft, the Pac750XL dropping the base at 14,000 ft and Don Cross in the Cessna 182 at 10,000 ft. It was time for the pilots to start learning about how to fly formation for a big-way CF record. Complexity would be added when the Skyvan was thrown into the mix as chase plane dropping the leftovers out at 14,000 ft.

The cloud base dropped to below 1,500 ft and it was once again time to hang our rigs up for another poor weather day.

A series of briefings were held during our downtime. Videos were shown from the 100-way world record with detailed explanations about techniques. We also held an open CF forum to discuss the future. Chris chaired this and asked some of the experienced jumpers (Chris Gay, Sarge, GB, Vaughany, Jules & myself) to discuss our key tips about learning CF. The main points were: do 2-way sequential, learn and practice your safety procedures and get coaching.

We awoke on Friday morning and guess what? Low cloud cover and some rain and not many days to go. At this time the group were starting to get really bored and frustrated. There had not been many jumps made since the start of the camp. The organisers and coaches were doing a great job maintaining motivation and focus on the job at hand. This would ultimately prove vital in the final days.

What do bored CF dogs do in their spare time: drink lots of refreshments, catch up on work, suggest jumping alternatives (like ground launching the formation in strong winds or changing drop zones), rigging, pots and chops, catch up on sleep, detox, retox, play games with weird electrical gadgets (the circle of light, 3rd eye, other), glue a 36-way bourbon way on the hanger walls, play tricks on each other, tamper with other people's food, ring up Arnie to tell him we needed him, etc.

Finally, a reconnaissance load went up and deemed conditions as jumpable. The bigger-ways were sent up and the anticipation of the last few days showed. It seemed everyone wanted to get a dock in as fast as possible in case the weather turned sour again. Sarge was involved in two wrap incidents. On the second one he was in a situation very

similar to the tragic circumstances at the WR 100-way attempts. One of the learning's from that incident is that it's much easier to repair a few suspensions lines than a human. After some conversation with his wrap partner Pricey, the glistening blades of Sarge's hook knife starting shredding through many canopy lines. Pricey ended up chopping from an 80 ft² Lightning with an in built turn and a huge LHS inverted stabilizer, if you get my drift! I think Pricey was worried that Sarge was going to cut his throat as well as the lines!

A briefing followed this jump and a few personnel changes were made.

People

- Australians on 36-way: 29 (80.6%).
- Foreigners on 36-way: 7 (19.4%). 3 x NZ (Pete B, GB, Gary C), 2 x USA (Chris G, Brian P), 1 x Belgium (Steve G), 1 x Britain (Dean B). See 16.1.7 of Sporting Code.
- Each state and territory of mainland Australia was represented on the record attempt. *Only NT & Tas missed out on the 36 way.*
- 1 Female on 36 way: Jules McConnel
- Least Jumps: Trent Argus ~120.
- Most Jumps: Chris Gay ~12,000+
- 6 jumpers on the 36-way had less than 300 jumps experience each
- Record Attempt People: 52 (46 jumpers, 3 camera, 3 judges), 44 males & 8 females.



Vaughany dragging a trash plane off a bi-plane



was to allow them a look at what they were going to dock on and adjust formation setups. There were a few problems with split times in the base which really stymied this attempt. Chris brought reality into the picture and stated that anyone who did not perform as expected, follow instructions, or were unsafe, would be benched. The pressure was now really on as we had moved from learning environment to getting the job done. The next load went up. As we were approaching jump run, I got up and turned around to face the front of the aircraft. I saw the look on the face of Trent Argus. Trent had the longest split on the previous jump, was the youngest person and had the least jumps of anyone at this camp (somewhere around 120) so you could tell from the colour and expression of his face the kind of pressure he was feeling. I was tempted to climb towards him and check his pulse. Instead I gave him a big smile and thumbs up. His mouth copied my expression, but he kept his lips tight to prevent

The formation size was increased and the loads went up again. The calm and performance improved dramatically. The leftovers did a great job completing an 18-way and the base built to 23. Finally, a 26-way was sent up at the end of the day. Not much hype from the participants or crowd about this jump except for the fact it was successful and it was a new Australian record! Once everyone realised what they had achieved, a few celebrations were had. This is testament to how focused the group were to the job at hand.

We debriefed, had dinner and then the newly invigorated masses talked up their achievements for the day. Meanwhile, in a secret location, the organising committee and coaches plotted and planned the following days jumping. There were two days of the camp left and not a lot of opportunity.

The following morning, 7 March 2009, at our usual 7am circle up, it was announced that we would have our first attempt at a 36-way diamond formation. This shocked some participants. Several of the participants pulled out as they felt that they were not mentally ready to dock onto something so big, especially considering the lack of jumps made during the week. Everyone nervously waited to hear their names called. Naturally, there was a wave of emotion as some people made it and some didn't.

The first load went up and built to 30 people. Although we didn't get the magic 36, it was still the biggest canopy formation in Australia's history. The row 6s had a "freebie" on this one and were not expected to complete the formation. This first attempt

all those birds from coming out of his belly. He did just fine on the jump and was one of the most relieved and excited people when we landed. That shows gutsy competition instinct. Great job Trent!

We exited. The 4-way base was quickly swallowed up by the 9-way. After days of ordinary performances from the base nine, it was humming now. The wings were all leading their echelons into good positions. The importance of the wing position was highlighted by the fact that every wing person on the 36-way had competed at a CF World Championship and had been on previous big-way record attempts. All the lesser-experienced jumpers were positioned in lock off slots in the internal parts of the formation.

Chris Gay had given me permission to shoot some inside stills in this formation. Sarge had a Rhino cam on his helmet. I waited until my row four wing had been locked off and stabilised before taking some shots.

Great visuals were to be seen everywhere. Over to my right were Matt Berens and Sarge with strong arches and grips on the lower canopies. Some people further down were sneaking peaks below. Brian was already docked on the row four wing and the RHS echelons were in good position alongside the formation. GB was leading his row five wings towards the formation. Jules was up in front with her team. It was a similar visual on the other side. Higgo was leading his troops in from the left and was docking and being locked off while Vaughany was repositioning the left row 6 echelon adjacent to the formation. It was like the canopies were connected by a rubber band to the base.



Kim Hedley piloting a quad



Stair step docking practice



36-Way Australian Canopy Formation Record

The new CF pups were doing a great job. Most had not done a 4-way diamond prior to this camp and now they were in the process of creating a 36-way diamond.

When the 16-way diamond pointed, the formation stretched out and lurched forward a little. This was amplified when the 25-way completed. The experienced big-way people had talked about this feeling but it was an entirely new experience for everyone else. It signifies both completion of diamonds and a healthy fast formation. Matt Berens knew straight away, looked my way, nodded with approval and smiled. Things were looking good.

The bottom canopies were docking onto the formation, creating a huge wall of canopies - just like a brick layer would lay bricks. Again, the formation started spreading. Peter Barnett, the oldest member of the team, docked 36th and the loud sounds of complete were being shouted around the formation.

The jump was not over yet. After a slightly off-beat count down, we starburst on cue, flying controlled and tight and without incident. Steve Fitchett has a great photo of all 36 canopies right on starburst.

The Americans were "yeehaaing", the underground movement were "whoohooing" and the establishment were just plain happy. We did it! We just needed to land safely and for our judges to officially confirm what we already knew.

Chris and Brian had already started swapping other people into the formation, a good sign that the formation was OK, even though we were still waiting on the last judge, Kirstie, to OK the jump from interstate.

We got the official OK, congratulated each other and then went up for another jump. We wanted everyone at the camp to get a record. Our rules state that if the same record is completed on the same day with different people, all people would be accredited with the record. And everyone at the camp deserved a 36-way regardless.

Wayne walking all over Dipsy



The next base 16 was hot. It completed in 3,000 ft and impressed Chris Gay no end. We were on world record pace. We had the left side of the formation and the right row 6 wing on making a 30-way. Jules never got locked off on her side and we had to starburst the formation. The following attempt was progressing well until a toggle came off in the base 16-way. The formation never recovered from this. We were to send up one final load, but we ran out of aircraft fuel and time.

It was decided to hang up our hook knives and start celebrating what turned out to be a very successful week of big way CF in Australia.

Where to from here?

Every aspect of this record attempt was fantastic to be a part of. The group of jumpers all got along together. Clique was not evident. It felt like an American Drop Zone (i.e. great service and even us CF dogs being looked after). We reached all of our major goals despite being hamstrung by poor weather. Everyone was supportive of one another, even those who were disappointed not to get the record. Some needed extra support and they will be a big part of the next attempt.

All the new jumpers progressed significantly. There were many at the camp who do not have a CF crest but were still a part of a 36-way. We have several teams looking at future World Meets - Jules & Vaughany will continue with 2-way sequential. The Queenslanders (Crazy Dave, Trent, Belgium Steve, Ben) are looking at 4-way sequential. They have been invited to train with Chris, Brian, and the USA team. The 2010 on-year Nationals should see more teams competing.

And then there are big-ways. As soon as the group landed from the 36-way, the chant went up for "49-way, 49-way, 49-way". Forum posters got in on the act wanting to be a part of the next attempt. The coaches have already been "told" (we did not ask them) and the participants have all agreed. It looks like early 2011 is the time for YOU to clear YOUR calendar to join in on the next attempt.

In order to get on a big-way, it is pertinent to get some experience beforehand. The organisers will flesh out details in the near future, but it is likely that our usual series of beginner CF seminars will be held around the country, in conjunction with a program of big-way camps. The big way camps are likely to be run primarily as 16-way diamond camps and may be held in places such as Toogoolawah, Nagambie and York. If anyone (operators or jumpers) would like a camp or seminar held at their drop zone, please contact one of the organisers.

For all you jumpers out there, no matter what your experience, you can make it onto the next big-way. Get in touch with the organisers and attend as many seminars as you can. At worst you will become a much better canopy pilot. At best, you will also become an Australian record holder. Stay tuned for details.

About the Author

Tom Begic may not be too long in the tooth but he sure has packed a lot into his jumping life; he has represented Australia on 3 separate occasions with Canopy Formation teams; he holds current Australian and World Records; and has held a number of APF licences and ratings. He is also an experienced BASE jumper and ultralight pilot amongst other things. He lives with his wife and two little children in NSW. Check out his resume at: http://ozcrw.tripod.com/about_author.htm

Brian Pangburn stalling on rears



Dipsy after break off



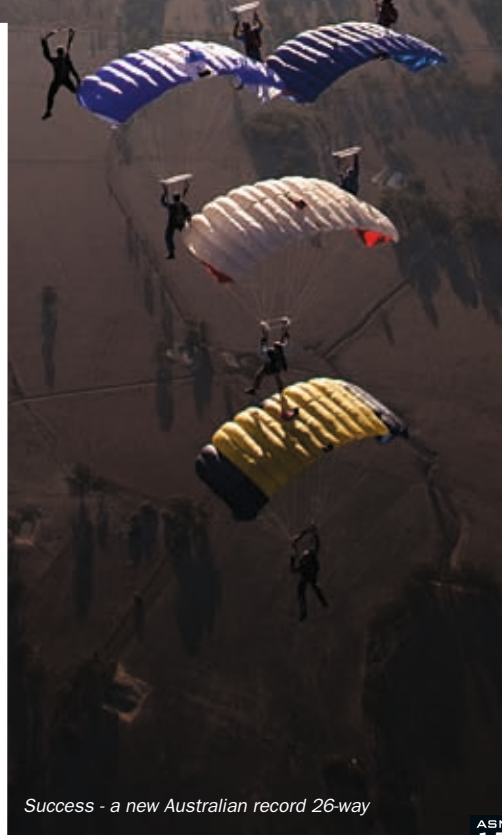
Robbie and Sarge wrapping things up in the base





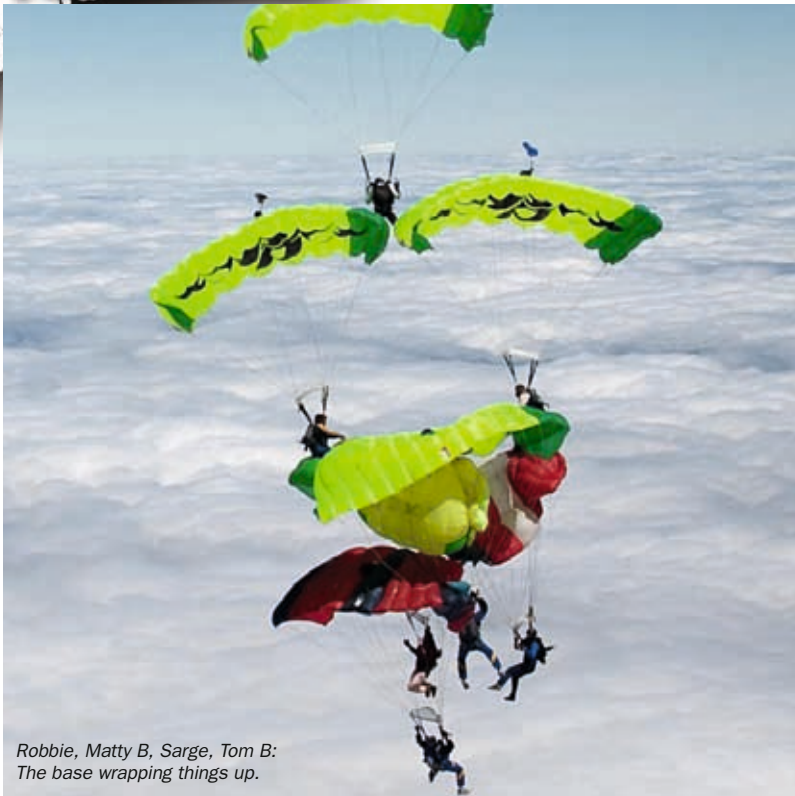
Thanks

- Organisers: Mitch McMartin, Brett "Higgo" Higgins & Andrew "Sarge" Preston.
- Coaching gurus: Chris Gay & Brian Pangburn for leadership and technical knowledge.
- Organisations for support & funding: APF, State Councils.
- Judges: Lindy Rochow-Williams, Kirstie Sinclair, Jenny Plummeridge and Ray Williams.
- Camera persons: Wayne McLachlan, Steve Fitchett & Pam Pangburn
- Web & Info: Tom Begic
- Drop Zone: Skydive Nagambie - Don & Louise Cross
- Aircraft Owners: Phil Onis @ Sydney Skydivers, Don Cross @ Nagambie.
- Participants: You know who you are!
- Supporters: You also know who you are! Jumpers, reserve packers, equipment repairers, drivers, video dubbers, Nagambie DZ & town locals, etc.
- Equipment: Sarge for his fleet of PD Lightnings, Crimson Mist, Chris Gay, PD, USA Jumpers, Phil Thamm & the AASPA rigs, everyone who bought their own gear.
- Pilots: Mark, Biggsy, Don.
- Media: Jules.
- Tutors in Pre Record Camps: Mitch, Sarge, Higgo, Jules McConnell, Vaughany, Coops, Matt B, Danny Daniels & Phil Thamm



Success - a new Australian record 26-way

36-Way Australian Canopy Formation Record



Robbie, Matty B, Sarge, Tom B:
The base wrapping things up.



Jody Blunden



Geoff Stillman



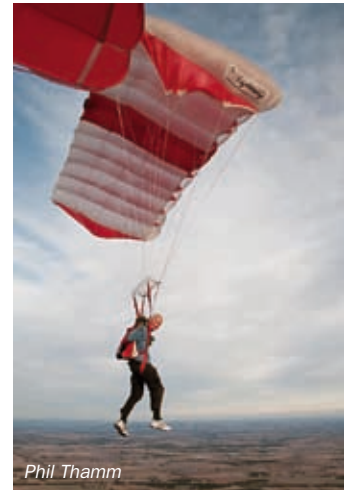
Post dive stack



Jules piloting a diamond



Coops spotting for a wrap



Phil Thamm

Chris Gay (USA)					
193					
Dipsy Kaiserman		Mitch McMartin			
218		218			
Tom Begic		Matt Berens		Andrew Preston	
176		193		176	
Cameron Cooper		Robbie McMillan		Ralph Hamilton-Presgrave	
143		176		176	
Brett Higgins		Gary Cullen (NZ)		Pauley Baker	
143		160		160	
Dale Butterworth		GB - Graeme Bull (NZ)			
160		143			
Michael Vaughan		Split Brown		Belgium Steve Goens	
113		143		143	
Trent Argus		Dean Barrowcliffe		Jules McConnell	
143		143		126	
Kevin Balen		Paul Archibald		Archie Jamison	
126		160		143	
Jaak Sharky Saegar		Daniel Brauman			
160		126			
Crash Bennet		Dave Crazy Carr		Ben Dalglish	
126		143		143	
Glenn Farrell					
126					
Shane Price		Hamish Barker		Danny Daniels	
160		143		143	
Phil Thamm		Jody Blunden			
160		160			
Pete Barnett (NZ)					
160					



Coops hanging around

History of OZ CF

- 1984: Australian & World Record Broken – 21-way Plane (Cairns)
- 1996: Higgs & Jonny Mac at 53-way World Record (Germany)
- 2003: Higgs & Sarge at 64, 65 and 70-way World Records (USA)
- 2005: Higgs & Sarge at 81 & 85-way World Record (USA)
- 2007: Australian Record Broken – 25-way Diamond (Toogoolawah)
- 2007: Higgs, Sarge, Tom B, Wendell, Jules, Vaughany, Mitch, and Ben N at 100-way World Record (USA)
- 2009: Australian Record Broken – 26-way Diamond with Stinger (Nagambie)
- 2009: Australian Record Broken – 36-way Diamond (Nagambie)
- 2011: Let's go make some.

Details at: http://ozcrw.tripod.com/history_australia.htm

Name	Age	State	Exit Weight (kg)	Canopy	Slot
ARCHIBALD Paul	28.3	Vic	105	160	36
ARGUS Trent	22.8	Qld	89	143	36
BAKER Paul	38.6	Qld	103	160	36
BALEN Kevin	24.2	NSW	79	126	36
BARKER Hamish	38.7	Vic	90	143	36
BARNETT Peter	62.8	NZ	98	160	36
BARROWCLIFFE Dean	43.6	SA / British	84+2	143	36
BEGIC Tomislav	38.1	NSW	110	176	36
BENNETT Craig	46.0	NSW	78	126	36
BERENS Matthew	41.3	Vic	118.5	193	36
BLUNDEN Jody	44.4	WA	95	160	36
BRAUMAN Daniel	31.3	Vic	80	126	36
BROWN Scott	25.3	WA	87	143	36
BULL Graeme	49.4	NZ	90	143	36
BUTTERWORTH Dale	24.8	SA	97	160	36
CARR David	23.3	Qld	95	143	36
COLLINS Michael	28.4	Vic	94	160	Attempt
COOPER Cameron	30.3	Qld	91	143	36
CULLEN Gary	50.2	NZ	96.5	160	36
DALGLISH Ben	31.4	Qld	95	143	36
DANIELS Danny	47.6	Vic	92	143	36
ELLUL Jason	36.2	SA	93	160	Attempt
FARRELL Glen	37.0	NSW	80	126	36
FINDLAY Steve	50.3	Vic	115	193	26
GAY Christopher	44.4	USA	77+25	193	36
GEENS Steven	42.3	Qld / Belgium	92	143	36
GRANTHAM Jill	25.8	Vic	93+2	160	D
GRAY Al	49.4	SA	96	160	26 + Att
HARRIS Bill	42.2	NSW	86	143	Attempt
HAYES Helen	38.5	SA / British	73+2	126	D
HEDLEY Kim	45.4	NT	77	126	D
HIGGINS Brett	41.9	Qld	90	143	36
JAMIESON Archibald	41.9	Qld	86	143	36
KAISERMAN Alex	25.4	Vic	118+12	218	36
McConnell Julia	32.7	NSW	78	126	36
McMARTIN Mitch	39.6	Vic	140	218	36
McMILLAN Robert	37.0	NSW	103+2	176	36
PANGBURN Brian	44.4	USA	86	143	36
HAMILTON PRESGRAVE Ralph	49.9	Vic	108	176	36
PRESTON Andrew	48.0	Qld	105	176	36
PRICE Shane	26.5	NSW	95	160	36
SAEGA Jaak	36.4	Vic	97	160	36
SILLIFANT Mark	29.9	WA	73+2	126	Attempt
STILLMAN Geoffrey	49.5	Qld	123	193	26
THAMM Philip	49.4	ACT	98	160	36
VAUGHAN Michael	39.5	NSW	70	113	36
FITCHETT Steve	51.8	Qld			Camera
McLACHLAN Wayne	50.2	Qld			Camera
PANGBURN Pam	45.1	USA			Camera
WILLIAMS Lindy	52.2	Qld			Judge
SINCLAIR KIRSTIE	?	NSW			Judge
PLUMMERIDGE Jenny	?	Vic			Judge



Stair step practice Helen Hayes

Jill Grantham and the team on jump run

Steve Findlay and Ralph exit for 2-way practice

Sarge doing a front riser stalled hook turn spiral

Post dive plane

Ralph Presgrave, Steve Findlay, Tom Begic - 3-way snake practice



Glen Farrell and friend

3-way snake practice

Icarus
CANOPIES

Daedalus
PROJECT

NZAEROSPORTS.COM
PURE WILD FLIGHT
[HOME](#)
[ABOUT US](#)
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By Naomi Adam

Freestyle

Skydivers started experimenting with the idea of an artistic performance in freefall in the late 1980s and so Freestyle was born. It's first public exposure was in 1989 in the famous movie by Norman and Deanna Kent, *FromWings Came Flight*. At the time it was groundbreaking, but today that film looks totally dated and the freestyle moves very simple – it just goes to show how much it has developed over 20 years.

The IPC recognised the new discipline and the first World Championship of Freestyle were held in 1996 – that's five years before the first championship of Freeflying in 2001. In its early years, Freestyle gained lots of popularity and Australia and was well represented in world championships achievements. Roz Tomkins and Craig Field won a bronze medal in 1995 and Roz inspired a large group of Aussie girls (including me) to take up Freestyle. In 1999 Ash Crick and John King won gold in Mens Freestyle and Gemma and Paul Truman won Silver in the Women's event.

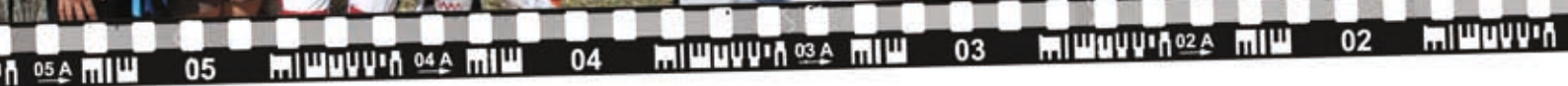
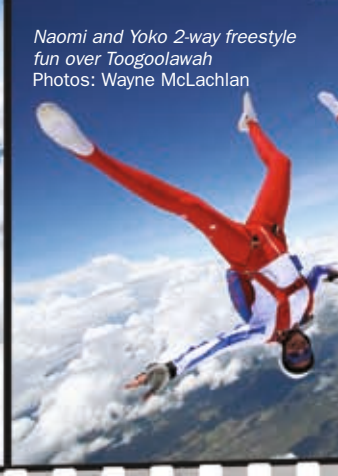
Today, Freestylers are pretty far and few between. I think there are several reasons why freestyle went out of fashion. Freeflying appeared a couple of years after Freestyle and many people were attracted to Freefly instead: probably because people perceive Freestyle as too difficult, or just for girls, or as something lonely that you do on solo jumps. There's also a misconception that you have to be a super-flexible ex-gymnast with a perfect body for a skin-tight suit.

I'd say don't let these types of arguments turn you off trying freestyle. Yes, it is a challenge, but it is one that's worthwhile pursuing as it is a great way to increase your awareness in the air and learn body-flying skills. It's definitely not just for girls and you don't have to wear spandex. Freestyle today is about flying with form in all possible orientations and most importantly, interaction between the performer and cameraflyer. You can think of it as "pretty freeflying" with straight legs and pointed toes.

One of the greatest names in Freestyle is Yoko Okazaki. I invited her over to Australia to coach some of the up and coming local Freestylers. It's been wonderful to see a group of Aussies who are keen to get into the discipline. After the Freestyle camp in 2008, several of them got new freestyle jumpsuits. In 2009, to be able to bring the world's best Freestyle coach to them was even better. (The events were made possible by the generous support of the APF Sport Development Fund and the NSW and South Queensland Parachute Councils – many thanks go to all those involved with that!)

Freestyler Erica Rochester with Yoko looking on and fiancé Brad filming. Photos: Wayne McLachlan

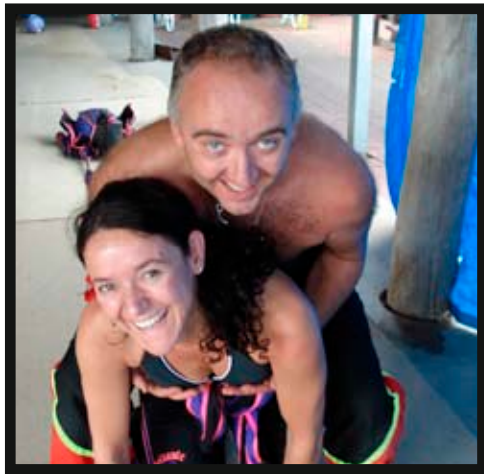




Meet the Freestylers

Soxiante Neuf - Jackie Trever and Paul (Bear) Ockenden

Jackie and Paul have been working together as a Freestyle team for a few years now, and it's been really exciting for me to watch them grow and develop their flying skills together. They



came to the 2008 Freestyle Camp with a wide repertoire of backflying moves already, and now they are progressing to vertical work. Awesome to see your dedication and progress guys – keep up the good work!

Frankie Molnar

Currently based in Sydney, Frankie is definitely Australia's most keen and ambitious up-and-coming Freestyler. She's got her sights set on representing Australia at a World Meet and has big training plans, including tunnel time over the next two years to work towards that goal. No stranger to competition – Frankie was a pretty serious gymnast as a girl, now she brings that skill and experience to her Freestyle.

"I remember watching Freestyle as an AFF student and I stopped breathing! I knew from that moment that I would always do Freestyle. The combination of gymnastics and ballet is challenging and beautiful. I remember approaching Naomi at Nagambie to be my coach and that's where it all started. My love of Freestyle has just grown from there. The recent seminar with Yoko was great and reinforced all my goals with the sport."

Ryan Townsend

Hailing from New Zealand originally, Ryan is the quiet achiever. He's been working on Skysurfing for a while now and came to the Freestyle seminar as there is a lot of cross-over between the two disciplines. It's great to see some interest in Freestyle from a guy. At recent World Championships the number of male freestyle competitors have been declining to the point that it is now been decided to combine the genders in competition.

Sofia Giussani

Sofi is just at the start of her freestyle journey and her passion and enthusiasm for the new challenge are amazing. I can't wait to see what happens next with her flying. Thank you also to the folks from Picton DZ who magically manifested



Roz's old freestyle suit for Sofi to wear! It was pretty emotional for me to see my old mentor's suit back in the air with the next generation of freestylers.

"I would like to say thank you

to Naomi for organising two Freestyle seminars with World Champion, Yoko Okazaki, Axis21 Team. It has been awesome! Finally someone has really done something for the artistic disciplines! Thank you to Naomi and of course, thanks to Yoko!"





Charlotte Allen

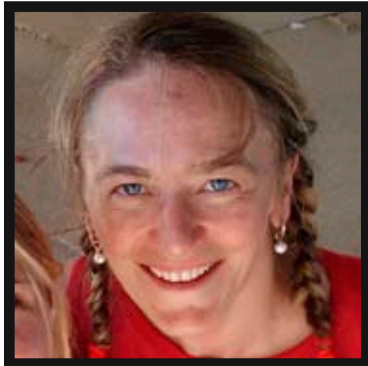


Originally from the UK, Charlotte now lives in Byron Bay and has totally embraced the Aussie outdoor lifestyle, surfing and skydiving. She has great in-air awareness and has picked up a bunch of head-up moves very quickly – next challenge: head-down!

“Making me feel graceful and feminine as well as demanding energy and passion - finding freestyle was like finding dancing in the sky!”



Nomes

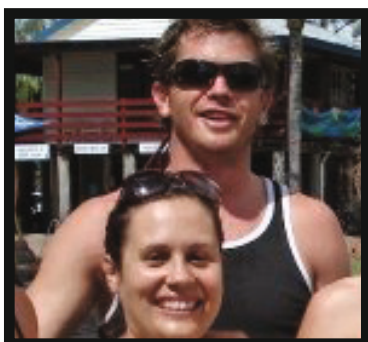


Getting Yoko over here wasn't all about looking after the up-and-coming freestylers, it was a bit selfish too! I need help! I put in what I thought was a lot of work leading up to the last World Meet, but so had the other girls and again I found myself running to stay in the same place; at the bottom end of the pack. I love this discipline and this sport and I want to get over the next hump in the learning curve and get back to the next World Champs and make a better

impression for myself and my country. Yoko's wise advice to me was to do some freeflying. In the past I've spent lots of time in the slick suit, working on making poses fall straight down. Now it's time to relax and interact more with other people in freefall! It seems to be working – since Yoko's seminar I've been in my Freefly suit working on eagle moves and at last enjoying some success with them! I can't wait to incorporate them into my Freestyle routines.



Team 17% More: Erica Rochester and Brad Ward



Erica is another ex-gymnast and the queen of pointed toes – her form is superb! She's been working with her team-mate (and now fiancée) Brad for a just over a year and it's been great to see their learning curve! Both of them have improved so much, it really makes me smile to see their progress.

Is Freestyle for YOU?

- If you have a **'B' Licence**
- If you like to **perform**
- If you like a **challenge**
- If you secretly always wanted to **wear lycra**

Name: Yoko Okazaki

Nationality: Japan

Time Spent in the Sport: 12

Home Drop Zone: Skydive Airkix (Peterborough, England) at the moment, traveling jumper - some in USA, some in Europe.

Home Wind Tunnel: Airkix, England (Milton Keynes)

Occupation(s): Pro skydiver and tunnel coach

Marital Status: Married

Children: Luna aged 16 months



Did you start jumping in Japan? No, started in Picton, Sydney in Australia. I always wanted to fly since I was a kid and especially performing gracefully as I was a ballerina and a gymnast from my younger days. I didn't start until I finished my studies and at the time my friend from university was jumping in Sydney. I thought it would be nice to start in a beautiful country like Australia. It was the right choice.

Why is there no wind tunnel in Japan? There are still many countries with no wind tunnel and Japan is just one of them. I actually have worked on building one a while ago and did some research and found out that Japanese people like to "see" the sport, but not so much "do" it. I have to see when is the right time to open one in Japan. I would love to be involved in it.

You are the current World Freestyle Champion, have you held that title more than once? Yes three times. I'm not a current one as I have a baby and couldn't compete with my big belly. I would love to be back to the game again.

How many World Championships have you competed in? 8-10 including World Games, World Air Games, World Cup.

Can you please describe your free routine in terminology we can all understand!: Exit, carving into closed legs head down spin, to eagle, daffy spin with hands up, another eagle with twists & mustang flat spin, going to out facing carving, turns, then track away on my head.

How have you come to develop some of these moves? Any inspiration or evolution? I call it Shrikane. It's a very sharp knife tool used by Ninja - Japanese spy many centuries ago. Another one is called Kiri. It's a closed legs head down spin. You can see the each move on my web site.

Are you a competitive person by nature? Not really, more like a performer. I just love to perform since I was a kid. The reason I went to the first comp was simply because I wanted to see what is going on in this sport and thought it will be the best way to complete to see the

highest level of this sport rather than just go there to watch the game.

Do you attend the World Championships to be the best, or is it more for fun and a great experience? To be the best, if I put this much time and effort, I would like to see what I can do and hopefully inspire others.

Where you interested in Freestyle from the beginning of your jumping career? From the very beginning.

How did you come to be in a team with your husband? After making one training jump with him. I actually had a different cameraman at the time, but Axel started to say that it would be nice to make a team together. We were dating already at the time and I didn't like the idea to make a team with my partner. I thought it will affect on our relationship. It really did, we went through some rough times, but it ended up making our relationship stronger. Lucky us.

How do you feel about the possibility of the IPC combining the Men and Women Freestyle and competing against the males? I personally don't like the idea because I like the elegant style, which is not necessarily a performance to compete against the male-like powerful and aggressive flying style. I'm sure you can compete with male if you change your flight style and do whatever necessary to win, but that is not my intention and I rather not do so. So I have to decide if I should keep competing and change my style, or keep my style and show my performance in different ways, that's what I'm actually working on at the moment. I competed enough and still could, I still think I have enough energy, but I have to follow my heart. I spoke to some other freestylers and most of them didn't like the idea. So I actually wrote a proposal to the IPC but it got rejected.

Do you plan to become a Freestyle judge in the future? Yes.

Has Skydiving been your life for a long time? Yes, only since 1998, but I've been going strong in those eleven years.

Have you always worked in the industry? Not always, but I started half way through and it will be until I decide to slow down.

Do you have any other professions/talents? I write articles for Japanese magazines, I enjoy being creative.



Yoko Okazaki

interview

A chat with Susie Mc



Tell us about all your tunnel camps, coaching and other projects. I host a tunnel camp once a month and some small ones here and there. I coach in the UK and travel to coach all over the world. I was in Australia in January, which was a great honor and I had a great time with all the cool flyers.

What I coach is not only techniques, but also how to plan, the proper mindset, how to image train and how to meditate etc. It all depends what students want to learn. Ask me anything you would like to know, I'm happy to help to the best of my ability.

If you are the best in the world, who do you get coaching or advice from? Anybody who gives me advice, from my students, skydiver friends, family etc. At the end, I follow my heart. I couldn't afford much coaching, so I taught myself for a long time, but I know now that having coaches accelerates the progression.

Do you have any heroes in the sport? Chifumi Sakakibara, former female medal winning freestylist. I watched her performance a few months after I started and that experience changed my life, so she is my hero always. Omar Alhegelan, former male freestyle and freefly medal winning flyer. I was training in Eloy, Arizona in the USA at his home DZ, so I had some opportunities to get some help. He is simply a great natural flyer who really gave me goose bumps with his performance. There are many more, but I can't mention them all.

Is there more Freestyle in you? Yes, always. I don't think it will ever stop. That's why I'm working on my performance show. I cannot wait to fly it with other cool flyers.

What jumps are you most interested in doing these days? Group performance. I had the image in my head even before starting skydiving, which is people flying together like the birds by making a formation.



Now I'm a skydiver and can actually know that this dream can be true, not only flying the formation, but also flying more beautiful and creative. I've dreamt about it so often and now it's time to start.

What projects have you got on the go, or planned? Sky Show. I wanted to start this "human body flying performance" for a long time but never made time for it and finally did a small version of it at Empuriabrava, Spain in last September with our friends. I call this project "AXIS21 - Sky performance project" and what we do is make some beautiful routine, fly in beautiful body position in matching suits with music we like, and make a sky performance show and inspire people. I would like to continue regularly. It's hard to explain with the photos, so I need to upload the short movies we made on our website sometime soon.

Did you jump while you were pregnant with Luna? Yes. She was on the Brit Chick jumps in 2007, so I'd say she is a skydiver already without choice. (Hope you are ok with it, Luna!)

And after she was born, did you get straight back in the air? Kind of. I started flying in the tunnel within a month and a half, then went back to the sky. I couldn't believe how my body changed, everything got loose especially around my belly... hard to believe that it went back to normal again. Thank God.

How do you feel about Luna growing up on drop zones and around skydivers? I didn't like the idea at first as there are some 'no-nos' at the DZ, but the advantages outweigh them. After spending time at the DZ often, I know that Luna loves hanging out with people, spending time in the nature, seeing the sky and the airplanes. I don't know how Luna takes it from now on, but for now, I think it is special in her life. I would like to keep a good balance with other activities as well. I will be totally happy if she decides to be in the house knitting or something, just hope she finds what she loves.

Do you have any advice for up-and-coming Freestylers? Freestyle is no more "flying by yourself and a cameraman filming you". It's mutual flying with your team mate, you may need to keep a nice body position to make the performance look perfect, but you also need to fly with him/her. Freefly and freestyle are getting closer, but for now freestyle is one performer and one cameraman, meaning you can show your own style. Tennis, figure skating, ballet, trampoline etc. are sports with a "single performer" and a very powerful way of showing who you are.

Enjoy yourself, find out who you are and present it in a nice, beautiful, powerful way. Once you have found your own style and can fly with others, you enjoy flying in a group even more.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me anytime. I'm here for you and hope to be flying with you all someday.

Email: yoko@axis21.tv
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Once again we were welcomed back to beautiful Thailand by the Royal Thai Air Force and the smiling people of Thailand to hold this fantastic event.. This isn't your average boogie where you hang out and camp in tents or a trailer/caravan for a week. This is a two week experience of Thai culture and hospitality, staying in the Hadthong Hotel, a central location in the town of Prachuap. From here you are overlooking the beach out to the east, which is awesome for those early morning sunrises and the late evening full moons. Another difference is the type of jump ships that were kindly supplied by the RTAF. First on the list is the C-130 Hercules

with a lift capacity of 100, followed by the BT-67 (a DC-3 with a turbine conversion) and a lift capacity of up to 40, and last but by no means least was the huey helicopter taking up to 8 jumpers at a time; fantastic for those early morning loads.

Following on from last year, the registration process for this event filled up fast, with the quota for the festival of 250 participants being achieved in less than 48 hours. There were representatives from 28 nations taking part with skills ranging from the enthusiast through to world team members. On hand were a wide variety of the best Load Organisers the world has on offer today! Jumps ranged from the simple to the complex, catering for all needs and challenging those who rose to the occasion, giving them the opportunity to move up into a higher level of experience group. During the second week some of the relative work groups were being combined by the load organisers to form some nice big ways and keeping the smiles on a lot of faces...

This year's event was also a little bit different than previous ones as the festival's contact with the RTAF Air Chief, Marshal Bunchuay, had retired from active service. The new Air Chief Marshal, Khun Kanit, was very enthusiastic to be a part of the festival along with his team that support us with our wants and our needs. The list of support is huge and some of these people you might not meet or even see during the full two weeks but what they do for us is vital.

THAI SKY FESTIVAL 2009



By James Evered
Photos by Willy Boeykens www.skycam.be

Photo: David Major

THAI SKY FESTIVAL 2009

Like the Base Commander and all of his men that prepare the base for the influx of people, setting up all the tents for manifest, packing, video debriefing and eating! And they had also plumbed in western and eastern style toilets with running water on the grounds just for the festival! And the pilots and flight crews for all of their hard work getting us up over the beautiful Bay of Thailand and then letting us run, jump and fall out of their great aircraft. I don't know of too many military situations that allow civilians to do that! There are a couple of other groups of military staff that work very long hours each day to make sure that we are safe and give all of us assistance without ever having to be asked. As the rescue and medic teams, these people are there every day watching every load just in case anything doesn't go according to plan. The air base is flanked by two beautiful big bays and positioned in each bay is a rescue boat. I have seen them from under canopy zip into action anticipating anyone potentially landing out. These guys are so good that one of them went diving off the boat to retrieve a free bag that was sinking fast and got it. The medics were ready at the drop of a hat to render assistance to one and all who required it, from the smallest mishap to some larger medical treatments. It's amazing the support that the RTAF gives to this event and I'm very glad that they do as it makes me feel welcome to their country, proud to be a part of the festival and safe that I'm under their watchful gaze.

Located on our nice little drop zone set up, was an array of stalls ranging from fast food take away to a great dine in cooked meal, plus fresh, cold fruit and iced coffees or fresh icy cold coconut juices. There was also a portable ATM and currency exchange facility that was set up on the back of a ute and a trailer, which by all accounts came in very handy. A couple of Thai massage therapists had positioned themselves up one end of a packing tent and were doing a roaring trade getting customers in between dirt dives, debriefs and lifts. The jumpsuit manufacturer was turning out some nice suits for relative work and also for freeflying in a very short time frame. Just to show how well set up this temporary drop zone is, it had its own wifi hotspot for all who needed to stay in touch all the time.

Over the course of the festival people are enticed by all the buzz and commotion that is created by all of the skydivers teaming with energy. One such person was the C-130 exchange pilot from the US Shawn. He had done a few training jumps with the US Air Force but that was a while ago and it seemed that he wanted to have another crack at it. But this time from the Herc! He went on a tandem with Clem Major as tandem master and Mike Atencio on camera. Having noticed that something was going on around manifest (Shawn being dressed in something other than the normal khaki flight suit) I teamed up with manifest to join him on his tandem to give him another face to geek at and to enjoy the moment. He enjoyed it so much that during the second week on his day off from his busy schedule he drove his wife down from Bangkok (which is a 4 hour one way drive!) for a day trip only so that she too could enjoy the experience of jumping from the Herc over the Bay of Thailand. By all accounts she loved the experience and they also made their evening engagement right on time.

Another side to this event is catching up with old friends or making new ones plus exploring the local sites of Prachuap trying to find those great little restaurants and cafés. Last year some of my Japanese friends had found an awesome local Thai barbeque (all you can eat buffet) it was incredible, great value and heaps of fun. There was only one thing better than great prices and that was it was packed every night with all the local people! The Thai style

of barbeque is best described as a pot of hot coal that is burning away with loads of heat. Then a lid is placed on top and it looks something like a chinamen's hat or a small sombrero. Filling the rim with water letting it boil then adding in noddles, baby corn and greens like coriander made a great tom yum soup, all the while cooking the meat on the point of the hat. It was very simple and very filling. This year I think that we went to the local barbeque buffet about 5 times over the two weeks! It was a fantastic way to catch up at the end of the day over a chang or a singha beer and have a good laugh together about the day's events or just a general chin wag.

Each year the participants bring along supplies for the local school children who come and visit us on one of our jumping days. Some of the supplies kindly donated by participants are pens, colour pencils and colouring books etc. This year after the children had been given their gifts one of the Swiss skydivers Anne thought that it would be great fun to get the kids into her Rel suit and try on her rig just to see what it is really like. Anne is about 6 foot tall so it made for some interesting photos, almost as humorous as when Daniel brought over his Sigma tandem rig for one of the older boys to try on! The festival organisers also run a raffle each year and all money raised from the raffle and other kind donations are passed onto the local schools for special projects. Some of these projects involve getting shoes for all the kids while some of them are more substantial like building a library. It's great to see the generosity of the participants giving back to a small community that look after us.

For the rest of the time of the festival, focus was spent on how to relax the best way possible and enjoy our beautiful surroundings. This can be a very tough decision to make when you're chilling out for the weekend in the resort town of Hua Hin or just hanging out in Prachuap. With such fine accommodation as the Sofitel and the Hilton and all the pools and beaches, should you go for a massage at the spa retreat or just order another Mai Tai, sunbake or go for a swim, but then which pool should you go to? So many decisions! It's a tough event to say no to as it's just so good in so many ways. On a more sombre note it's just crazy how fast two weeks can fly by when you're having so much fun. It only seemed like we were sitting at the welcoming ceremony when we find ourselves at the farewell party and the end of another Thai Sky Festival. As a farewell we get a special treat of lighting and releasing large paper balloons fuelled by wax candles. It's an amazing sight to see as they drift off in to the night sky and slowly fade away. I'm already thinking of the next one... how about you? Go ahead and treat yourself and I will see you there next year!



Royal Thai Air Force



Aussie John Friswell, white jumpsuit



Photo: Andreas Knabe

Heather Little, Julie Woodrow, Celeste Hill, Connie Van Setten & Patrick Passe



James Evered



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CANOPY PILOTING NATIONALS

Picton VZ, NSW
February, 2009

*Swooping - possibly the coolest
thing known to man...*

I had been looking forward to the swoop nationals (my first) for sometime, as competing in the NSW State Meet has been my most fun competition experience to date! It is hard to explain the vibe of a meet – it is incredibly positive and supportive, (which is sometimes not the case with other disciplines in competition!) Anyway, to see so many passionate canopy pilots ripping it up the pond is a fantastic visual and a ready barometer to the performance of a pilot! It really adds something to the competition – being able to immediately see how people are going and to see some stylish flying.

Just prior to the meet I had acquired a RDS (Removable Deployment System) and a new (used) canopy and was keen to put both to play over the magnificent Sydney Skydivers pond; hopefully not in it!

As some of you may remember, Tim Bates was an extremely passionate canopy pilot, who was dedicated to teaching others about canopy flight. Tim was an early mentor of mine and a fantastic friend so I was stoked to have his old canopy in my container and to be heading to comp. While the new toy was so much fun to fly, I was a bit nervous about using it for comp as I only had it for 2 weeks and a very limited number of jumps.

Fortunately, the week prior to the swoop meet, Pablo “trust your power” Hernandez (current world speed champion) was onsite for coaching. Pablo has recently joined the PD factory and was onsite for 9 days of coaching with a mix of eager Aussies! All participants were impressed with his knowledge, approach and style of coaching. This gave many competitors the opportunity to tune up just prior to comp. As an added bonus we even managed to see Pablo rip it up for a few runs over the pond.

Unfortunately the weather did not co-operate with a few days lost due to conditions.

Training would not be the same without a few interesting chows – notable among these would be:

- Alex Nelson managing to invent a new freestyle move over the pond with a tremendous chow – at one point he was upside down, head down skimming inches above the water

- Nik Jackson also had a big one that managed to knock his RDS out of his pocket and even rip off his shoes and socks! Definitely the biggest hit I have ever seen. Nik managed to shake off this chow and get back into the air pretty quickly!

The meet was also had a number of birthdays for Dean, Shea and Koppel all celebrating new milestones. James MacFarlane also knocked up his 1,000th jump accompanied with a pie in the face!

The start of comp is always an interesting time, the first load nerves, wondering how the day will play out and who will shine. These are all the things that make comp so much fun! Inter was up first up to be followed by the two loads of Open competitors for the first runs at the speed course. On my first round I managed to have a brake fire that sucked me down quite a bit, so I did not pull off the RDS and managed to trail it through the speed course. Unfortunately, neither Pricey or I got a score as the previous competitor managed to take out a gate & the sensor and we needed to do a re-jump.

Not an auspicious start for either of us!



CANOPY PILOTING NATIONALS



Course Director Tom

In Open Matty Harris ran a 2.814 to take an early lead in first Round of comp, with Robbie and Dave Noble close behind. The next few rounds of Speed were quickly run through with Robbie coming up trumps on the last jump with a time of 2.774 ahead of the Horizon team of Matty Harris with Cameron Rolfe in second and third place respectively.

I managed to win Speed, followed by John King and Shane Price. The weather was starting to go south and we moved onto Zone Accuracy next. The first round produced a number of excellent scoring runs with Shea Convery leading the way, posting a perfect 100 in the Open class. John King was the class of the Inter field posting a 91 in the first round.

The weather was not co-operating, with a strong cross wind running across the course making conditions more difficult for competitors. Pricey managed to deal amazingly well with the very turbulent conditions to post an excellent score of 64 that ended up being the best score for the round. As the winds had really picked up, the entire load of Inter jumpers were offered re-jumps which all but a few competitors took up hoping to improve on their scores. As the weather closed in and settled on Picton there was no jumping for

the next day and a half of competition. This unfortunately meant that a number of competitors needed to leave for other commitments. I think I was the only competitor happy to have a day off as I was feeling very sore after biffing in on the second round of Accuracy and

having to hobble around.

With Saturday weathered out and an uncertain forecast for the rest of comp, it was decided to start off with Distance just in case the weather did not co-operate. Matt Harris was leading the Open competition with John King leading Inter.

The Weather Gods smiled on Day 3 of competition. The day started with some Distance and perfect conditions. All the pent up energy from waiting around was forgotten in some amazing swoops. Matt Harris posted an amazing run of 136.3 metres, easily surpassing his nearest competitor by over 20 metres! The Inter record was broken, not once but twice on the first load. Steve Wade managed to break the old record with a run of around 91 metres. This new mark barely lasted a few minutes before being broken yet again. John King emerged with a massive swoop of 95.2 metres to set a new Australian record for the Intermediate class. This easily eclipsed the previous record by over 10 metres!

My comp managed to get a bit more interesting with a chop on Round 2 of Distance, so I can now recommend the flight characteristics of my Optimum reserve. Thank you Pearso for finding my gear! Being already another re-jump behind, I grabbed my second rig and jumped on a load with the Open guys to catch up. I was very happy to post a score as I was pretty peaky at this point and jumping a totally different canopy, so I was just happy to get through the gates.

In Open, Round 3 of Distance would prove pivotal as conditions were deteriorating with the wind swinging around. The changing conditions was to prove challenging for a number of competitors. There were an unprecedented number of top competitors touching water on Round 3 of Distance, killing what would have been fantastic runs.

Matt Harris finished with gold, followed by Michael Vaughn and Koppel Solomon closed out with third place after a wave of successive good runs. Pricey's consistency had come through taking the gold with Steve Wade taking home a bronze to compensate for not holding the new Inter record.

With the finish of Distance, there was only 2 rounds of Accuracy to go. The weather was looking like it was going to hold out and allow us to finish the comp.



Tom Gilmartin



Alex Nelson



ASM 30



Tatsuya Suzuki



Cameron Rolfe



James MacFarlane



Mark Bainton



Matt Barrell



Glen Farrell



Andrew Gellatly

In Open, Roger Mulckey posted a 91 to win the round and the unseeded Michael Howell scored an impressive 91 to claim the last round. One of the best things about this comp was to see a number of jumpers come along and post some very impressive scores. Michael Howell was ripping up the pond with some great 450s despite never having run a course before! Matt Harris continued to steadily rack up scores, taking gold from Rob McMillan and Michael Vaughn. In Inter Pricey continued his excellent form to finish with another gold, while Tom Gilmartin snagged second with a two fantastic runs to finish comp, John King placing third.

Glenn Farrell had an exciting end to competition with a chop on the very last round of competition. A nasty total mal that no-one managed to sight with the weather closing in. Scratch one free bag. Glenn managed to finish the competition with a final pass all to himself with Pricey's gear to close out proceedings.

With the final jumps completed the scores were tallied up by the judges and the new champions were recognised. Congratulations to Matt Harris and Shane Price (Pricey) for dominating in their respective classes. Matt finished up with a swag of gold medals and narrowly missed a clean sweep of the competition! Michael Vaughn had a fantastic comeback from a vertical in speed to finish second overall and a trifecta of silver medals while Rob McMillan placed third after winning speed. All in all, it was an amazingly tight comp in open with very little to separate 2-6th. In Inter; Pricey dominated with medals in each event and was the deserving champion. I placed second overall, followed by John King with 3 medals a piece.

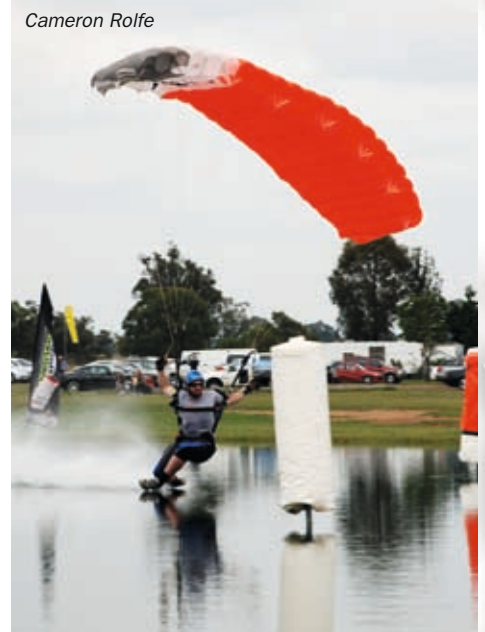
This was an excellent experience for me. I had a blast, swooped my mentors canopy and most importantly of all managed to beat John King in comp (my number one goal at any competition!). Devastatingly, I could not hang around as I need to drive back to Melbourne and work the following morning. So I chucked on my slab, had a quick beer and said bye to some new found friends. See you all at the next meet!

Thanks to: Sydney Skydivers for hosting a fantastic event; Putz and the NSW Parachute Council for organising a world class coach; the judges; to all the people who helped out in the Swoop Meet – without you we would not be able to run the meet!

Special thanks to Jules for providing the footage to the local news (WIN). Jules even jumped on a few of the loads to provide some fantastic in-air footage of competitors going through their paces.



Stephen Ivin



Cameron Rolfe



Marcus Jogi



Jim Smith



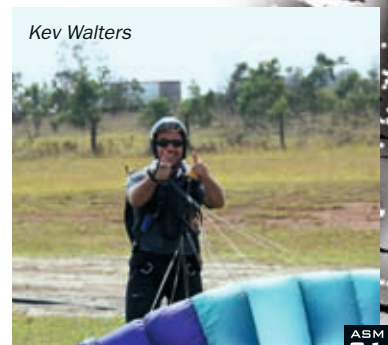
Shea Convery



Adam Long



Rob McMillan



Kev Walters

CANOPY PILOTING NATIONALS



Matt Stitt



Nik Jackson



Cameron Rolfe



Marcus Jogi

Facts

Michael Vaughn summed it up best with this interesting fact:

- More than 30,000 skydivers in the US
- 37 Americans at their 2008 CP Nationals
- About 2,000 skydivers in Australia
- 36 Aussies at our 2009 Nationals



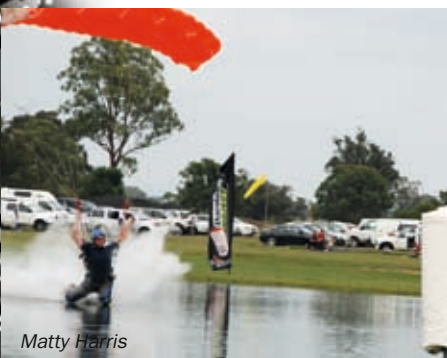
Darren Griggs



Koppel Solomon



Stephen Ivin



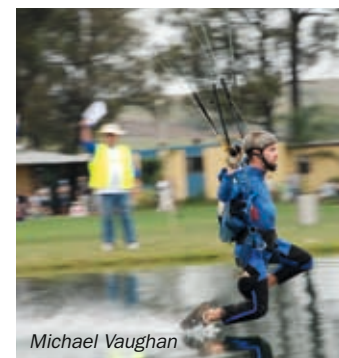
Matty Harris



Tom Gilmartin



Steve Wade



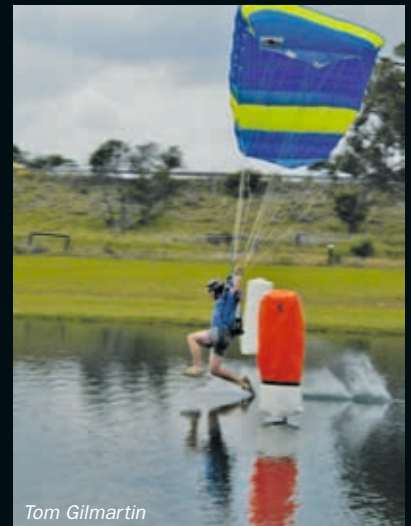
Michael Vaughan



Dave Noble

Dave Noble – Talk about seamless transition to Open! Dave managed to post a very impressive meet finishing 4th Overall. This is a massive achievement! Dave only just stepped up to the Open class with around 1,100 jumps or so and is running at a relatively light wing loading (in Open) of around 2.2 on his Velocity. It was amazing to see what can be achieved through skill, consistency and a little bit of luck. He was consistently hitting those gates with power. Go Dave! Somebody sponsor him, quickly! Another standout (Inter) would have to be

Tom Gilmartin Tom managed to snag a very well deserved second place in Accuracy and managed to finish 4th Overall. Tom has improved massively on his Katana compared to the State Meet, he managed to hit the gates consistently with power and managed to turn in a number of good scores. Well done!

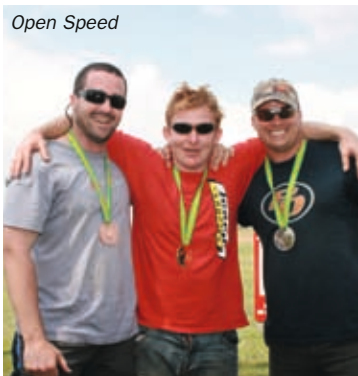


Tom Gilmartin

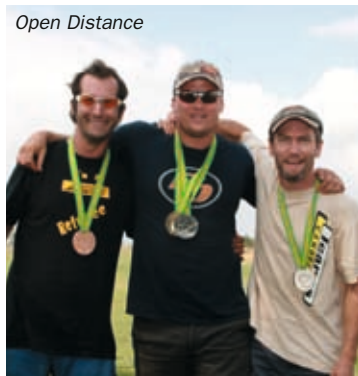
Open Zone Accuracy



Open Speed



Open Distance



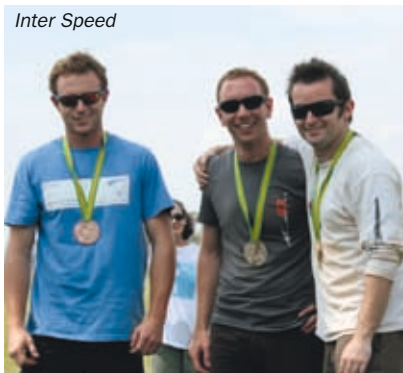
All medal winners



Inter Overall



Inter Speed



Inter Zone Accuracy



Inter Distance



2009 OVERALL PLACINGS Inter

No.	Name	Canopy	Size	Speed						Distance						Accuracy						QA Total	QA Rank						
				1	%	2	%	3	%	4	%	5	%	6	%	7	%	8	%	9	%								
110	Shane Price	Velo	103	3.204	79.902	4.206	66.736	4.098	48.836	192.174	3	72.80	78.991	80.91	108.000	83.90	84.483	280.483	1	55	80.438	64	100.000	79	100.000	260.438	1	712.066	1
112	Darren Griggs	VX	79	2.934	96.289	3.536	87.136	2.764	100.000	282.421	1	76.20	82.872	87.43	71.047	75.30	160.000	253.738	2	0	0.000	29	48.312	0	0.000	48.312	8	891.472	2
104	John King	Velo	90	3.045	88.464	3.485	100.000	3.865	80.387	238.821	2	68.80	136.000	0.00	0.00	0.00	800.000	800.000	6	51	100.000	44	88.750	0	0.000	168.750	3	807.671	3
119	Tom Gilmanin	Katana	120	30.000	0.000	2.076	24.297	30.000	0.000	24.297	10	72.15	76.313	0.00	0.000	17.70	23.505	98.818	7	10	10.989	54	84.375	59	99.789	186.153	2	309.268	4
108	Stephen Voice	GLS	120	30.000	0.000	30.000	0.000	30.000	0.000	0.000	11	81.45	86.407	0.00	0.000	65.10	86.484	181.861	3	71	78.021	0	0.000	0	0.000	78.021	4	288.882	6
106	Matt Sest	Mamba	124	4.244	48.643	30.000	0.000	30.000	0.000	48.643	7	73.50	76.722	0.00	0.000	87.86	76.839	183.561	4	0	0.000	31	43.788	40	79.919	4	239.086	6	
114	Kev Walters	Velo	90	2.954	100.000	30.000	0.000	4.347	40.428	140.423	6	77.75	81.168	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	81.168	9	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000	81.168	12	221.687	7
102	Mark Eimston	Velo	103	30.000	0.000	3.508	98.862	3.816	82.663	151.223	4	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	11	49	83.846	0	0.000	0	0.000	83.846	6	205.171	8
113	Glenney Clefield	Katana	120	30.000	0.000	5.189	31.707	30.000	0.000	31.707	8	62.19	64.822	56.29	68.545	0.00	0.000	134.367	5	0	0.000	9	14.862	0	0.000	14.862	11	180.136	9
109	Fully Suk	VX	99	30.000	0.000	30.000	0.000	5.078	29.658	29.658	8	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	67.70	89.907	89.907	8	0	0.000	0	0.000	24	31.578	10	151.136	10	
103	Gleann Farrell	Velo	103	30.000	0.000	30.000	0.000	30.000	0.000	0.000	11	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	39.00	55.792	151.792	18	0	0.000	31	48.437	0	0.000	48.437	7	100.229	11
107	Ned Donnelly (Withdrawn)	Kabe	98	3.445	89.114	30.000	0.000	30.000	0.000	68.114	6	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	11	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000	0.000	12	68.114	12
105	Tetsuya Suzuki	VX	84	30.000	0.000	30.000	0.000	30.000	0.000	0.000	11	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	11	56	81.538	0	0.000	0	0.000	81.538	5	61.538	13
111	Matt Barnell	Katana	120	30.000	0.000	30.000	0.000	30.000	0.000	0.000	11	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	11	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000	0.000	12	0.000	14

2009 OVERALL PLACINGS OPEN

No.	Name	Canopy	Size	Speed						Distance						Accuracy						QA Total	QA Rank								
				1	%	2	%	3	%	4	%	5	%	6	%	7	%	8	%	9	%										
211	Matt Harris	Velo	99	2.914	100.000	3.325	83.811	3.034	83.595	267.406	2	136.30	100.000	115.24	96.233	110.10	100.000	296.233	1	87	87.000	80	87.912	87	96.604	270.516	1	824.156	1		
202	Michael Vaughan	JVX	89	3.075	83.744	3.454	77.868	30.000	0.000	181.412	7	115.47	84.717	107.76	89.987	104.45	84.799	268.602	2	87	87.000	81	89.610	84	92.367	268.317	2	699.232	2		
208	Neil Mulligan	JVX	89/79	2.954	90.745	3.178	91.918	2.774	100.000	282.663	1	112.83	82.788	119.75	100.000	89.83	81.630	231.704	6	80	80.000	91	100.000	72	79.120	63	68.230	213.360	8	686.236	3
207	Davin Noble	Velo	95	3.004	87.750	3.625	70.513	3.165	76.818	235.681	4	106.67	78.261	100.50	84.258	82.50	74.877	237.336	4	96	96.000	9	8.980	80	87.912	193.802	10	605.275	4		
200	Neil MacBeth	Velo	84	3.324	71.668	3.405	79.919	3.375	67.556	219.143	5	111.26	81.628	100.75	84.133	0.00	0.000	165.761	14	80	80.000	87	96.604	71	78.021	263.626	5	638.529	5		
221	Conor Boyle	Velo	90	3.215	76.610	3.044	100.000	3.234	73.878	280.185	3	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	103.65	84.073	84.073	20	86	86.000	78	88.714	87	96.604	267.318	3	611.876	6		
217	Steve Conway	Velo	84	3.384	88.149	3.715	67.138	4.286	41.889	178.176	6	0.00	0.000	117.30	87.964	101.63	82.239	196.192	12	100	100.000	45	49.480	84	92.367	241.787	6	610.126	7		
215	Roger Muckey	Velo	84	30.000	0.000	4.326	49.612	3.805	63.150	102.662	16	95.42	70.007	96.00	80.167	89.83	81.630	231.704	6	80	80.000	91	100.000	72	79.120	269.120	4	593.486	8		
209	Poppy Stanton	VX	88	4.586	37.651	5.918	26.456	3.706	54.256	118.263	13	107.05	78.539	94.17	78.638	99.16	89.998	247.175	3	78	78.000	65	71.428	62	68.131	217.569	7	583.097	9		
204	Michael Howat	JVX	89	30.000	0.000	4.106	64.960	3.948	49.419	104.379	14	87.80	64.416	88.69	74.062	94.65	85.904	224.382	6	63	63.000	22	24.176	91	100.000	187.176	12	515.936	10		
201	Conor Jones	Velo	84	4.270	43.308	4.346	49.658	3.405	66.371	158.639	9	104.50	76.889	90.20	75.323	0.00	0.000	151.592	16	87	87.000	0	0.000	84	92.367	179.307	13	490.036	11		
206	Alan Jay	JVX	85	4.136	46.289	4.537	43.693	4.167	44.316	133.699	12	98.62	72.298	90.56	75.958	74.15	67.298	151.464	10	25	25.000	55	66.439	40	43.956	129.395	15	478.557	12		
208	Jon Smith	Velo	84	3.575	61.967	4.306	48.609	4.617	38.441	190.007	11	99.78	73.206	97.14	81.118	0.00	0.000	164.324	15	0	0.000	77	84.616	78	88.714	170.329	14	474.660	13		
212	Horace Piny	VX	82	30.000	0.000	4.437	47.666	6.289	19.455	66.521	18	100.91	74.035	83.23	69.603	26.10	23.688	167.226	13	63	63.000	80	87.912	36	39.660	190.472	11	424.219	14		
218	Gary Hamilton	JVX	89	5.058	30.962	4.846	39.456	5.317	27.219	97.627	16	87.02	63.844	85.72	71.982	91.81	83.327	218.793	7	0	0.000	46	50.549	25	27.472	78.021	17	394.461	15		
205	Ronan Hanlon	Velo	103	3.374	89.859	4.697	41.989	4.228	43.087	154.645	10	88.44	64.886	67.65	56.492	0.00	0.000	121.378	19	0	0.000	45	49.480	45	49.480	81.900	16	374.923	16		
224	Alan Nelson	Velo	90	4.176	45.407	30.000	0.000	3.956	49.170	94.677	17	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	67.85	61.581	61.581	22	72	72.000	40	43.966	72	79.120	195.076	9	351.234	17		
214	Marion Jupp	Velo	90	4.297	42.886	4.126	54.429	3.525	61.529	159.244	8	0.00	0.000	77.20	64.467	91.11	82.691	147.158	17	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000	0.000	0.000	21	306.462	18	
203	Alan Long	JVX	88	30.000	0.000	30.000	0.000	3.905	68.210	89.210	20	92.06	87.542	92.91	77.598	79.50	72.154	217.282	8	0	0.000	0	0.000	16	17.882	17.882	20	294.074	19		
220	Stephen Lee	JVX	92	6.149	20.943	5.028	36.662	30.000	0.000	57.886	21	94.13	69.060	87.96	73.463	81.10	73.606	216.193	9	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000	0.000	0.000	21	273.714	20	
219	Alw Jackson	JVX	84	30.000	0.000	30.000	0.000	3.786	63.684	53.684	23	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	74.62	67.180	67.180	21	0	0.000	25	27.472	0	0.						

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STYLE and ACCURACY

2009 VIC State Champs Precision Accuracy and Sport Accuracy

By Janine Hayes
Photos by Ellis Hayes-Hills

While a small group of dedicated skydivers turned up to contest this competition, the weather did not play ball and having had hot fiery conditions for the last month in Victoria it was the Queenslanders without coats again who were trying to keep smiling while they froze. Needless to say Saturday was a write off with only 2 loads going up later in the day for some much needed practice. Sunday dawned a bit brighter and with keen competitors and dodgy winds the competition was up and running.

We had 6 competitors in the Sport Accuracy and 5 in the Precision. The 2 local youngsters, Ben Lappin and Chris Bricknell, gave the seasoned Mike Dyer a run for his money with Mike placing 1st, Ben 2nd and Chris 3rd, while Doug Munford scored the only disc of the comp.

The Precision Accuracy proved to be a hit and miss affair with the winds creating rejumps and off-the-tuffit scores. Tibor Glesk won the rejumps as well as the comp with a credible 13cm over 5 rounds given the conditions, while yours truly came in 2nd on 26cm and Dave Boulter 3rd on 29cm.

Thanks to Towers for the great work as Meet Director and wind monitor and Ray Williams who earned his bottle of red and got a little fitter for his efforts running between the 2 comp areas.

The Sunday was finished off with a couple of nice fun 5-ways with Ben and Dad Gerard fun jumping together over home turf. Ken finally reclaimed his own rig and had a fun skydive without further injury to his back and after a beer or two we enlisted local heli bomber pilot Sam to substitute for Ray Williams and present the medals.

Thanks to those who attended as always, Hillsy for helping and Ben Moss for his flying efforts.



Ben Lappin



Tibor and Sam



Hillsy



Dave Boulter

Final Scores

SPORT ACCURACY

Mike Dyer	12.11	.68	10.07	22.86	1st
Ben Lappin	4.02	1.91	30.00	35.93	2nd
Chris Bricknell	1.80	10.51	30.00	42.31	3rd
Dave Boulter	30.00	2.16	11.76	43.92	4th
Doug Munford	30.00	30.00	0.00	60.00	5th
Ken Hills	33.13	<i>Wife made him withdraw to prevent further injury to bad back!</i>			

PRECISION ACCURACY

Tibor Glesk	0.01	0.00	0.07	0.02	0.03	13cm	1st
Janine Hayes	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.16	0.03	26cm	2nd
Dave Boulter	0.03	0.03	0.16	0.06	0.04	29cm	3rd
Mike Dyer	0.09	0.16	0.02	0.02	0.16	45cm	4th
Nike Melnik	0.16	0.14	0.01	0.16	0.16	63cm	5th
Ken Hills	0.11	<i>Due to back injury same excuse as above!</i>					

48th Style and Accuracy National Championships 2009

So we survived the State Meet and some hardy Precision Accuracy jumpers were up for a weeks training and practice before the Chinese competitors hit town. Alas Victoria with its predictable 4 seasons in a year, 4 in a day and sometimes 4 in an hour unfortunately turned on the wind and we were left staring at a wavering windsock and chilly temperatures. That was day one and it was off to the classroom for some much needed discussion and reflection on the psychology and technical discussion around how we were individually and collectively going to tackle the competition.

With the rest of the weeks forecast diabolical, the conditions proved the weather men correct and with no chance of jumping Tuesday and Wednesday it was to Thursday that we eagerly anticipated. Again Thursday proved to be a day of patiently waiting for the conditions to improve to no avail so it was out to the HayesHills for a much needed glass of red, a beer or two and a chicken dinner. In consoling ourselves that we were not going to get the training we wanted we were able to laugh at the Queenslanders (namely Tibor and Mike) who, for the second year in a row, came down to sunny Victoria with no warm jackets. Sure we have 48 degrees but only once in 120 years. In fact Mike by now had signs of a bug that he had managed to pick up and consequently leave behind when he flew out after the Meet, so not a good start for him.

Friday dawned brighter with the arrival of Robbo and Deb the previous evening, we set about training under Tibor's watchful eye. Wayne Allwood and John and Giselle Godwin turned up and again it was the wind that eventually won out. Lucky for Andy Mulholland as he wasn't packed anyway. So with the grand total of 5 loads of practice jumps under our belts we felt totally ready to tackle the Chinese team head on.

Later that afternoon with the arrival of Towers as Meet Director, Ray Williams as Chief Judge and Fiona McEachern as Nationals Controller we were officially ready to work out the draw.

To be fair to every team and given we only had 3 Chinese participants, Yang Ke, Chen Shukai and Zhang Xinqing, it was decided after consulting with the Chinese delegation that we would have a Chinese representative on each team. It was discussed by some of the Aussies that this would guarantee at least one or two dead centre scores. The Chinese had been on a world win tour arriving in Sydney, dropping into Picton and heading over to Canberra before a coastal drive into Victoria. They eventually arrived having made several phone contacts during the day informing us of their progress. At one point they told me that we in Edam, I eventually realised they meant Eden, only 2 letters difference but worlds apart in my head. Their arrival time meant no practice for them so maybe we were in with a chance!

The rest of the Aussies were divvied up using a system that only Ray Williams still knows and understands and with no more than ABC we had our three Teams.

Team A Janine Hayes, Wayne Allwood, Nick Melnick and Yang Ke

Team B Tibor Glesk, Dave Boulter, Ken Hills and Zhang Zinqing

Team C Mike Dyer Andy Mulholland Ian Robertson and Chen Shukai



Yang Ke

Ray, once having announced the teams, a comedy of accuracy proportions proceeded to ensue as Dave Boulter and Tibor, as competitive as ever, had

stars in their eyes and rubbing their hands together believing that with Hillsy on their team they had a chance for gold. They were right but were unaware at the time that Hillsy was going to be jumping a Sabre 170 and not an accuracy canopy (I was secretly laughing behind my hand as I had bequeathed our spare accuracy canopy to Nick the Russian who just happened to be on my team.) But in the true spirit of competition I duly informed them of this slight handicap. Without further ado and amid a flurry of finding risers, toggles and a container to put it all in (Thanks Ray), swapping gear and sabotaging other gear, Ken was finally fitted out and ready to jump. (Not packed but ready to jump). So off we headed for an early night having made sure our Manifest girl Elaine had arrived safely.

Competition Day 1

With the equipment readied and the judges in place drifters, John and Doug, took to the air and the comp was away. Scrapping the cloud base at 3,000 feet we had a slight westerly forecast to increase as the day progressed.

We managed to get 4 loads airborne before the conditions deteriorated and with Dave Boulter rejumping Round 1 the Meet Director and Chief Judge concurred that we were on the ground for an extended period. This period ended up extending to the rest of the day while we dutifully waited for the wind to die down but to no avail.

Wind, Wind and more wind. Thank goodness for a glass fronted comfortable terminal building - all the better to watch the windsock interminably flap around gusting in the not-so-great, cold, Victorian summer. I think I did say we had a 48 degree day once!

So with Hillsy teaching everyone to putt (golf) on carpet Andy Mulholland unofficially won "Putt-the-ball-10-metres-through-the-hole-in-the-Cup" comp. We entertained each other and the Chinese team with a variety of games and learned a little more about them. They all started skydiving when they were 15 years old and have accumulated around the 6,000 to 7,000 skydives. They are professionals and there are only about 100 skydivers in China. They were amazed that most of us had paid for our skydives and while they did not speak a great deal of English it is always fascinating what you can communicate with a gesture and a smile. Ding Wang, the coaches niece, acted as interpreter. Team Manager, Han Zhaofang, had visited Australia previously and was instrumental in organising the team to come and was also an interpreter. They are keen to come back to Australia in the future to do more training possibly in relative work. They described their visit as fruitful and I can only hope that we continue to have international teams visit in this manner.

Team A Third



Team B Winners



Team C Second





Yang Ke, Team and Ring In Andy



Competitors

The highlight and funniest moment of the day was when the Premier of Victoria, John Brumby, flew in with another minister, Justin Madden, and the usual government entourage. He was deftly greeted as he came through the glass doors by Robbo camera in one hand outstretched hand to give him a handshake stating "I'm Robbo and I'm from NSW". The Premier shook Robbo's hand vigorously and duly thanked him for his fire fighting efforts. As he moved along he also thanked Rick, an old time skydiver friend, who happened to be standing near Robbo then he was through the building as fast as you could say Labour and off to visit the fire affected area. (Of course Robbo has the footage and of course he will show it to you.)

Needless to say the day dragged on after that and the wind did not subside, so instead it was off to the Latrobe Valley Aero Club for the annual Auction and BBQ. Once again we had some fabulous sponsors with Sealy Posteurpedic donating a fantastic bed, congrats to the Lappins. Jump Shack, Bev Suits, Parachutes Australia, Larsen & Brugsen, AV8, the Aero Club & EastCoast Aviation also supplied fantastic prizes and with a smaller crowd than last year we still managed, thanks to the efforts of Ray as Auctioneer, to raise nearly \$2,400. Ray and Robbo also donated T-shirts and hats, the money of which will go to the Team Trust Fund. All-in-all a great night.

Day 2

Sunday morning dawned calm, not bright, with the cloud base again just scrapping around 3,000 but again no wind. What no wind? The usual train and jump in a gale and then do the real comp in nil winds! So with another load of drifters we were off and running by 8.12am (the Interstaters are now really, really cold.)

So with consistent packing, a great Manifestor (thanks Elaine) and Ben the Pilot working his buns off, the operation ticked along for the day with only 3 rejumps, 25 Accuracy Loads and one fun jump load at the end to celebrate Nik the Russians 400th skydive, with Tibor, Doug, Andy and Ian showing us a pretty 5-way from below.

The competition had its highs and lows, we had a minor glitch with the equipment and few people were without at least one high score. The conditions became trickier in the afternoon as the wind swung around and increased.

So in the wash up after eight rounds it was the competitive and consistent Team B who secured the gold. Mind you Ken did say to me after a couple of hard openings on the Parafoil "please don't make me jump this gear again!" If I remember rightly I had no say in the matter.

Team B edged in ahead of Team A for Silver with Andy Mulholland displaying a neat run of three 0.00's after he had warmed up. Robbo scored his first zero on a 2cm disc in a comp and to their credit the Aussies posted some great and consistent scores with Dave Boulter the notable standout.

It was however to be a Chinese lead victory with a twist; Chen Shukai leading after 8 rounds with 10cm followed by Yang Ke on 18cm, Tibor on 19cm and Dave Boulter on 21cm. Zhang Xinqing was fourth on 24cm. The 9th round proved that there are nerves and conditions for everyone with Tibor scoring a 6cm and Chen

15cm, Dave steadied with a disc and the final five was complete. Yang Ke was now leading on 19cm with David on 21cm and Tibor and Chen on 25cm with Zhang on 27cm. The final round saw Yang Ke maintain first with a 0.01 to finish on 19cm and outright winner. Dave scored 0.04, Zhang 0.01, Tibor and Chen both discs. This put Dave, Tibor and Chen back into the aircraft for a jump off for the remaining medals. The results were mixed with Dave having a not so great jump in marginal conditions with a 3cm to finish on 28cm. Tibor got a rejump and Chen a 1cm to finish on 26cm. With the wind hovering around the limit and dropping back Doug and John kept Tibor company as he rejumped his jump off round. To his credit in marginal conditions he held out and scored a 2cm for 3rd place. It was a great finish to the comp.

Dinner was Chinese Take away (what else) at the local caravan park.

Day 3

To our surprise and delight Monday was blue skies and sunshine and not too much wind, so it was up for Style.

With Doug and Fiona happy to be drifters and John Godwin finally getting his chance to compete in his chosen event along with Robbo, the load was ready and willing to go at 8.00am. Temperature still cold! As with all things that are running too smoothly; after a slight problem with the aircraft and a small evacuation and wonderful help from Gerard Lappin it was take two and we were airborne by 10.00am.

For those reading this who don't know, Style is a freefall event. You complete 2 turns and a loop, 2 turns and a loop in as fast as possible time, which requires you to be in a tight ball shape. It's the most unstable you can be while being stable. It's judged from a camera on the ground.

Fiona and Doug displayed the style with which first stylies wearing rel suits can only display. Slow and steady but hey, straight down the centre of the lens.

So with the formalities out of the way and Hillsy on camera and Towers at the Helm, Ben the pilot proved that you can learn something new and do well under pressure.

Hillsy did great on the camera and for 8 loads, never missed a beat. One rejump for the comp was a credit to a great team effort.

Yang Ke was the only Chinese competitor to enter the style and he whipped everyone showing a clean pair of heels with one 6.6 second set. Tibor in his striking red suit edged out Mike Dyer for second and Mike even with a wrong set on his first round (the flu symptoms an influence on his brain) still managed to beat me by 3 seconds.

Thanks Lindy, who with Ray did a sterling job late into the night and the early morning to get the results out.

Fiona, Doug, Robbo and Danny did some Sports Accuracy rounds and were ahead of myself, Ken and Mike when we went up to do our do our 1st round. The winds were decidedly stronger than they had been and both Robbo and Danny were given rejumps after much discussion and reference to the rules. By 4.00pm the winds were over limit and it was back to the endless checking of the wind metre by the judges. Towers finally called it a day and we had a medal ceremony for the Accuracy. The Chinese Delegate Peng Desheng presented me with a beautiful clock propeller from their club which celebrated it's 50th anniversary last year.

Day 3

Windy, Windy, Windy so it was a bacon and eggs breakfast, wait, pack up, Competitors Meeting. The comp was then called with Sport Accuracy on one round. That gave the Bronze to Mike Dyer, Silver to Danny Costea and the Gold to myself.

The Chinese called through on their way to Melbourne and it was Yang Ke who secured Style gold and gold Overall, Tibor silver and silver Overall and another Australian Title to his name and Mike Dyer bronze in Style and bronze overall.

Thanks again to everyone for their support, a small comp but lots of fun - Bruce Towers Meet Director; Elaine Hare Manifestor; Chief Judge Ray Williams; Event Judge Debbie Sommers; Judge Lindy Williams; Judge Giselle Godwin; Nationals Controller Fiona McEachern; Pilot Ben Moss; Jodie thankyou for being so helpful and looking after the Judges, and to John Godwin thanks for being a great tea lady.

Thanks to Ken - always there, always doing something. And a message to Jim and Faye Cox - it was a fun comp but would have been all the more fun if you had been there.



John & Giselle Godwin



Rick, Claude & Fiona



Towers and his crew



Winning Team B



Masters- Tibor, Dave and Mike



State Champs - J9



My Gold by 1cm



Tibo, Yang Ke, Chen Shuka

INDIVIDUAL ACCURACY

COMPETITOR	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4	RD5	RD6	RD7	RD8	SUB	SEMI	SUB	FINAL	TOTAL	T B	RANK
Yang Ke	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.04	0.03	0.00	0.18	0.00	0.18	0.01	0.19		1st
Chen Saukai	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.15	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.01	2nd
Tibor Glesk	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.04	0.05	0.00	0.03	0.19	0.06	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.02	3rd
David Boulter	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.01	0.01	0.21	0.00	0.21	0.04	0.25	0.03	4th
Zhang Xinqing	0.16	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.24	0.03	0.27	0.01	0.28		5th
Janine Hayes	0.02	0.01	0.06	0.00	0.16	0.14	0.00	0.01	0.40	0.00	0.40	-	-		6th
Mike Dyer	0.04	0.11	0.06	0.08	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.05	0.38	0.03	0.41	-	-		7th
Andy Mulholland	0.16	0.04	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.42	0.03	0.45	-	-		8th
Ken Hills	0.05	0.07	0.06	0.03	0.01	0.16	0.04	0.14	0.56	0.16	0.72	-	-		9th
Wayne Alwood	0.16	0.04	0.02	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.06	0.16	0.67	0.16	0.82	-	-		10th
Nik Melnik	0.05	0.16	0.08	0.16	0.05	0.01	0.09	0.16	0.76	-	-	-	-		11th
Ian Robertson	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.06	0.05	0.14	0.16	0.05	0.78	-	-	-	-		12th

FREEFALL STYLE

COMPETITOR	ROUND 1 (RX)		ROUND 2 (L)		ROUND 3 (R)		ROUND 4 (LX)		Total	Rank
	Time	Score	Time	Score	Time	Score	Time	Score		
Yang Ke	6.81	9.41	6.64	6.04	7.32	8.32	6.20	6.30	30.97	1st
Tibor Glesk	7.48	8.28	7.56	8.36	7.39	8.89	7.14	8.64	34.14	2nd
Mike Dyer	9.01	16.00	8.41	8.81	8.53	9.13	8.67	9.17	43.11	3rd
Janine Hayes	11.41	11.81	10.28	11.28	11.51	13.11	10.31	11.61	47.81	4th
Danny Costea	11.61	13.41	11.71	13.09	11.72	14.72	11.60	12.90	54.12	5th
John Godwin	13.35	14.35	10.67	13.68	11.52	13.74	13.12	13.62	55.37	6th
Ian Robertson	14.30	16.00	14.62	16.00	16.00	16.00	13.72	16.00	64.00	7th

SPORT ACCURACY

RANK	COMPETITOR	PTS
1st	Janine Hayes	1.40 mtr
2nd	Danny Costea	3.35 mtr
3rd	Mike Dyer	4.67 mtr
4th	Fiona McEachern	4.75 mtr
5th	Ian Robertson	5.20 mtr
6th	Doug Munford	9.07 mtr
7th	Ken Hills	15.24 mtr

OVERALL STATUS

RANK	COMPETITOR	STYLE	ACCURACY	PTS
1st	Yang Ke	1st	1st	2
2nd	Tibor Glesk	2nd	2nd	4
3rd	Janine Hayes	4th	3rd	7
3rd	Mike Dyer	3rd	4th	7
4th	Ian Robertson	5th	5th	10

TEAM ACCURACY

COMPETITOR	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	RD 6	RD 7	RD 8	TOTAL	RANK
Team B	0.23	0.16	0.12	0.03	0.05	0.34	0.05	0.20	1.20	1st
Ken Hills	0.05	0.07	0.06	0.03	0.01	0.16	0.04	0.14	0.56	
Zhang Xinqing	0.16	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.24	
David Boulter	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.01	0.01	0.21	
Tibor Glesk	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.04	0.05	0.00	0.03	0.19	
Team C	0.38	0.33	0.24	0.15	0.07	0.18	0.20	0.13	1.68	2nd
Andy Mulholland	0.16	0.04	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.42	
Ian Robertson	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.06	0.05	0.14	0.16	0.05	0.78	
Mike Dyer	0.04	0.11	0.06	0.08	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.05	0.38	
Chen Saukai	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.10	
Team A	0.25	0.23	0.16	0.23	0.36	0.27	0.18	0.33	2.01	3rd
Nik Melnik	0.05	0.16	0.08	0.16	0.05	0.01	0.09	0.16	0.76	
Wayne Alwood	0.16	0.04	0.02	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.06	0.16	0.67	
Yang Ke	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.04	0.03	0.00	0.18	
Janine Hayes	0.02	0.01	0.06	0.00	0.16	0.14	0.00	0.01	0.40	



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JUMP FOR
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Picton DZ Supports JFTC Weekend

By Suzanne Bourke and Michelle Kosmer Photos by Chris Dykstra



The Aussie Fund Raising Mission

Every year, breast cancer takes the lives of 43,300 women and 400 men world-wide. In September this year, Jump For The Cause (JFTC) celebrates its 10th year of raising funds for breast cancer research, and bringing women together from all over the globe to set a new World Record in Women's Formation Skydiving. Ten of our Aussie girls have been selected to attend this event, with some of them having been on previous JFTC and World Records. For others, it will be a FIRST! The 2009 JFTC event is shaping up to be huge - so far destined to be a 180-way, aiming to beat the 2005 World Record of a 151-way.

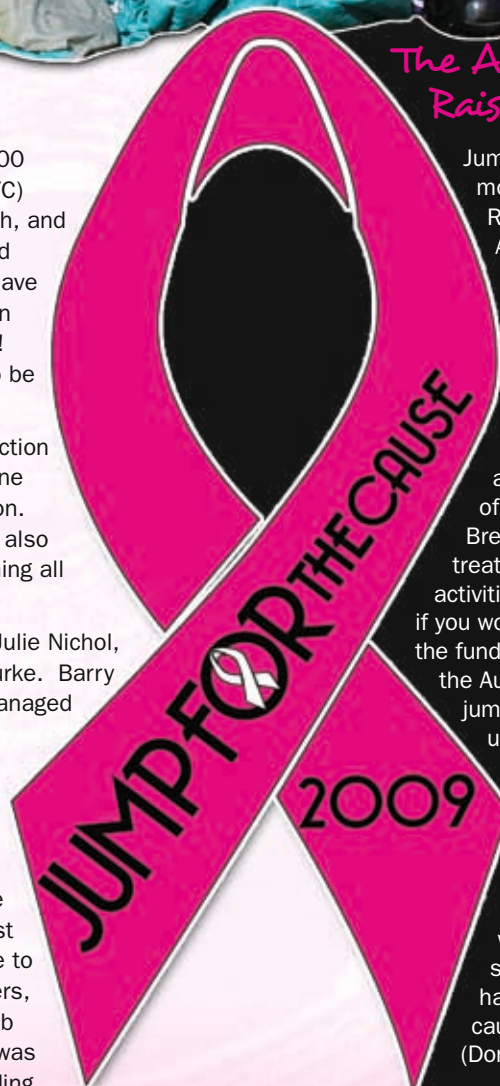
As a warm-up to the event, the last weekend in March saw a collection of some great jumpers from as far away as Melbourne and Brisbane come together for a Jump For The Cause training weekend at Picton. The jumps were organised by Barry Calver. Fiona McEachern was also organising a second group of big-ways which kept the Skyvan running all weekend.

Five of the Aussie girls going to Jump For The Cause were there - Julie Nichol, Leanne Critchley, Nicole Hannan, Michelle Kosmer & Suzanne Bourke. Barry Calver did his usual fabulous job of organising big-ways and we managed to crank out 10 jumps over the weekend, mostly 16-ways. The experience level was pretty high calibre so Barry organised some very complex jumps and the group certainly rose to the challenge - bring on the bipoles and the block moves, that's all we can say!

Special thanks go to the Sydney Skydivers Social Club, who provided all the food for the fundraising BBQ for the JFTC girls - we managed to raise around \$1,500 for breast cancer research in just one night! Support like this is very much appreciated and we hope to do everybody proud in September. Thanks also to Sydney Skydivers, Groundrush Café, Precision Rigging & Sydney Skydivers Social Club for donating the prizes that were raffled off during the evening. It was a great night, topped off with vodka jelly shots, Margaritas & pudding shots (thanks to Fiona McEachern for her intoxicating donation!). Special thanks to Barry Calver for being inspired enough and having the energy to organise the jumps. Also a big thankyou to EVERYBODY who turned up for the weekend and made it so successful, both in terms of the skydives, the BBQ and the fundraising afterwards. We'll be doing it again in June sometime - if you're keen for a slot, get in early and contact Barry Calver (bjcalver@hotmail.com)

Jump for the Cause is more than just a World Record. When the 10 Australian participants accepted invitations to do a women's 180 way at Perris in September, they accepted an obligation to raise a minimum of US\$3,500 each towards the cost of the record and a donation to City of Hope; a world leading Breast Cancer research and treatment facility. Fundraising activities are in full swing, so if you would like to contribute to the fund raising totals of any of the Australian girls, go to www.jumpforthecause.com and look us up on the participant's page. You can donate directly by clicking on the donate button on our personal profiles. Our sincere and humble thanks go out to everyone who has supported us so far. The response has been great and the cause incredibly worthwhile. (Donations are in US \$)

The Aussie JFTC girls will also be running separate fundraisers at their home DZs, so please support them by purchasing raffle tickets or other items for sale, or assisting in the fundraising events they will be organising.





"The weekend was just awesome and everybody was buzzing - it was excellent to be part of such a happening jump scene at Picton." Michelle Kosmer, Picton DZ



"Fantastic weekend - great jumps, great vibes, great people! Thanks to Barry for having the confidence in the group to perform the challenging skydives and thanks to the group for making it happen! Huge thanks to everyone involved in the weekend, whether you were involved in the skydiving and/or in the fundraising, I feel proud to be amongst a great selection of Australian women attending JFTC, all of which have spent a great deal of time and money already in preparing for the 180-way Women's World Record!" Julie Nichol

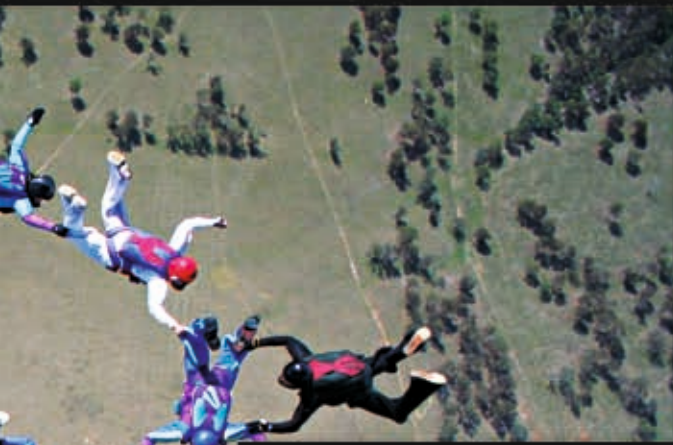
Julie Nichol



*"I have
The ju
jumpin
before.
person*

AUSSIE PARTICIPANTS

The Australian participants attending JFTC in September, so far, are: Ellen Coenra (WA), Shirley Cowcher (WA), Leanne Critchley (QLD), Nicole Hannan (NSW), Peta Holmes (WA), Michelle Kosmer (ACT), Julie Nichol (VIC), Cheryl Robertson (WA), Heather Little (WA) and Suzanne Bourke (QLD) (Conditional).



"It was great to have the opportunity to organise some really complex skydives for the JFTC group. Each skydive got progressively harder and each time the group took on the challenge. It just goes to show the big way talent we have here in Australia". Barry Calver



I've never been part of such a successful and fun weekend! Everything about the weekend was awesome. The jumps, well just "WOW" - I don't know how else to describe them. I was fortunate enough to be jumping alongside some extremely high level jumpers and boy that made me perform like I never have before. Thanks Julie and Nicole for some very useful tips and thanks Barry for the great organising! For me personally, it was a weekend I will always remember" "I'll definitely be back" Suzanne Bourke, Toogoolawah DZ

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NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

March 2009, Picton DZ

Canopy Formation

By Jules McConnell

Only one week after the Aussie Canopy Formation record, where 48 CF jumpers from all around Australia (that's pretty much every active CF jumper in Australia) attended, Sydney based Crwdogs were the only ones able to take any more time off to compete at the Nationals this year. So it was a small turn out with just two teams completing all eight rounds in a one day event.

Team *Bash & Slash* – Glenn Farrell, Steve Wade, and Stephen Ivin on camera - were well trained after their one practice jump the day before comp! They even looked like a team thanks to AASPA providing them with matching rigs and canopies! These guys did awesome, scoring consistently with almost a 3 point average – a great platform to continue training from and make waves at next year's comp!

Watching the scoreboards during competition, *Bash & Slash* held the lead for the first six rounds of comp, but despite their rigorous training program, were pipped at the post by *Ookoonono* – Jules McConnell, Michael Vaughan and Craig (Crash) Bennett on camera – using prototype PD Storm canopies.

Team *Ookoonono* are now in training for the 2009 World Games held in Taiwan in July and hope the rumours are true of a bigger competition at next year's Nationals.

WOOHOO!

"Steve Wade and I did our one and only training jump on Saturday afternoon, so we were more than ready for the competition! Our goal for the day was to score in every round and attempt to get through a full page in time on a round.

Round 1, the winds were strong from the South West. Ookoonono helped us out with some coaching tips and we got off to a great start setting 4 points in time. However, we ended up landing on Henry's Hill after a couple of, lets just say ahem "nice clean docks" changed our heading somewhat. Our goals changed after round 1 to include at least one on-DZ landing for the comp!

2-WAY Sequential CF Results

1	Ookoonono	9	10	9	10	11	12	10	7	71
2	Bash & Slash	3	3	3	2	1	3	3	2	19

TEAMS

Ookoonono

Jules McConnell
Michael Vaughan
Craig Bennett (C) (Camera)

Bash & Slash

Glenn Farrell (C)
Steve Wade
Stephen Ivin (Camera)

Jules and Vaughany's coaching tips stopped after watching our round 1 footage. I'm not really sure if they figured we were a lost cause, or they truly felt threatened by us. Some of the more memorable moments included losing one of my shoes and wearing Steve's Lightning Hat (his canopy and lines caught on my head). Also, Stephen Ivin managed to kick my shoe on it's way past him but he apologised for not catching it when we got on the ground – you just can't get good help these days!!

Bash and Slash finished with a respectable average just less than 3 points per round. This was the first competition where Ookoonono were competing with their Storm canopies and they ended up with a 10 point average – Go Ookoonono! Both Steve Wade and Stephen Ivin borrowed the ASPA rigs for the duration of the competition. These rigs were also used on the 36 way diamond, they are available for use at a nominal fee and are a great way to get into CRW. The comp was a great deal of fun and I encourage everyone to get up there and give it a go."

Glenn Farrell



Gold - Ookoonono



Silver - Bash and Slash

NATIONALS

Freefly Events

Words by Scatty Flockfeather

Pics by Jenny Gordon, Mark Gazley and Strop

4-WAY VFS

"If mummy comes into the bedroom and catches you in the act, it's ok to touch someone else, but touching yourself is a big no no!" This was the advice given by head judge Ray Williams on turning blocks. If that doesn't make sense, try dirt diving doing handstands while swapping slots with your peace partner. This is 4-way VFS.

Vertical Formation Skydiving (VFS) is similar to 4 way FS, except in a head up or head down orientation. A competition jump consists of 3-4 points made up of blocks and randoms, with 35 seconds working time to complete as many points as possible. If the judges can't see the point, it's a bust.



Gold - Earth Leakage



Silver - Method



Bronze - Amy's All Stars

With teams *Earth Leakage* and *Method* pre-registered, the competition ramped up with the late entry of *Amy's Allstars*, thanks to the motivation of Amy Griffin and Cath Comyns.

Being an inaugural event, this year was all about learning for the competitors and the judges alike. For the competitors, many of us were yet to jump the dive pool. For the judges, this was the first time they had scored a VFS even, and coming from a 4 way FS background, it was also the first time many had scored freeflyers. Having said that, both competitors and judges did an outstanding job.

In the competitors meeting prior to comp, we dirt dived the competition draw, showing the judges exactly how we planned to perform each move. Head Artistic Judge, Ray Williams, provided excellent, although abstract, analogies for competitors to understand the judging process.

To keep things manageable we ran the intermediate dive pool, consisting of 9 blocks and 8 randoms. The difference between Inter and Open being Inter only has 1 head up flyer at any time, while the Open dive pool can have all 4 flyers head up.

Training was spent learning the engineering behind the points. The flatties couldn't believe their eyes seeing us dirt diving so intensively. Luckily for a lot of the competitors, *Earth Leakage* (EL) had just arrived back from a tunnel camp at Paraclete, USA. Trained by 4-way VFS *Team Hybrid*, they were leaking (pardon the pun) with knowledge and were more than happy to share it.

VFS is filmed from underneath the formation, making it a very challenging job to be a camera flyer – in fact it is one of the hardest slots. Being underneath the formation also means the sun can become an issue. Hence we created the 'VFS Siesta' where competitors reclined in hammocks and sombreros until the sun passed to the appropriate angle.

The competition itself ran smoothly with EL taking it out averaging just over 7 points and setting an Australian record of 11 points. A very respectable effort considering they had only done 5 jumps as a team!

Method were runners up averaging 4 points, nipping at EL's heels in several rounds, while *Amy's Allstars* blew us all away. Being a scratch team and averaging only 700 jumps per team member, the team was scoring in almost every round, showing you don't need thousands of jumps to get into VFS with the right coaching.

Much appreciation goes to all of the EL team for the mentoring they provided us. After investing time, energy and money to develop their own skill, they were excited to share the knowledge with the rest of the competitors. It's this kind of attitude that is going to continue to develop skydiving in Australia and is our edge as Aussies over the rest of the world. Take that as a lesson kiddies, and run with it!

RESULTS

1	Earth Leakage	8	11	5	6	6	8	44
2	Method	4	4	2	5	4	5	24
3	Amy's All Stars	1	2	0	0	2	0	5

TEAMS

Earth Leakage

Adam Long (C)
Lucas Gzonctou
James Hensmen
Greg Dore
Stewart Kemp (Cam)

Method

Kim Hopwood (C)
Erica Tadokoro
Shea Convery
Peter Wilson
Mark Gazley (Cam)

Amy's All Stars

Cath Comyns (C)
Scott Hiscoe
Dave Noble
Brett Sheridan
Paul Phelan (Cam)

Artistic Freely

The artistic event had two Open teams and two Inter teams. *EL* and *Method* in Open and the creatively named *Flimsable* (a combination of Flimsy and Flexible) and *Drop Bears* in Inter.

EL again proved themselves the #1 competitive freefly team in Australia by winning the Open and posting some solid scores in several Free rounds with some impressive carving sequences. *Method* also posted some competitive scores considering they were a scratch team.

Flimsable had an amazing Free round and posted scores to rival the Open teams while the *Drop Bears* were consistent through the competition despite a low number of training jumps together.

An Insiders View

After 8 years and 2,300 jumps I can honestly say this year's inaugural 4-way VFS Nationals was the best week of jumping I've ever had. To do 40 jumps with a crew of similar skill level and start to learn the basics of engineering dives, I felt my flying improve significantly and achieved a lot. Being in a competition environment and having some structure really helps you to improve and to focus on developing specific skills.

With the introduction of new tunnels such as Paraclete and Skydive AZ that can blow freefly speeds, you don't need thousands of jumps or many years in the sport to participate (although you might need to get a second mortgage).

As a country I'd love to see VFS take off, so if you are interested in a 2-way or 4-way VFS Web League or to bring organisers out to your local DZ, shout out to your local Council, the APF, or even one of the teams and make it happen!

Gold - Earth Leakage



Silver - Method



Gold - Flimsable



Silver - Drop Bears



RESULTS

OPEN

1	Earth Leakage	6.30	5.16	6.50	17.96	4.00	4.59	26.55	26.55	1
2	Method	3.90	0.00	2.90	6.80	4.50	3.92	15.22	15.22	

INTERMEDIATE

1	Flimsable	3.00	0.00	3.60	6.60	2.04	3.90	12.54	3.10	4.00	19.64
2	Drop Bears	1.30	2.50	1.20	5.00	0.55	0.70	6.25	0.55	2.20	6.80

TEAMS

Earth Leakage

Adam Long
James Hensmen
Stewart Kemp (Cam)

Method

Shea Convery
Erica Tadakoro
Kim Hopwood (Cam)

Flimsable

Brett Sheridan
Dave Noble
Scott Hiscoe (Cam)

Drop Bears

Jenny Gordon
Pauly Monger
Frankie Molnar (Cam)

NATIONALS

4-WAY OPEN

By Steph Bensley

After a few emails and phone calls back and forth, Gary Nemirovsky, Darren Pearson and I decided to put a team together for the Vic State Champs. With Michael Vaughan as our alternate and Darren Griggs on video, *Rotor Out* won with a 14.3 average.

It was after this competition that we realised we had something worth taking to the Nationals. Once Gary had spoken with Jens Goennemann (4-way and 8-way German Record holder) and he agreed to be our 4th, we began planning our small training schedule. We did 42 training jumps in total before competing at this year's National Competition.

With perfect weather at 30 degrees and 5 knots on the ground we completed our practice jumps on the Sunday, out of the competition aircraft - the PAC 750.

The 4-way draw was handed out on Sunday night with 6 Open teams and 4 Intermediate teams registered. This year was the first since the 99/00 Nationals that there would be no *Airtite*. Simon 'Sas' Discassio and Jeremy Langford (from *Airtite*) and Craig Vaughan, George Attard and Patrik Nygren (from *C4*) have joined forces to form new team *Black*, with James Boyle as their alternate for this year's Nationals.

After the draw we went through the first 7 rounds of the competition, making sure we left the creepers with rounds 1 and 3 fresh in our minds (Round 3 being the all random jump).

By Monday morning we were ready to go! Wheels were off at 8am and we couldn't wait to get in the air. Our first round wasn't one of our better jumps (and ended up being the only round we lost), but at the time we reminded ourselves that this was a 10 round comp and focused our energy on the next jump. The scores posted for round 1 were *Black* - 13, *Rotor Out* - 12.

For round 2 we knew we had to make up some ground, we landed from the jump feeling like we had performed at our best, with scores being *Rotor Out* - 15, *Black* - 11. Then came the all random jump for round 3 (K, N, F, P, G). Prior to the jump we practiced this round at every opportunity as we knew it could be a possible record-breaker. We went up for the jump reminding ourselves that we needed to keep it smooth for the 1st and 2nd page and let the speed build up. At this time the current



Photo: Darren Griggs

Australian record was 26 in time and it was set at the 98/99 Nationals by team *Entropy*. Team members were Craig Becchio, Glenn Dixon, Gavin Telford, Michael Schiller, Andrew England (v). After the jump, we all sat in front of the TV awaiting the results... The jump went as planned with the first few pages kept smooth, then the speed picked up towards the 2nd half of the jump. The preliminary score was 27 in time! We waited and waited for it to be posted by the judges then finally it was confirmed - an official Australian record with 27 in time and we knew we were back on track. For the rest of the comp, we continued to push ourselves on each and every jump, finishing with a 16.2 average.

Rotor Out would like to say thank you to Sydney Skydivers for hosting another great Nationals! We look forward to next year's Nationals...

Gold - *Rotor Out*



Silver - *Black*



Bronze - *Stix and Stonz*



4-WAY INTERMEDIATE

By Martin Barkley

Wow it's the Nationals! At 2pm on the Sunday before the Nationals, the three of us are looking for a fourth experienced person to join in the fun of a 4-way Intermediate team with two first time national competitors looking for some challenging competition opportunities. Andrew Barker, Glenn Farrell, Deb Hobbs and yours truly plus Joey Allan, with some support from Phil Onis, all sign up.

The competition briefing began introducing the judges, officials and the rules of the competition. You could feel the adrenaline in the room pumping.

Monday morning and let the games begin! Perfect weather conditions only added to the competition, as teams drilled through the dirt dives in preparation for the 10 rounds. Round 1 is Crank, Zigzag, Marquis and Bow. Oh my God, how would I ever remember all these moves while

plummeting down to earth? Had I taken on more than I could chew? Not on your life! With dirt dive repetition, before we knew it we were on board and off.

After Round 1, we all could see the judging in progress live on the big screen, which only added to the excitement for the competitors. As the day progressed we had got through 6 rounds, many teams had very close results as the competition was on fire. National records were being broken and there were only point differences in the results.

The final day for the 4-way was again perfect and as the 10 rounds finalised the results were neck-and-neck. There were some very tired competitors who had given all they had.

Congratulations to all, for being part of the competition. It was a great opportunity for new and experienced skydivers to get to know each other and keep the sport alive. Thanks to Sydney Skydivers for another great event.



Gold - Kaos



Silver - Silence of the Lambs



Bronze - Filming Four Flying Fools



Gold - Violent Uprising



Silver - Spin Doctors



Bronze - Ugize

RESULTS

4-WAY OPEN

1	Rotor Out	12	15	27	13	15	17	15	14	19	15	162
2	Black	13	11	21	11	12	13	12	13	17	11	134
3	Stix & Stonz	9	9	11	8	10	11	8	9	12	10	97
4	Fata Morgana	8	10	13	7	9	11	9	8	11	5	91
5	Sorted	8	9	7	7	8	10	7	9	11	8	84
6	Not Good	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5

Enough for James Boyle

4-WAY INTERMEDIATE

1	Kaos	8	8	10	13	12	11	11	12	8	10	103
2	Silence of the Lambs	10	7	8	10	10	9	1	6	8	5	83
3	Filming Four Flying Fools	7	4	4	7	4	2	5	5	4	5	47
4	Carpe Diem	6	3	3	7	4	5	6	1	5	5	45

TEAMS - 4-WAY OPEN

Rotor Out

Gary Nemirovsky (C)
Stephanie Bensley
Jens Goennemann
Darren Pearson
Darren Griggs (Cam)

Black

James Boyle (C)
George Attard
Sas (Simon) DiSciasio
Craig Vaughan
Patric Nygren (Cam)

Stix & Stonz

Mark Szulmaya (C)
Greg Hamilton
Fiona McEachern
Kim Hardwick
Matt Luke (Cam)
David Bakkers (Alternate)

Fata Morgana

Valentina T (C)
Chad Hodgens
Sean Walsh
Melissa Harvie
Nigel L.J (Cam)

Sorted

Grant Hassell (C)
Bill Harris
Col Porter
Holly Atteridge
Rob Ellery (Cam)

Not Good Enough For James Boyle

Gerome Rich (C) (James Boyle)
Chris Goodman
Kate Rogers
Kyle Binning
Mitch McMartin (Cam)

TEAMS - 4-WAY INTER

Kaos

Paul Algje (C)
Phil McComb
Brad Travena
Craig Robinson
Rob Ellery/Mitch McMartin (Cam)
Sven Peters (Alternate)

Silence of the Lambs

Barry Calver (C)
Troy Cotty
John Greig
Michael Schwach
Jim Smith (Cam)

Filming Four Flying Fools

Michael Vaughan (C)
Sam Munn
Adriel Kind
Greg Bennie
Scott Neander (Cam)

Carpe Diem

Andrew Barker (C)
Deborah Hobbs
Martin Barkley
Glenn Farrell
Joe Allen (Cam)

8-WAY

1	Violent Uprising	12	10	8	13	14	11	9	11	10	12	110
2	Spin Doctors	9	8	7	8	12	9	9	9	6	11	88
3	Ugize	5	6	7	8	9	5	8	7	8	8	71

TEAMS - 8-WAY

Violent Uprising

Jason Cook (C)
Simon (Sas) DiSciasio
Gary Nemirovsky
James Boyle
Michael Vaughan
Craig Vaughan
Steph Bensley
Kyle Binning
Mitch McMartin (Cam)

Spin Doctors

Andrew Barker (C)
Mark Szulmaya
Melissa Harvie
Chad Hodgens
Fiona McEachern
Sean Walsh
David Bakkers
Greg Hamilton
Nigel Johnston (Cam)

Ugize

Simone Bambach (C)
Tracey Basman
Dave Lancaster
Maybrit Prah
Igor Flack
Nicky Hannon
Paul Borlase
Helen Malhony
Scott Neander (Cam)
Grant Hassell (Alt)
Glenn Farrell (Alt)

Jim Cox 06.08.42 – 22.03.09



Jim Cox was a character in his own right – he was known as a noisy, fun loving, gregarious guy who was totally outspoken and did not tolerate bullshit. Jim maintained his friendships throughout the years with everyone, he was an advisor and mentor to so many people in promoting their careers and lives. He especially cared and loved

his family and was devoted to guiding Faye and Carolyn (and unofficial son-in-law Jason) to accomplish greater things in their lives.

Jim grew up to be a very knowledgeable man who “knew almost everything” and delighted in interactions and debates throughout his life. In 1963 Jim headed out to Camden, NSW to learn how to skydive. This was the beginning of Jim’s wonderful adventure in life. Jumping was very basic in those early days of the sixties (with only 30 jumps you could be an Instructor) but Jim was a survivor and was completely drawn into this world of skydiving. He was accused of being dangerous by his Instructor, for making 50 jumps in one year - which was considered too many to be safe!

After working and jumping in different states around Australia, Jim spent a lot of time at Townsville, North Queensland. Jim and his fellow jumpers from the Townsville Parachute Club introduced skydiving to Tully, when they organised a training camp at the Airstrip to prepare for the 65/66 Australian National Championships in Port Pirie, South Australia. Jim also trained his future wife, Faye, to make her first jumps at Tully.

After becoming the Australian Champion at the Port Pirie Nationals, he headed off to his first World Championships in East Germany. Jim won a place on every Australian Style and Accuracy Parachute Team at every National Championships he competed at and enjoyed representing Australia at many world and other international events. Jim also competed at National and State level in Formation Skydiving and Canopy Formation over the years. He was a National Judge for Style, Accuracy, Formation Skydiving,

Canopy Formation and Canopy Piloting. Jim had a huge collection of trophies and medals and was recipient of many sporting national and international awards.

After returning from Germany, Jim returned to Faye’s hometown at Perth, where they lived, worked and jumped weekends with the Rockingham Skydivers. In between, they returned to Townsville to more easily continue their competition jumping in the eastern states. They married at Perth in 1968 and shared a beach house at Cottesloe with local jumpers, Bob and Jenny Stafford, but finally the distance and continuous travels to the east drew them back to Townsville, where they settled and lived until 1995.

Together with skydiving friends, Noel and Sophie Weckert, in 1969, Jim and Faye set up the Townsville Sport Parachute & Skydiving Centre at Barringha, a farm property near Townsville. It was very basic with no water, a dirt track for an airstrip, old bush toilet and open shed for shade, but was a place where jumpers could do their thing and have lots of fun.

After Noel and Sophie’s untimely deaths in 1974, Jim and Faye bought a property at Manton, near Woodstock, north west from Townsville, where Jim cleared the wooded land to form an airstrip, large landing area and erected training facilities and comfortable accommodation complex. The jumpers affectionately named the drop zone “Golliwog Farm” because Jim, Faye, baby daughter Carolyn and Airedale dog “Woofa” all had curly hair.

Jim and Faye ran the Centre for 27 years. As the Chief and Senior Instructor, he trained thousands of skydivers, including his beloved daughter Carolyn, and thrilled throngs of people with skydiving demonstrations throughout Queensland and Australia.

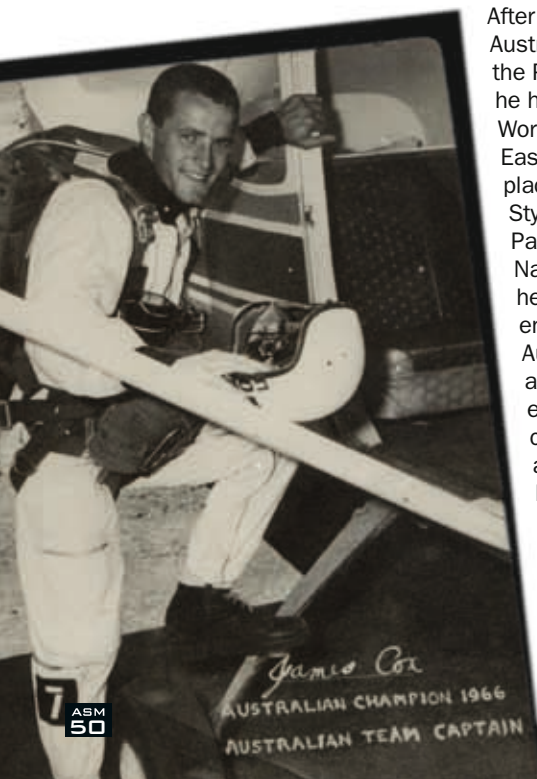
During this time Jim acquired his private pilot’s licence and became an avid jump and recreational pilot. He owned several aircraft, mainly Cessnas, which were useful for jumping, as well as a couple of more sporty aircraft. Jim was well known and enjoyed by the maintenance crews at the Townsville and Ingham airports where he was always noisily active in assisting in the maintenance of his planes.

Jim was a Life Member and driving force in the development of the Australian Parachute Federation. He was instrumental in the formation of the North Queensland Parachute Council and represented North Queensland as the Board Member for more than 25 years.

After more than 4,000 jumps all over the globe, Jim “retired” to Coolumb Beach in 1996 and became a coach and judge for national and international competitions until last year. After retiring, Jim continued to jump on a more casual basis and he came involved in assisting Faye with the development of the Asiana Parachute Federation. He also enjoyed his casual time with family and friends, drinking red wine and checking out the surf.

Later, in 1997 when Carolyn met her fiancé Jason, Jim and Faye accepted him as a loved and adopted son, and the four of them have been lucky to share their lives together closely over the years.

Jim died just recently after being diagnosed with asbestos cancer. He will be greatly missed by his family and all of his friends. A great man who loved his family, loved life and lived it to the full in a careful, caring way.





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“EVERY TIME YOU WIN, IT DIMINISHES THE FEAR A LITTLE BIT. YOU NEVER REALLY CANCEL THE FEAR OF LOSING; YOU KEEP CHALLENGING IT. THAT'S WHAT THE TUNNEL IS TO ME!”

By Greg Dore (GDore)
Photos by Will Pesek



Stuart works on a head up position with Will



Cath sit flying with Mike and Mick



ASM 52 Cath spocks Mike

What do you get if you put ten willing, able and committed Aussies with four dynamite coaches, in the best vertical wind tunnel in the world? An unforgettable experience and a learning progression that has to be seen to be believed.

On the 25th of February Adam Long, James Hensman, Greg Dore and Lucas Georgio of Earth Leakage and Cheri Bullen, Vicki Allen, Stuart Flegler, Cath Comyns, Mathew Longhurst and Brody Johnson said bon voyage and set sail for the land of the brave and free, Fayetteville, North Carolina, for one reason alone: to be coached by Mick Nuttall and Will Pesek with Mike Whittenburg and Dave Brown, in the biggest and best wind tunnel in the world!

No time was wasted and as soon as we woke from our airport hotel in Raleigh N.C the hire cars were loaded and the journey began... on to the tunnel! After 3 hours we were looking with anticipation at our home for the next two weeks, the Paraclete XP tube of fun!

The First session is always a lot of fun especially if you have been lucky enough to fly before! After catching up with Will, Mick and Mike we were soon in the tube flying! The groups were planned out on day planners to an organized schedule - Earth Leakage trained as one group and rotated with the rest of our team. The schedule was rigorous with some of the participants doing one-hour days! The schedule allowed for some recovery days.

All sessions were pre and de briefed for an hour and the new school coaching techniques allowed for a very fast learning progression, the coaches pushed us to our limits, which allowed for huge dividends! One of the main focuses was technique and correct 'new school' body position. This new body position allows for a better ability to participate in VFS and it was inspirational to see people being coached with this position first, without forming and bad habits. The main underlying principal was teaching people how to fly for VFS as fast as possible!

The first sessions were used for tunnel familiarisation as for some members it their first time, but it did not take long before everyone was learning loads and having fun... The first four days were a marathon! The group was mainly divided into two with Earth Leakage concentrating on VFS for 2 sessions and developing their body position and skill set for one session per day. The other participants worked on back, belly and sit flying. Some of the gang developed very quickly and really surprised the coaches. For example Matt progressed to head down flight after 2 hours, amazing!



EL geeks the camera in a head down line



Cherie learning how to sit fly



Matt Cherie and Stuart rest in the anti chamber while Cath and Mike play while Mick looks on!

After the rest period the camp really got down to business with Earth Leakage learning all the advanced blocks and randoms, mirrored slots and 'b' slots. All of this would have taken us years to engineer on our own and in the sky, but we managed to learn this information in 8 days! A big highlight was performing 8-way, a lot of fun, the size dimension was applied to the principles of 4-way. Mick and Will's amazing coaching skills really were worth their weight in gold! The extended group were mostly head up flying with some members flying head down! Cath was turning points and doing a competition with the coaches verses Earth Leakage... and beating us too! Well-done Cath! Her progression was more than textbook. Matt was also turning points in an 8-way towards the end of the camp, wow!

Brody, Fleggie, Cheri and Vicki all got a huge amount of value for after the camp their sit positions were solid and they were all flying on their head in some degree, which is outstanding progression! We will all be keeping a keen eye on you guy's to see how you take it to the sky!

The last two days on were difficult because of fatigue but rewarding because of currency. The Leakage boys were now doing 24 points in time and had all of the more difficult blocks nailed down. The personal sessions were also very rewarding with Adam and James tearing through the compulsories! However towards the end, because of fatigue, a lot of carving was getting done!

The coaching was the main reason why we went to NC. Will and Mick with the help from Mike and Dave really put in a tremendous effort and delivered a great result. They shared everything that might help us to achieve and learn. Their "can-do" attitude and professional approach helped us tremendously. Thanks a lot guy's, you really are the bomb!

Well-done guys. All participants will take their new skill set and will be able to apply their new technique to the sky and be happy with the progression and the amazing value for money! So after 47 hours, empty wallets and sore muscles we were back on a plane bound for the Aussie Nationals in Sydney.

Special thanks to all the participants for their commitment, without you the camp would not have happened, Jenna Hay for her organisational skills and Amy Busted for her help with the flights!



Vicki sit flying with Mick



Stuart and Mike belly flying

The full blocks and randoms can be found at www.vrw4way.com

“ THAT SOME ACHIEVE GREAT SUCCESS IS PROOF TO ALL THAT OTHERS CAN ACHIEVE IT AS WELL. ”



PIA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM 2009

Reno, USA
9th to 13th February 2009

The Symposium had over 720 registered to attend not counting those that turned up without pre-registering. There were 112 hours of presentations covering most aspects of skydiving, rigging, design, management of DZs, Base, Military parachutes and technical design applications. There was a down turn of about 30% in exhibitors use of the space as some had smaller booths but those there were enthusiastic and well presented. The Symposium 2008 in Barcelona may have burdened some exhibitors and not enabled them to manage another in such a short time span. The Symposium was preceded by 4 days of Technical committee meetings, attended by military, government and civilian delegates from all aspects of parachute manufacturers, material manufacturers, suppliers and regulators. 2009 was the 11th Symposium event and is the continuing involvement of the first "Riggers Conference" started 28 years ago in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Monday 9th Feb. was registration day, starting at 8am and exhibitor set up until 2pm. The opening reception was held from 3pm- 5pm at the Reno Ballroom. Although there was no guest speaker to open the event as in previous years, the relaxed atmosphere, with drinks and varied hot and cold delicious finger foods, large screen TVs running great skydiving footage and music, set the atmosphere for friends to meet and new friendships to develop. The exhibition hall was opened from 5pm-9pm next block over from the ballroom and everyone was keen to see the stands after a brisk walk in the cold, it snowed lightly, intermittently, melting on the ground. The exhibitors covered all aspects of parachute manufacture, safety, instruments, jumpsuits, accessories and latest developments. The first four hours of the exhibition hall was only a sampler and the next three days were used to scrutinize all the items on display, talk to the manufacturers, make deals, source new suppliers and realize the growing scope of the parachute industry. The manufacturer's range of parachutes covered ram-air canopies of 10,000sq.ft. down to one square foot autonomously guided ram-air parachutes, feats of scale and micro-electronic engineering for the guidance system.

Tuesday 10th Feb. The seminars started at 8am and four ran at the same time in different rooms. This is where we, the Australian attendees, tried to spread ourselves to cover as many as possible but as there were some conflicting repeats, we at times were all in the same presentation due to the intense interest in the subject.

AADs an inside view

Airtec Cypres AAD presentation by Jurgen Sennert. (*This is a paraphrase of his talk with any errors mine in transcription.*)

Jurgen gave a manufacturer's view on the components used and the results of data collected over the years of factory servicing of the Cypres AAD. The Cypres uses quartz oscillation as the internal 'clock' and makes four readings per second of the sensor input to track the descent parameters. This 'clock' is humidity sensitive which is why the battery is now changed at the factory maintenance on the Cypres 2 to ensure that it is waterproof. The barometric sensor drifts in sensitivity as it ages and can vary by up to 1.0 mbar per year (0.1mbar =3ft) or 30 ft in a year. Without regular maintenance over a twelve year period this drift could be up to 315ft. During factory maintenance any component that does not meet the as new performance is replaced so that it is within the factory tolerance limits for the life of the unit.

Jurgen advocated the use of fine emery paper of 360-400grit to smooth any burrs that develop around the cutter hole during packing. The cutter use 20mg of propellant to power the guillotine blade which travels from 0-325mph in 4.5mm when new. A 12 year old cutter can lose up to 20% of its power, at 15 years slow ignition can make the cutter unreliable and at 18.5 years the power loss meant that the loop may not be clean cut.

Thermo-mechanic stress, expansion and contraction of components due to temperature variation, causes stress on components due to the different rates of expansion of dissimilar materials i.e. copper etching on plastic plate. This flexing can induce cracks to form in soldered joints. Tests indicate that at 15 years, ageing cracks can cause signal dropout. Microscopic photography of typical cracks was shown of soldered joints and PCB board connections. The data of years of rigorous testing is the basis on which Airtec has formulated its reliable life limit for their Cypres AAD units. Reliability of the best available components degrades over time and Airtec will not compromise on reliability. If an error code shows, do not retry to start it but return the unit to Airtec for assessment / repair.

US Army Personnel Airdrop Systems

This presentation by Takis Blanas covered the introduction of the new parachute systems being introduced into the US Army. The T-11 to replace the T-10. The T-11 is a large cross-shaped canopy with the arms sewn closed to form a box shaped canopy. The peripheral hem is 28ft diameter. The canopy is double bag deployed with a slider to reduce opening shock to less than 10G. This allows it to be jumped from galaxy jet transport aircraft at 150 kts. With a 400lb (182kg) load it descends at 19fps (5.8m/s) at 7500ft ASL. The T-11R reserve is based on the GQ Aeroconical canopy is 20 gores and has an area of 180sq.ft.

This seminar was packed as the interest to the parachute industry was widespread due to the fact that the initial US government order is 59,000 assemblies. This will be a huge financial boost to the US parachute manufacturing industry as there will be

many offset orders to subcontractors. Major manufacturers are also expanding their production facilities to cope with the orders and experienced engineers and riggers are being hired to facilitate production.

Parachutes Have a History: Space and Lifesaving.

Presented by Larry Richardson.

Larry gave an overview of his career as an engineer in parachute development for lifesaving equipment for aircrew and astronauts. His talk was interesting and informative and he described how the split saddle harness was initially made to facilitate donning the harness over pressure suits as the suits were fitted with zip closures that ran front to rear to allow crew toilet access. Larry Richardson also designed the four-line release fitting that made the 28ft C-9 parachute steerable for pilots after bail-out. Larry's career as an engineer is typical of the government personnel who worked on projects that eventually had spin-offs that were adopted by sport jumpers. Under the current system of parachute development the US government is no longer the leader in research but relies on industry to design systems to address performance requirements of lifesaving equipment. This has allowed many more companies to utilize engineers from the sport field with practical experience in parachutes to offer solutions to military requirements.

Rigger's Forum

Hosted by Allen Silver, was a deviation to the previous format of a panel of riggers from different countries answering questions on rigging and the procedures in their various countries. This year we were presented with a guest speaker who epitomized the basic original use of a parachute; to save a life, F15 pilot Brian Udell. In April 1995 he was on a night training exercise where he was to engage in mock combat with another F15 over the ocean. As he turned his aircraft into a climb to 'attack' the other aircraft, he sensed that something was amiss. Instead of climbing his instruments were indicating a steep high speed descent. Being pitch black and having no sense of horizon or control as he passed through 8000ft ASL, he elected to eject. He ejected at over 800mph. The wind blast ripped off his helmet, oxygen mask and shredded his lifejacket. When his canopy opened he was faced with landing in the ocean at night without a lifejacket and severely disabled by the windblast that had dislocated his arm at the elbow and legs at the knees. He managed with some great effort to reel in his one-man liferaft that had deployed on canopy opening and was hanging below him. When he landed in the ocean, he with incredible strength and determination managed to board his liferaft and organize his limbs into position and then pull up the spray shield he was sitting on and inflate it to shield him from the elements as he waited for rescue. Some hours later, being aware of the search aircraft, he attempted to signal his position but the signal flares required two hands to operate so he was unable to make visual signals. He was also equipped with an emergency radio and was able to direct the search aircraft by instructing them to make turns towards his location and then tell them when they passed overhead to obtain a GPS position on him. They then dropped markers near him to allow the rescue helicopter to find him. When the helicopter came near he instructed them to not hover over him as he was worried that the downwash would blow

him over in his raft and he was unable to swim with his injuries. The helicopter crew lit him up with a search light and a rescue swimmer jumped into the sea and swam over to him. After a brief discussion a rescue basket was dropped that the swimmer towed over and with difficulty he managed to roll into with the swimmer's aid. He was then brought under the helicopter where the downwash and swell washed over him giving him an uncomfortable few minutes before he was finally winched aboard. His injuries also included a "head the size of a pumpkin" from the battering of the 800mph wind blast (600mph exerts a force of two tons over a person) as well as the dislocations of his limbs. He had several months of hospital treatment and is recovered and now flies as an airline pilot. He still enjoys small agile aircraft and has his own aerobatic plane.

He was presented with his Caterpillar Club badge and certificate by Airborne Systems, who now own the Irvin marque, in a ceremony after his talk. He was also presented with two Softie pilot rigs, one for his young son, as a thank you for his inspirational talk.

His ejection and safe recovery is a testament to parachute and ejection seat designers, manufacturers and riggers who pack and service lifesaving equipment. It demonstrated the most extreme conditions for human survival and "the parachute worked".

Packers and riggers in the sport field rarely have to contend with such extremes but gear that is inspected and packed can, at times unexpected, be put to use in precarious situations due to aircraft incidents, malfunctions, collisions, low openings etc. be called on to function flawlessly. The skill and attitude to perfection may be all that stands between the sky and ground.

Brian Udell's story is available in detail in the book "The Survivor's Club".

More from the PIA seminars in the next issue.



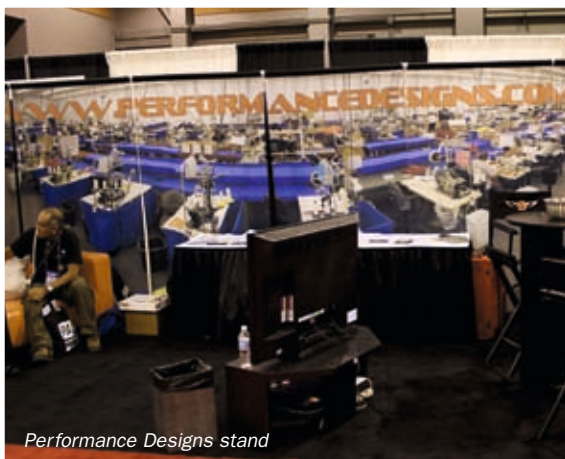
Cookie Composites stand



PD's new super lightweight lined Competition Velocity canopy



Allen Silver seminar assemble and packing Softie seat pack



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Learning from the Past



Adapted by APF Technical Officer Kim Hardwick from an article originally written by Jim Crouch, Director of Safety and Training USPA.

German political philosopher Karl Marx once said, "It is not worthwhile to try to keep history from repeating itself, for man's character will always make the preventing of the repetitions impossible." Sadly, his observation is as true for skydivers as it has proven to be for most every other demographic. In spite of all the efforts to educate skydivers of past problems that have led to injuries and fatalities, some of us never seem to get the message and ultimately wind up injured or killed from an entirely preventable accident.

Skydiving has been described as inherently risky by some, and those who choose to ignore our accident history only add risk to every skydive made. We should each learn from the mistakes of those who came before us in an effort to avoid those same errors. Just a few simple precautions go a long way toward eliminating many of the accidents we continue to repeat. Just as you can minimize risk while driving by following the "rules of the road," the same pretty much holds true for skydiving. Following the rules and guidelines set forth by the APF and your local drop zone can help substantially lessen the chance of an accident.

Amazingly enough, skydivers repeat the same type of accidents year after year. Looking at the accident reports over the past decade, they break down into a handful of broad categories to consider:

- Canopy control
- Freefall safety
- Equipment
- Emergency procedures
- Aircraft and exit procedures
- Rules and recommendations

Interestingly, these same six subject areas make up each category of the Training Operations Manual. Students trained receive in-depth training of new information and later a thorough review in each of these subject areas, reinforcing the basics while introducing new training and information in detail.

For many years, the largest issue with canopy control was the infamous "low turn into the ground." Skydivers have slowly learned more effective and safer techniques for performing high-performance landings, but these landings are still risky maneuvers, resulting in numerous accidents each year regardless of the jumper's experience level. In a somewhat new trend, canopy collisions are on the rise over the past few years, worldwide.

While separating high-performance landings from jumpers flying standard landing patterns goes a long way toward reducing the chance of a canopy collision, everyone needs to fly defensively and look before making any turns to ensure the airspace is clear.

While freefall collisions are rare, they can happen to anyone. For starters, sticking to group sizes appropriate for your skill level can help keep you out of harm's way. Progressing to more difficult freefall skills with the help of a coach or experienced jumper leading the way can also help you advance while keeping the risk of a collision as low as possible. Used as an effective backup device, an automatic activation device can help ensure a jumper's reserve deploys if he loses track of altitude during the skydive or is rendered unconscious as a result of a freefall collision.

Our equipment is safer than ever before, but it doesn't matter how well the gear is designed if it is packed poorly or isn't maintained as it should be. Loose closing loops have led to several jumpers being extracted out of an airplane prematurely by a deploying main

canopy. Without enough tension on a closing pin, it can easily become dislodged in the airplane. If no one catches the open container before the jumper climbs out, the main bag tumbles out the door, the lines unstow, and the canopy inflates. Sometimes the canopy clears the airplane without incident, but often the canopy or jumper will strike the horizontal stabilizer, sometimes with fatal results. Keep your gear well maintained, and make sure that your main pilot chute pouch is in good shape and that the main closing loop is in good condition and short enough to hold the container flaps tight. Your rigger is a great resource for help with learning more about your gear.

Because of how reliable main canopies have become, jumpers are now making thousands of jumps without experiencing a malfunction, making it easy to become complacent. Practicing your emergency procedures frequently can help ensure that you act appropriately in the event of a malfunctioned main canopy. Use a training harness regularly, and take the opportunity to pull your cutaway and reserve ripcord handles when it's time for a repack.

Internationally there have been several recent airplane tail strikes that occurred as jumpers exited an aircraft still in a climb, which has its tail in a lower position than its nose, making it easier to hit the tail after exit. Some of the accidents proved fatal, while others resulted in serious injuries. Talk to your pilot to learn the specific procedures for jump run and exit for the plane you are using. As a general rule, only exit an airplane that is flying straight and level, as jumping out of a climbing aircraft is asking for trouble.

Each jumper must adhere to APF's Operational Regulations that pertain to skydiving as the minimum safety standards for our sport, which helps reduce the chance of a skydiving accident.

Common sense, careful preparation and proper training all go hand in hand toward keeping you as safe as possible during your skydiving career. Learn more about your gear, and get training before trying something new. In spite of man's character, we should do everything we can to learn from our past and avoid the errors of those who have come before.

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Note: The APF web site has many on-line educational articles and publications. A useful one is the **Safety Checklist**, which can be found at: <http://docs.apf.asn.au/index.php/Information>. Skydivers can benefit from more frequent and thorough equipment checks, emergency procedures practice, and enhanced canopy control awareness.

This checklist was produced by the USPA as a result of one of their national Safety Days and is reproduced on our web site with their permission. It has been modified by the APF Technical Officer to suit Australian Specifications.

It includes such areas as:

- Equipment – maintenance, packing and the gear check
- Aeroplanes – getting on, getting up and getting out
- The Skydive – falling, fleeing and landing
- Emergencies – malfunctions, collisions and other dangers
- Under Canopy – planning, avoidance and landing

IPC MEETING

By Fiona McEachern, APF Director Competitions



THE INTERNATIONAL PARACHUTING COMMISSION (IPC) MEETING TOOK PLACE ON 27TH JANUARY TO 1ST FEBRUARY 2009 IN VÄSTERAS, SWEDEN. AUSTRALIA WAS REPRESENTED BY MYSELF FIONA MCEACHERN (IPC DELEGATE, FS COMMITTEE CHAIR), LINDY ROCHOW-WILLIAMS (ALTERNATE IPC DELEGATE, CF COMMITTEE ADVISOR) AND RAY WILLIAMS (ADVISOR TO ARTISTICS COMMITTEE). SOME OF THE TOPICS UNDER DISCUSSION INCLUDED THE IPC STRATEGIC PLAN, CHANGES TO THE SPORTING CODE SECTION 5, IPC AWARDS AND BIDS FOR FUTURE CHAMPIONSHIPS. THERE WERE NO ELECTIONS SINCE IPC FOLLOW A 2 YEAR ELECTION CYCLE WITH THE NEXT ELECTIONS DUE IN 2010.

Strategic Plan

The IPC Bureau released a new Strategic plan at this meeting. The plan aims to develop Sport parachuting as an attractive and dynamic activity.

The initiatives cover:-

Competition formats

- Introduce instant judging and presentation of results in all disciplines.
- Simplify the competition rules.
- Improve the consistency of rules across disciplines.

Selection process for international events

- Develop material to attract organisers.
- Move towards competition venues with easy access to the public and media.
- Seek organisers with the capability of exploring the sport's marketing potential.
- Issue a calendar of competitions as a guideline to potential organisers

Promotion of Safety

- Establish common standards in the collection of statistics.
- Encourage the setting up of databases and collect data relating to safety in parachuting.
- Act as a vehicle for publicising information on safety issues from manufacturers.

A summary of the major rule changes follows. For a comprehensive list of changes, please consult the FAI website or contact Fiona. fionam@speedlink.com.au

Canopy Piloting (CP)

Zone Accuracy: There were major changes to the scoring in this event.

A maximum of 100 points can be collected over the 4 water gates.

Landing zone points will be deducted from the water gate points.

Centre zone will be a 2x2m zero deduction zone.

No Zone zero between water and zone 1.

Marker strike penalty changed to one second.

Speed:

Scores will be squared to give a greater spread between competitor's scores.

Reinstate the plus 1 kilo rule.

Records only valid if winds less than 7m/s.

Formation Skydiving (FS)

No major rule changes, no dive pool changes.

Vertical Formation Skydiving (VFS)

Grip line defined. No grip lines may cross.

Increase rounds to 8 and some dive pool changes and the addition of two extra blocks.

There are some minor changes to existing formations also. See <http://www.fai.org/parachuting/documents/sportingcode2009> for the full dive pool.

Delete Block 11 (overcrank/undercrank)

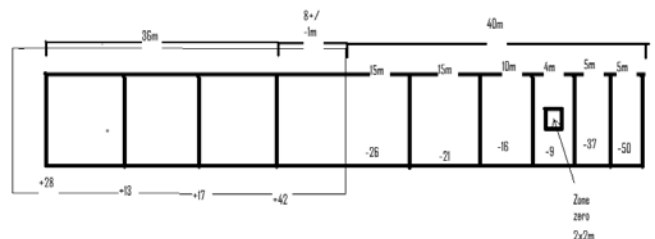
Delete Random D (HD Star)

New Block 11 is Fun buddies

Block 13 is HD star/HD star

Block 14 is Satellite/Satellite

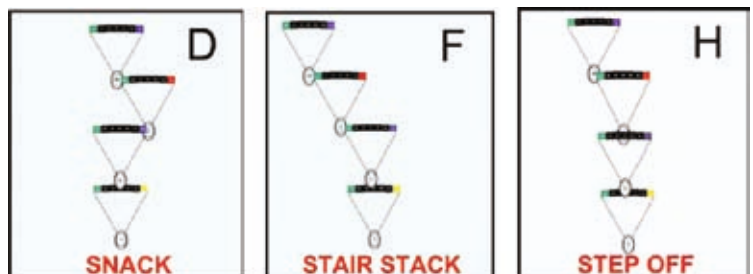
Random D is Sitline



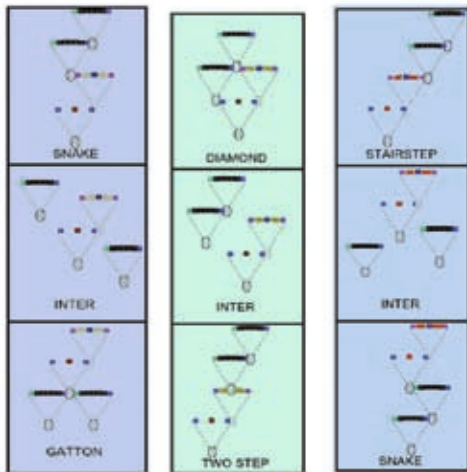
Canopy Formation (CF)

Additional clarification of where grips must be taken. NJ defined.

4-way sequential event: 3 randoms have changed to replace inverted Tee, Tee and Accordion.



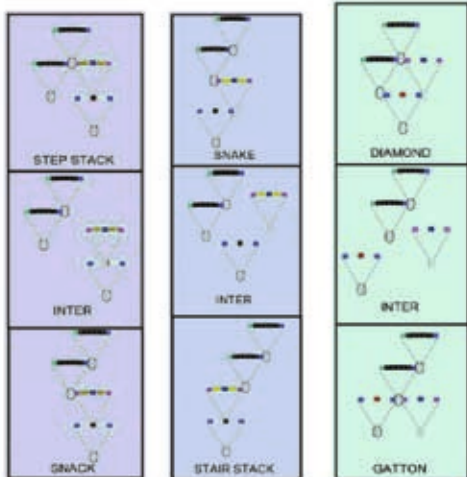
Six blocks have changed to replace 1, 2, 3, 9, 11 and 13.
The new blocks are:



Block 1

Block 2

Block 3



Block 9

Block 11

Block 13

Artistic Events (AE)

Freestyle Event: Combined male and female in Freestyle.

Freefly Event: New Freeflying randoms. See <http://www.fai.org/parachuting/documents/sportingcode2009> for details.
FF6 Totem has a change in direction of one competitor
FF7 Broulette
FF9 Cat replaces Star
FF10 Head up replaced by Double Head up

Classics

Jumpers will be informed of weather changes when offsite for more than 60 minutes.

Other

- Both CF and VFS will run web challenges through the FAI website this year where jumps can be submitted for Judging and other team's jumps can be viewed.
- The Judges committee have produced a course for those wishing to prepare for an FAI Judge's rating. This will also be available from the FAI website and promises to be an aid useful to International competitors as well.
- Kim Hardwick was mentioned and thanked specifically for her contribution to the collection of safety data.

World Competitions

02-06/12/2009 World Cup of Canopy Piloting, Johannesburg South Africa

01-06/08/2010 WPC FS, AE and CF and WC VFS Menzelinsk, Russia

28/08/2010 - 04/09/2010 WPC Style and Accuracy, Niksic, Montenegro

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STATE CHAMPS

JANUARY 2009

By **Tim Buhler & Patrick Nygren**
 Photos by **Mitch McMartin**

Competition skydiving! Anyone can fun jump but the pressure cooker environment of competition skydiving is the real test of any skydiver's mettle.

January saw Skydive Nagambie hosting the Victorian and Tasmanian State Championships under the steely gaze of Meet Director Louise Cross. With the Nationals only a couple of months away this was the perfect chance for teams to hone their skills with national glory in mind.

The 4-Way Open FS event saw *Rotor Out* up against *Spasibo*. These two teams, both containing members from last year's national champions, *Airtite*, were to be competing against each other at the Nationals so it was a good chance to size each other up. After six tight rounds *Rotor Out* took the gold with 86 points over *Spasibo's* 78 points.

4-Way Inter FS was a thriller with *Kaos* pipping 13 by a single point. Shanno could be heard lamenting that one extra VB the night before may have swung things in *Kaos'* favour. *Morally Flexible* took the bronze and Sydneysiders, the *Picton Pimps*, fourth. The *Funnels* earn a special mention for their energy and enthusiasm, both in the air and at the bar.

In the 8-Way FS, *Collabor8* took an early lead but were unable to capitalise, *C. U. Next Tuesday* pegging them back to snare the gold.

In the Freely comp *Limited Express* was too good taking gold, *2 Girls...* took silver and *Orbital Mayhem* bronze. *2 Girls...* were later awarded the gold as they had the best name and Kell got her girls out for the team pic! Sven Peter (Avionics Composite Technician) won gold, silver and bronze as camera man and deserves one made of chocolate also for all his hard work in getting the Freely comp up and running.



Rotor Out humbly celebrate their victory



Collabor8



4-Way Inter champs *Kaos*



Photo: Meatball





C.U. Next Tuesday



2 girls...



RESULTS

4-Way Open FS

1st Rotor Out

Steph Bensley, Darren Pearson, Michael Vaughan, Gary Nemirovsky, Griggsy (V)

2nd Spasibo

James Boyle, Craig Vaughan, Sas, Rob Tasic, Palle (V)

4-Way Inter FS

1st Kaos

Brad Trevena, Phil McComb, Paul Algie, Craig Robinson, Gary Nemirovsky (V)

2nd 13

Shannon Straubinger, Wok Smith, Roi Fuchs, Ben Mac, Mitch McMartin (V)

3rd Morally Flexible

Sharon Steele, Tallis Steele, Tanya Zanders, Sharky, Sas (V)

4th Picton Pimps

Michael Vaughan, Mike Stevenson, Giles Cooper, Greg Benny, Roi Fuchs (V)

5th The Funnels

Dave McMahon, Ben Lappin, Lachie McMahon, Muddy Murchich, Honey (V)

8-Way FS

1st C.U.Next Tuesday

Sas, Carsten Boeving, James Boyle, Jude Freeman, Sharyn Steele, Tanya Zanders, Joy Weisenfeld, Kate Rose, Darren Griggs (V)

2nd Collabor8

Gary Nem, Mike Stevenson, Michael Vaughan, Giles Cooper, Brad Trevena, Paul Algie, Craig Robinson, Phil McComb, Roi Fuchs (V)

Freely

1st Limited Express

Chris Barnett, Macca, Sven (V)

2nd 2 Girls...

Kelly Cameron, Kate Rose, Sven (V)

3rd Orbital Mayhem

Dave Totera, Josh Dude, Sven (V)

Limited Express



Picton Pimps



The Funnels

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All of the people that have long skydiving careers have the same attitude - "it CAN happen to me". Generally, people who think they're "so good, that it can't happen to me" find themselves surprised when it does actually happen.

[SAFETY MATTERS]

Compiled by Kim Hardwick

Skydiving Accident Information

Most skydiver accidents are attributed to skydiver error. Equipment failure is rarely a cause.

What this means is that the skydiver either did something he shouldn't have done, or didn't do something he should have done, or simply used poor judgment or decision-making. For these reasons, the business establishment or the location itself are rarely factors in an accident. APF investigates all fatal accidents for lessons learned that can be shared and disseminated to all skydivers.

APF Regulations require every skydiver (and every tandem pair) to use two parachutes—a main parachute and a reserve parachute that must always have been packed by an APF certified parachute rigger/packer 'A'. All skydivers are taught emergency procedures in the event that the main parachute does not fully open or is not controllable. The procedure is to release from the malfunctioned main parachute and then deploy the reserve parachute so that the two have no chance to entangle. All student skydivers and all tandem pairs must have an automatic activation device (AAD) installed which deploys the reserve parachute if certain speed and altitude parameters are exceeded. Increasingly, experienced skydivers are also installing AADs in their equipment.

All APF skydiving centres are affiliated with APF as 'Member Clubs' which is offered for renewal each calendar year. APF Clubs agree to abide by APF's Operational Regulations, which among other things, requires the centre to offer APF-approved first-jump training methods, to use current APF-rated skydiving instructors, and to provide skydiving students with safety equipment like AADs.

The following are taken from a selection of incidents received at the APF office and are published in the interest of safety education. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, neither the APF or ASM make any representations about their accuracy, as information is based on incident reports as received. Comments in italics are compiled by Kim Hardwick, APF Technical Officer.

EXITS/FREEFALL

'C' Licence freely jumper experienced a freefall collision with a 'D' Licence camera flyer, the former suffering a sore knee, the latter suffering from a broken finger. Action: Debrief on more general awareness.

Failure to judge a dive towards a formation or inattention to other jumpers while diving or tracking can result in collision. Cloud can reduce visibility on approach or break off. Freeflying presents extra risks of collision due to its 3 dimensional nature, high degree of difficulty, high freefall speed, and the phenomenon of "corking"; a sudden reversion to a flat position and loss of vertical speed. Freefall collisions can be severe enough to cause fatal injuries. Additionally a jumper may be knocked unconscious or be physically disabled and unable to deploy or operate a parachute.



Choose the type and size of loads that are suitable for your skill level. Move cautiously towards the formation staying in your quadrant. Look around for other jumpers on approach and break off.

'E' Licence jumper dislodged cutaway handle on exit but was not noticed. At 9000ft 2nd jumper noticed the floating handle & signaled. Jumpers separated & flew flat in open airspace until 4000ft to deploy. Jumper 1 was unaware of what the problem was. Main deployed fine & J1 noticed the problem when checking at 3000ft. As only half inch of cutaway cable was still through the riser cable, elected to cutaway & deploy reserve, landing without further incident. Action: be more careful on climb-out.

DEPLOYMENT/MALFUNCTIONS

'E' Licence jumper experienced a bag lock malfunction due to double stowing of large rubber band. Use small rubber bands with single stows.



This is a high-speed malfunction that usually but not always clears on cutaway. Attention to your pilot chute and line stows is the best way to prevent a bag lock.

'E' Licence jumper experienced a pilot chute in tow malfunction. Cutaway & deployed reserve. Later inspection revealed bridle was misrouted. Pin check had been performed prior to exit. Action: Skydiver & pin checker counseled on proper packing and inspection technique.

Incorrect routing of the bridle of a throwaway pilot chute can result in it towing from the unopened main container. An un-cocked pilot chute can also fail to open the container or lift off the D bag. A tow has the potential to tangle with the reserve. Check the bridle routing and the mark on the kill line before every jump.

'E' Licence jumper experienced a bag-lock malfunction. Vigorous shaking of the risers released the bag-lock but the canopy opened in severe line twists and diving. Unable to clear by kicking so emergency procedures initiated. Skyhook deployed reserve after cutaway before reserve handle was pulled.

'C' Licence jumper executing a hop'n pop skydive. Deployed Main parachute and experienced line twists. Attempted to untwist but canopy started to wind up more.



Made decision to cutaway very late and reserve was deployed low, giving just time to grab toggles and flare, landing in swampy area with no injuries. Action: Extensive debrief.

'E' Licence jumper's main deployed on heading, good opening but with a slow right turn. Releasing brakes exaggerated the turn. Held down left toggle to maintain heading to investigate, but could not confirm the reason for turn. Cutaway & deployed reserve. Later inspection of main revealed the front riser was passing through the 2nd cascade due to incorrect installation of main. (recently acquired main - 1st jump) Action: Briefed on importance of triple checking prior to use, when installing new equipment.



[SAFETY MATTERS]

'A' Licence jumper after deployment of Main could not release left brake and canopy started diving. Cutaway Main at 1800ft and under reserve by 1300ft. Action: Relearn toggle stow technique. Take more care when packing. Discussed need to open reserve higher.

'E' Licence jumper on a display jump experienced line twists and spirals after deployment. Cutaway & under reserve by 1500'. Inspection revealed right main brake toggle had released. Poor flare on reserve, nil injuries. Action: Counselling to take care when packing in unfamiliar environment and to test flare of reserve at height.

One of the most common symptoms of a malfunction is a rapid rotation or spin. This can be caused by a line over, broken line, line entanglement or canopy damage. Highly loaded or elliptical parachutes can also spin if they open with line twists. Any rotating canopy will have a very high descent rate. Emergency procedure can be complicated by the possibility of a hard cutaway. Attention to line condition, tension and placement (all lines, especially steering lines, in the center) during packing can reduce the chance of a rotating canopy malfunction.

'D' Licence jumper on a Canopy Formation jump. Reserve deployed immediately on main opening, canopies went into a down-plane. Elected to cutaway the main just over 1300ft. Action: Better pin check before exit.

'C' Licence jumper made a linked 2-way exit from 3500ft participating in a sports accuracy competition. Kept freefalling after other jumper deployed at 2500, deploying around 1000-11000ft. About same time as main canopy inflated, Cypres fired resulting in a two canopies deployed. Jumper elected to land under both canopies. Action: Talked to the jumper about how serious this incident is and what could have been the result.

Both the main and reserve can be open at the same time if the main is deployed around AAD firing height. Problems with the RSL, reserve loop, reserve pin or handle security or inadvertent manual reserve deployment can also result in dual canopies.

While large, docile and similar sized canopies (student canopies) may fly together safely, especially in a bi-plane, high performance canopies probably will not.

A cutaway from a bi-plane risks a main/reserve entanglement. If you elect to cutaway check that the reserve is fully open and functional. Make sure it is clear of the main. Two canopies in a bi-plane can be pulled apart into a side-by-side before cutting away.



If the canopies fly apart into a down plane, cutaway immediately. If the main opens first there may not be enough airspeed to inflate the

reserve. It may twist or entangle with no possibility of inflation. Do not cutaway the main. Fly and land it as best you can.

Learn more by reading the PIA Dual Square Report available on the APF web site.

UNDER CANOPY/LANDING

'D' Licence jumper had planned for a straight approach landing but decided to do a 90 degree turn for a quicker landing. (Have been doing 90s & 180s for a while). Deviated to the left of the landing area on deep brakes and waited for everyone else around to land. By this stage, I had chewed up quite a bit of height and landing area became congested. After releasing brakes and starting turn, ground was fast approaching and I fixated on another jumper so as not to hit him. He moved aside but I hit the ground pretty hard. Injuries: Bruising/swelling to left ankle and knee. Also sore calf muscle on left leg. Action: Stick to initial plan and don't make last second decisions especially if it will risk the safety of myself and others. This is especially true at boogies where there are many canopies around & landing area can become very busy – as it did. Land away and walk the extra few metres!

'E' Licence jumper upon finals executed an aggressive 270 – 360 degree turn. Due to insufficient altitude, impact was hard on knees. Canopy was not fully above the jumper's head. PLR was attempted but ineffective. Injuries: Bruising on back and ribs. Lucky. Action: To be briefed regarding swooping techniques.

'C' Licence jumper (995 jumps) on a Kaos 98, set themselves up for a 270 degree high performance turn for landing, in front of a pre-positioned ground camera person. Jumper allowed themselves to go past the Optima audible altimeter setting and commenced the turn too low, resulting in a hard impact and fractures to vertebrae. Action: Jumper extremely aware of the risk that was taken.

APF Safety Participate

+ TURF SURFING +

HOOK TURNS
And
HIGH
SPEED LANDINGS

DO NOT
ALWAYS
IMPRESS...

...THEY CAN ALSO
COMPRESS
FRACTURE RIP
PARALYSE MAIM
CONCUSS TEAR
BRUISE CHIP
SHATTER and
EMBARRASS

The judgement is critical
THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

This design by David Reynolds was the winner of the APF Safety Poster Competition 2003.

'E' Licence jumper flying a Crossfire 119. Last load of the day, hop'n pop. Decided to do a downwind landing after 180 degree front riser turn. Nice and fast without getting into the corner. Landing area ended in farmer's wheat field. Still moving very fast when he put his feet down, unable to see ground clearly due to wheat. Dug in with left foot & didn't get up – uneven, ploughed field. Injury: Fractured tibia & fibula. Action: Should have started sloop at position that allowed him to return to landing area. Spoken to by CI.

Jumpers who choose to pursue high-performance canopy landings should get experienced canopy coaching and follow a structured program to learn the necessary skills to eliminate as much risk as possible. Even with training and experience, high-speed landings can be extremely dangerous, and jumpers must consider whether it is actually worth the risk of serious injury or death. All turns must be completed with enough altitude for the canopy to return to straight and level flight for the landing flare.

Two 'B' Licence jumpers were participating in an Accuracy competition. The lower canopy (A) was making a standard straight in approach when the higher (B) made a hard right turn directly into path of the of (A). Pilot of canopy (B) was focused on the target without being aware of (A's) position. Though both made avoidance manoeuvres, Canopy B hit the rear of Canopy A's lines. They then separated and landed safely. Action: Full awareness of other canopies. Give the lower canopies right of way. Don't sashay across the landing area. Debrief with experienced skydivers.

'C' Licence jumper. After take-off, winds steadily increased from 0-5kts to ~18-22kts, also changing direction from NW to SE. At the time of jump run, winds were gusting 20-25kts. A call was made from the ground for the less experienced jumpers to remain in the plane. After exit, winds increased further to 25-30kts. Four of the five jumpers landed, being dragged and resulting in small scratches as injuries.

The fifth jumper ('C' Licence) did a late downwind turn and then back into wind over caravan/car park area. He front risered to gain as much speed as possible but landed on top of a caravan before being pulled off and landing on his back/ankle. Injury: Sprained ankle. Action: When winds pick up suddenly and to that strength (20-25), the load should be aborted. Jumper counselled as to not front risering in strong winds and making decisions earlier to land in clear areas.

Jumpers should assess landing areas and wind directions while still high enough to safely adjust their landing pattern should it become necessary. If the original landing point is not available, each descent strategy must also include a safe alternate spot and approach plan. Jumpers should choose an alternate landing area that provides plenty of clear, open space, free from obstacles and far downwind of any trees or obstructions that can create additional turbulence.

'E' Licence jumper exited at 6,500' on a hop 'n pop – normal opening. 1000ft later, put himself into line twists doing backward helicopter spins, wound up so elected to cutaway & reserve was open by 4000ft. Action: Jumper strongly reprimanded.

It is possible to induce line twists in an open canopy by over steering. If the canopy is turned faster than its load can follow a twist will result. Very deep steering input or a sharp turn one way then the other can cause line twists.

This is extremely dangerous as the twist might result in an uncontrollable spin at a low altitude. The jumper is then presented with the choice of a low cutaway or trying to clear the twist before impact. There may not be enough height for either.

DISCIPLINE

Three 'D' Licence jumpers opened low, below 1800ft after a 5000ft exit. All were grounded for seven days & ASO informed for follow up. Action: Warned of the importance of correct altitude awareness and the problems of having two canopies deployed.

Emergency priorities

Think about and review the seven priorities of skydiving:

1. Pull - Open the parachute.
2. Pull by the assigned altitude or higher - whether stable or not.
3. Pull with stability - to improve canopy-opening reliability.
4. Check the canopy - promptly determine if the canopy has properly opened and is controllable.
5. If necessary, activate the reserve - perform the appropriate emergency procedures if there is any doubt that the main canopy is open properly and is controllable.
6. Land in a clear area - a long walk back is better than landing in a hazardous area.
7. Land safely - be prepared to perform a PLR with the feet and knees together to avoid injury.

New Service Bulletins (Extracts only)

The following Service Bulletins in their entirety, plus more can be found on the APF web site at:
http://docs.apf.asn.au/index.php/Service_Bulletins

Parachutes Australia

Service Bulletin No PA SB 0901

Issue Date: 26th February 2009

Subject: 3-Ring Riser Inspection

Status: Advisory

Authority: Managing Director Underline Designs Pty Ltd

APF Service Bulletin No APF010801-C*

*This Service Bulletin replaces APF SB 010801-B

Issued January 2009

Issued: 2nd March 2009

Subject: 3-Ring Inspection and Maintenance

Status: Part A – Inspection - MANDATORY
 Part B – Maintenance - RECOMMENDED

Identification: All 3-ring release systems.

Authority: APF Director Rigging

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WATCH THIS SPACE! - COMMANDOS

By Brian Kirkham

So much has been happening at Tooradin. The club has undergone a facelift - new manifest, new lounge room and new engines in planes. The page has well and truly turned and now we are seeing an abundance of jumping like never before. The student

courses have been full and the students keep coming back! I don't think I've ever seen so many students come back to do Stage 2.

The tone has changed and the tune is sounding good. Whilst everyone plays a big role in making the club what it is, a special mention should be made of our current Board. The guys have been working hard, pulling strings and making things happen. As a group they have really picked up the ball and started running. If you haven't been to Tooradin recently, it's worth checking out.

Amongst all the changes we've had our fair share of exciting news. Tracy and Brian had their baby Mckenzie. Rod and Raelene tied the knot, getting married in Vanuatu. Reuben (the pilot) did his static line course and Darrius and Narelle found out they are going to be parents!

Unfortunately Stipo was taken out of action after losing a toggle during a high-performance swoop. Luckily, he escaped with only fractured ribs. Stipo was able to lighten the mood when he called for his special cap and sunnies to be placed on his head for a frap-in photo shoot, followed by a demand for porn to be in supply at the hospital.

We had our annual Speed Star comp which was nothing short of a circus -6,000ft and a free-built 5-way. All teams competed with honour and courage, but there could only be one winner. Greg Hill's team "Bold and the Beautiful" took out the dodgy wooden medals in true style. Well done to all who played and thank you to Greg for organising such a fun event.

Tracy's Mum Eniz with TM Darrius and Craig



Darcy Stapleton



In mid-March a freefly course for beginners was run by Alex Skala.

The course was highly successful with everyone learning the basics of freefly. Many skills were learnt, questions were asked and everyone had a heap of fun. Thanks to Alex for putting on a great course. Freefly is now becoming a regular occurrence at the DZ and it's great to see an enthusiasm for taking flying to the next level.

A Packer 'B' course was also run by Craig Trimble over 3 week nights during March. Over the nights, ten club members learnt how to pack tandems, psycho-pack, learn more about their gear and run through the theory that would be on the exam. Thank you also to Craig for putting in the time and effort to help us get ready for the Packer 'B' exam. Stay tuned for another canopy course Craig will be running soon.

Ring the Bell – Muz 'A' Licence, Steve 'A' Licence, Nick 'D' & 'E' Licence, Jeremy 'D' Licence, Guy 'C' Licence and first nudie.

Stipo after frapping



Steve, Muz and Jeremy Ring the Bell



Finishing the new manifest

Ruben and Muz prepare for their first jump



Guy, Rick and Darcy Nude Jump



Bold & Beautiful Speed Start Winners



SKYDIVE TASMANIA

By Brad Jones Photos by Richard Timperon, Michael Vaughan, Brad Jones & Heath Baird

Well summer is over for another year and it has been fun filled down here in Tasmania. After Richie Timperon got his full time DZ up and running during last winter this was the first summer in a while that Tasmanians have been able to get their knees in the breeze on a regular basis without leaving their little island home and haven't they been making the most of it!

Richard McGuire became Skydive Tasmania's first AFF graduate (beer has been drunk thank you very much) and along with Luke Dennis and Chelsea Stevens have attained their 'A' Licence,

bought their own rigs and are moving through the B-Rel table. We also have a couple of other students moving through the AFF program, so we have plenty of newer jumpers around the place and us older jumpers are definitely feeding off the enthusiasm they have brought to the place.

Eli Pelham did his 100th jump and on the same day his brother Daniel decided the best way to leave the DZ was in the rescue chopper. Daniel is currently recovering and can't wait to get back in the air.

Michael Vaughan ran a canopy control weekend and everyone learnt a lot about flying their wing as well as having lots of fun. I know my swoops have improved a lot since picking Michael's brain and hop'n'pops have become a lot more popular with everyone. While the weather minimised the amount of loads we would have liked to get up, we kept ourselves entertained by taking a dip on our own private beach during the weather holds and of course there was Jess's awesome breakies and lunches to at least keep our stomachs satisfied.

The dark side of skydiving has seduced Heath Baird and after what was supposed to be a week at Nagambie turned into a month of adventure in Victoria, Heath finally returned with a Tandem Instructor rating in hand and was put straight to work. His highlight was taking Laura Davis, our new office manager and his girlfriend, for her first ever skydive. Heath also took Alister our pilot for his first jump with Richard and Brad coming along to watch him out from behind the plane controls. Both are cautiously talking about taking the next step and learning to skydive.

The Freefall United crew paid a visit for a weekend of jumping and some sightseeing.

They were lots of fun to have around and it looked like some of those older knees enjoyed the beach landings on offer. I hope I am still going that strong at their age (no offence guys). Our Chief Instructor Ken Higgins has moved into the 21st century by retiring his old frap hat for a brand new Cookie helmet after a discussion with Richard on the pros and cons of a hard helmet

Ross Ablitt did his first wingsuit jump, handed over money that same day to buy a second hand wingsuit and is already saving for a newer, more advanced suit.

Also congratulations to Richard McGuire on his wedding to Mel. All the Skydive Tasmania crew scrubbed up all right for an awesome day and night!



Heath Baird over Hobart



Brad Jones exiting over Swansea



Luke Dennis



Chelsea Stevens over Swansea



Heath Baird over Swansea



Laura Barrow



Vaughany



Richard Timperon

FREEFALL UNITED

By Pete Hannaford

Freefall United or F.U. for those who have not heard of us yet, is a social/ skydiving club based in Victoria with close to 50 members who just love weekends away to skydive and have fun. We do not have our own drop zone but visit most DZs in Victoria, southern NSW and even Tasmania and drop in occasionally to John and Margaret Kinton's backyard in Riddells Creek for a barbecue.

Our Vice President, Les Facer, is the Club pilot who ferries his trusty Cessna 182 around the drop zones for our use. Les must trust his aircraft which has an almost new engine and 3 bladed prop because he and a mate flew it to New Zealand and back just for fun.

My first outing with the Club was a weekend on Phillip Island where Gentleman Jim Brierley (our oldest jumper at 84) taught me a lesson that I will never forget. He had arranged for several loads of us to jump into his golf club which we were all happy to do, as it made a nice change from landing on the surf beach. We landed on the fairway outside the clubhouse to the amazement of his golfing buddies (all except Geoff Gordon, our Club Secretary, who must have had a complete brain malfunction, landing on the wrong fairway, on the other side of the approach road to the clubhouse. But let's be fair here to Geoff who has completely redeemed himself by winning Gold in the Sport Accuracy competition at the POPS World Meet in Arizona.) We then packed our gear and went in to the bar. I asked Jim what he wanted to drink and he replied to my surprise "an orange juice, please". I had a beer. Jim then said "I'm off now to do a couple more jumps". What a goose I felt as I had automatically grounded myself with the beer.

Dave Betts' war wound



"The Best Weekend Away Ever" according to Gwennie Doolan, the Club Treasurer, and organiser of it, was to Swansea, on the east coast of Tasmania. We were warmly welcomed by DZ owner, Richard Timperon, CI Ken Higgins and their staff and it was terrific to meet up again with Steve Smedley, who is back fun jumping after a long absence from commercial operations. The views of the area are spectacular from height, taking in Great Oyster Bay and Wineglass Bay on the Freycinet Peninsula. On Saturday 21 February, four of us over sixties freebuilt a 4-way star which we held for 4 seconds and then turned another point before breaking off as planned at 4,000 feet, again landing on the beach. Les Facer, Geoff Gordon, John Merrifield and myself wish to claim this as an SOS Tasmanian State Record and I'll bet it will stand for many years as finding more than 4 SOS members in Tasmania and having an aircraft to get them to jump height could be quite a challenge!

FU pilot Les Facer and organizer Gwenda Doolan



The drop zone has a couple of kayaks for anyone to use and our President, Ash Johnson, took the opportunity to use one to catch a few fish between jumps. If you're thinking of visiting Tasmania, then be sure to have your rig with you as this DZ is not to be missed for its great people, hospitality and great scenery.



FU President Ash Johnson on the water

Those who made this memorable trip were:- Gwenda Doolan, Les Facer, Geoff Gordon, Dave & Janette Betts, John & Barbara Merrifield, Ash Johnson, Geoff Stockton, Joan Tyrrell and Peter & Adrienne Hannaford, who all enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to their next outing.

Tasmanian Record (Left to Right - Pete Hannaford, Les Facer, Geoff Gordon, John Merrifield)



After a 6 point 4-way (Left to right - Steve Smedley, Ken Higgins, Pete Hannaford, Ash Johnson)



SOS group before take-off (Left to right - John Merrifield, Les Facer, Pete Hannaford, Geoff Gordon)

Don Woodland has been teaching some eager youngsters the dark arts of skydiving for many years on the West Side. This year's Australia Day long weekend I flew over from the East Side to enlighten some of his protégés on their quest to break the Aussie record in March, not without their fair share of carnage!

DAY ONE

Stairstep drills were the order for the day. After a quick briefing and Q&A session on how not to wrap these delicate formations, we got in the air to test these new theories of wing docking, which they had previously been trying to figure out (or in Matt and Crispy's case SLAP together!) with little success. A challenging day for all, particularly for Danielle who broke her tib/fib on her second landing, but very productive with all having a better understanding of catching and placing wing docks, especially Don who picked up a new skill that he can now pass on to more newbies!

DAY TWO

An insight into how many staff came to play at the drop zone this weekend, but couldn't escape the tandem-mania of a long weekend! We kicked the day off nice and early out of the Cessna with an awesome 4-point 3-way wedge jump, the last point a 4-stack (Split videoing the jump, docked on the bottom). The work jumpers then went to do their thing while Split got some valuable one-on-one coach jumps, taking two shoes off me in two separate jumps!

The work finally finished and Crispy and Don joined the group to make the first diamond of the weekend – watched and heckled by all enjoying a beer around the pool at sunset. That's right, FIRST! There was plenty of beer shared over the bar at the end of another successful day – 2 shoes lost, no cutaways!

DAY THREE

First up on the menu – Toot's first CF jump. What she thought was going to be a standard 2-way intro into the wonderful world of CF, got hijacked by three rogue Crwdogs to put her in the middle of a 5-stack. "Dirty rotten mongrels", I recall her fondly naming us upon landing! Finishing the weekend off with another successful 4-way diamond, served with a refreshing light summer ale upon landing and giving Jody a fair reason for missing his daughter's birthday breakfast!

A big thank you to all who made this weekend possible, especially: Nathan for flying the early and late Cessna loads; Toot for the best DZ food I've had ever!; John, Dixie, manifest for your hospitality and making the weekend run smoothly; Jody, Danielle and Peta for organising the weekend, including my ride out to York; Don for keeping the CF dream alive on the other side of the country; all participants – I had a ball, can't wait to see you rip it up at the Record!; APF for funding airfares and your continued support in our rapidly growing discipline!

Since this article has gone to print, Jody, Split and Maark had a very successful week at the Australian 36-Way CF Record. Both Jody and Split were on the record and Maark got himself on a 31-way! Congrats guys, keep up the CF over there, we'll see you at the 49-way!



5-Stack - Don, Toot, Jody, Jules & Split



Diamond - Jules, Jody, Split & Don



Don Opening



Split, Jules, Toot, Don & Jody



Don giving Toot a lesson on being a Crwdog

LANGHORNE CREEK, SA

Photos by Curtis Morton



Young Mark



Anne Marie, Simon & Pete W - AFF Stage 1



Dave, Ian and Marty - AFF Stage 2



Nick



Kevin Taylor



Mark Band



Travis

COROWA, VIC

By Tabitha Hughes

Australia day weekend was a great one for the Corowa JUMP SHAK. We had AFF courses, returning students, B & S Ball patrons and flag practices. Of course we also had our very new containers to jump, so was a bit of a fight to see who got to jump them first.

James Wright has just completed all his AFF stages now ready for his 'A' Licence. He was the lucky guy who got to jump our brand new Telesis '3' containers.



James Wright



Frank's Flag

As traditional for Australia day, some barny has to jump the flag. So we did a practice jump at the DZ just so we can say we did the right thing for our country and showed our true colours. However, it was extremely hot on the day so probably not a good idea when we thought about it!



Dirk Maclean

Dirk Maclean was another AFF student that got to use our new Telesis 3 gear. He loved it and thought it was comfortable. We just thought they looked great in the sky!

The wholesome taste of baked earth, the ominous whiff of smoke on the horizon, the mindless buzz of ten thousand flies, the insomniac whine of one single mosquito, the crisp hiss as an icy cold stubbie opens, all drowned out by the roar of a PT6 turbine engine! This is summer at Skydive Nagambie.

February's combined Full AFF course and ABC Camp were held in the furnace of Victoria's heatwave. With temperatures outside reaching the mid 40s the mercury hit 57 degrees inside the aircraft. Pilot Jules earned much respect for toughing it out without complaint, how good did a cold beer taste at the end of the day? With a close knit group of twelve students hungry for their 'A' Licence, the XL was kept busy ferrying students and instructors up to the cool sanctuary of 14'000ft. We were fortunate to have Michael Vaughan donate his expertise to lucky students on February's ABC Camp. Swims and evening BBQs were the perfect way to round off a hard days jumping.

February's Tandem ID course was a smoothly run affair. Under the guidance of Grandpa Kinton and the Cross himself, the ranks of dirty drogue throwers have been bolstered with five new recruits. Congratulations to Wayne Kelly, Michael Wildish, the Dipsinator, Chris Garcia and Lori Hutchinson on your tandem ratings. Praise be to Paul Baker for earning his IB and cooking up a mean barbie to boot. Wokka took out Best Supporting Actor for his role in "Mango", the sequel to "Brokeback Mountain" and Dipsy has fielded several offers from CNN and the BBC after his hard-hitting expose on the making of Mango. A special mention to Heath Baird, who also earned his tandem ticket earlier this year and is now jumping in beautiful Tassie. Hope to see you up this way again soon Heath.



Ben and Will - Team Volley



Big Daz



Jakes 1st Hop-n-Pop



Emah loving her AFF

March's Diamond Quest kicked off a manic two week period. First up the Aussie CReW record attempt saw over 60 mad CReW Dogs storm Nagambie for a week of intense coaching and training jumps in the lead up to the 36-Way. It was a fantastic spectacle and impressive to see how much planning, practise and commitment was required to make it happen. With the record broken on the Saturday it was time to party. The bell was ringing non-stop, the bar was emptied and most CReW Dogs were conspicuous by their absence on Sunday. Congratulations to everyone involved!

With the Skyvan down for the CReW record why wouldn't we hold a boogie? The aim was for a low-key event to work around the CReW but it turned out to be a rocking party with almost 100 registered jumpers. Dingo and Crikey ensured the freeflyers were kept on their toes and thanks to Julie and Grant for organising some big-way flat jumps. Packer "A"s were in high demand with twelve chops over the week and the Slab Book was finally completed this weekend! Begun in 2002, over 1,300 slabs have been put on. At \$50/slab you do the math.

Following on from the Boogie was March's ABC Camp and full AFF course. Thankfully much cooler than January's and with Jules McConnell and Pricey helping out the Naggas regulars, there were jumps-a-plenty with Dean, Jake, Katie, Willy and Emma gunning for their "A" Licence. Kaos and Black were both training for the Nationals ensuring the XL was hitting 14 grand all day every day.

Shout outs! Welcome Nuch, never have we been so well fed. Just remember, if you ever get sick of Wokka and his antics there is a line of lads waiting to get into your... curries. A big hi-n-bye to Pilot Jules who helped us out over our busy summer period. Cheers for doing all those big days Jules and still finding the energy to cook us a mean feed afterwards. Hope your foot has healed up and no one has offered to lick you again. We bid a fond farewell to Naggas Chief Renegade, King of Crunch and packer Kieran, it's definitely a quieter DZ without ya man. Your underlings have really been gobbing off since you left but typical of Renegades, they're all talk and BS. And Honey, we're going to miss your crazy laughter!



Dipsy's worst nightmare



Feb's ID Course



Jono and Jill went down the hill

SASPC 4-WAY TRAINING WEEKEND

Story & Photos by Curtis Morton

In South Australia, skydivers can jump at three drop zones and belong to The South Australian Sport Parachute Club. The SASPC is in its' 48th year, founded in 1961.

Recently the club organised 4-way training at Lower Light. Normally the best jump aircraft in South Australia is a souped up 182. Al Gray arranges for Nagambie's PAC XL to come over a couple times a year just to keep us sane. SA jumpers giggle with anticipation, save their money and ready their gear. Everyone loves the smell of Jet A in the morning!

For its' February 2009 visit the SASPC sponsored 4-Way team training. Competition veterans Ann-Marie Jarzebowski, Pete Waller, Tom Murphy and Matt Palmer were invited to coach interested teams. Slots for coaches and camera were paid by the SASPC.

Early Friday February 6th, skydivers arrived at Lower Light, eager for the click-click whine and fast ride to 14K we all treasure. Teams formed, dirt dives completed, rigs checked but concerned faces are staring at the plane, Julian the Pilot tells us a switch is faulty. We settle in for the wait for the mechanic. The temperature rises, the forecast is extremely hot weather.

Hours later we finally get the thumbs up. It is already over 40 degrees and climbing. Like any good businessman Al has his priorities. The first load takes up 6 tandem pairs. We understand, tandems keep this sport afloat. Commercialism satisfied, the second load is ours. Ann-Marie Jarzebowski takes up her team, Tuan, M&M Ben, Nic D with Mark G doing camera. Ben and Tuan count this toward their last B-Rel.

Again Ann-Marie goes up, this time with Helen, Ben W, Curtis, with Sandy G doing camera. The team had very nice jump and good effort by new cameraperson Sandy.

At the end of a blistering, stinking hot day the jumpers are ready to drink and relax. But Al has one more tandem that must go up. He offers \$25 slots to fill the plane and we quickly take advantage of Al's predicament. After landing the beers flow.

Saturday morning starts out already hot. Pete Waller's team of Kyle, Craig and Nicole take off in strong winds. Halfway up the ground control officer reports 20 kt ground winds. Some aboard start to reconsider. A few minutes later, 24 kts. Nicole, carrying a little skydiver, opts wisely to stay in the plane. The rest of us jump and land going backwards, most way off the DZ. (God I love skydiving, marginal conditions really get the heart pumping). That



Tom, Ben W, Hilary and Paul

was the end of Saturday's jumping. The rest of the day is spent watching Bruce Willis do impossible stuff with a Harrier jet. A cool change blew in Saturday afternoon, but by then everyone had tasted alcohol.

By Sunday the weather had cooled for us, though it was that same day Victoria suffered greatly. Al was on the PA at 7:30am encouraging people to get on the first load. Tom Murphy, Ben W, Hilary and Paul did some excellent formation work. Matt Palmer and Pete Waller worked with their teams.

Sandy Glenday suffered a bad landing and broke her femur in turbulent wind. Jumping was suspended briefly while the paramedics tended to her injuries.

Monday was the final day of the turbine visit. As it was a workday, the crowds were smaller, our coaches back at their regular jobs. Jason Ellul took on the lead job and jumped with Laura, Dave and Ben W with Jason B doing camera.

The SASPC thanks our 4-Way coaches; Ann-Marie, Pete, Tom and Matt. Also thanks to camera people Mark Gazley, Sandy Glenday, Jason Brown, Curtis Morton and Troy Walker. Our members improved their skills, enjoying the extra altitude provided by the Nagambie turbine and Al Gray's efforts. We look forward to the next opportunity to jump the beautiful blue and yellow bird.

Pete W, Kyle and Craig



Matt, Jazon E, Hilary and Ben W



Tom, Ben W, Hilary and Paul exit



Photo: Jason Brown

BRIDGEWATER ON LODDON, VIC*By Kell Madge Photos by Ania Skup, Kell Madge and Bruce Madge*

Bridgy DZ saw out 2008 on a high note, with many of our jumpers progressing along in leaps and bounds which is fantastic to see. We also had more involvement with our local community, including a display jump into the local footy field and some of our jumpers getting their heads into the local paper. Our last operational weekend of the year saw us doing 19 loads – awesome!

We kicked off 2009 with a bang, our first weekend back featured the Relworkers League Grand Final and our Christmas Party. With two Cessna 182s at their disposal, jumpers churned out 36 loads including competition jumps, fun jumps and a formation load – an 8-way out of 2 Cessnas, what fun! Did it work? Well 6 got in, but everyone was “there”! We ended the weekend with a delicious 2 course dinner cooked by Ralph and a feature movie put together by Kell of the 2008 Highlights of Bridgy, it was nice to see the changes and progress!

Our CI and DZO Ralph Hamilton-Presgrave recently raised \$600 for the World’s Greatest Shave with Ralph losing his locks and beard at the DZ. He was even brave enough to let staff and jumpers shave him!

The rest of 2009 is looking at being a great year, with students booked in already, Inter 4-way teams in the making after our first very successful 4-way weekend and another canopy handling course in the pipeworks.

Congrats and Milestones:

A group of our jumpers have recently finished their B-Rel's and achieved their “B” Licence, many of these were jumpers we grew ourselves. What a beautiful feeling for staff to see them complete that last B-Rel Stage and to hand them a “B” Licence application form! Congrats to Arron Toepfer, Cam White, Ben Campbell, Pete Dawson, Adam Odriscoll and Euroans Cory Betts, Simon Taft and Duncan Marwick - you should be seeing these guys at a Boogie near you – look out!

Congrats to Dan Rossi for his first 4-way camera jumps and he and Christian Toffolon for “C” Licenc“A” Licence and new gear; Ben for conversions, new gear and first flare jump; Cam and Arron for conversions; Bernie Armstrong for his sister Erin’s first tandem and son Ash’s first AFF, new rig and he and John Sinderberry for one year anniversary of their AFF Ratings. Congrats to Matthew Hyland & Michelle

for completing AFF Stage1 with Matty going on to complete the next 6 AFF stages, Brett & Michelle for completing Static Line 1 (yes Static Line lives on!). Congrats to Bruce Madge for his son Jordan’s first tandem.

*Ralph and Bruce under canopy**Bernie and Jordan Tandem Exit**After 8-way**Fergs***4-WAY WEEKEND @ BRIDGEWATER***By Kell Madge Photos by Bernie Armstrong, John Sinderberry & Dan Rossi**4-way*

Australian Skydive held a successful 4-Way Weekend with coaches Gary Nemirovsky and Simon Discassio from Airtite, Australia’s top skydiving team, on the 21st and 22nd February 2009 at Bridgewater Drop Zone. Having been rescheduled due to poor weather, it was great to get the weekend underway! The weather was unkind on Saturday, with unpredictable winds keeping our 16 keen participants on the ground. However, this weather hold gave coaches Gary and Sas the opportunity to teach the theory basics of 4-way and for participants to repeatedly dirt-dive many of the planned jumps.

Sunday brought beautiful weather and a 7:45am start meant 17 loads for the day. Each participant did around 4-5 jumps, with Gary and Sas filling one slot on each team. A majority of participants were at the beginner/intermediate level and it was fantastic to see their skills improve over the day. Regular cameraperson, John Sinderberry and new guy Dan Rossi, captured

the weekend’s jumps, which have

been edited into a feature movie on DVD! We received fabulous feedback from participants and as a result have around 18 people interested in doing regular 4-way team training. Nine more such training weekends have been scheduled for the rest of 2009 and coaches have been locked in, our long term aim is to send two Bridgy Inter 4-way teams to the next Vic State Champs and hopefully from there to the Nationals, which would be a fantastic outcome for 4-Way FS.

We would like to thank the jumpers who participated in the weekend and Coaches Gary and Sas for their time and awesome coaching techniques, We would also like to thank the Vic-Tas Parachute Council for their support via coach fees for half the weekend.

*After 4-way*

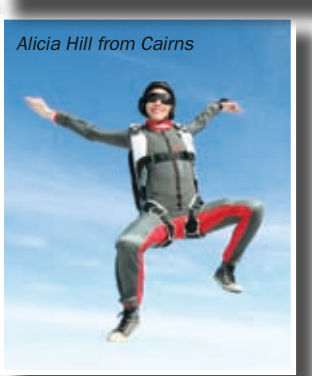
RAMBLERS, TOOGOLAWAH, QLD

Photos by Wade Edwards, Belgium Steve and Wayne McLachlan

Emma Wald running her new Firebird Wingsuit that she won at the Equinox Boogie Raffles



Alicia Hill from Cairns



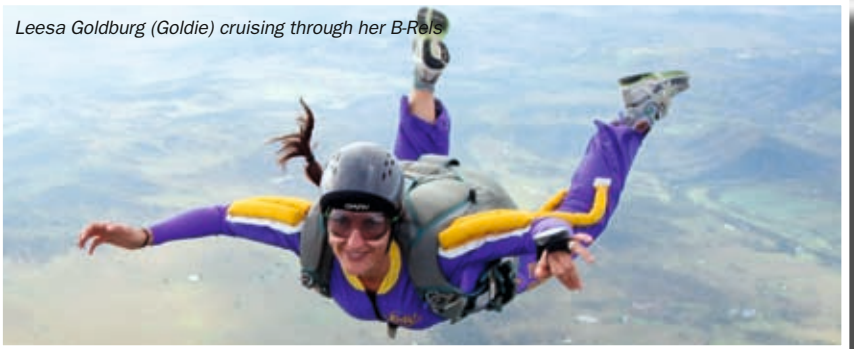
Allison Mitchell running her new jumpsuit



Richo Oakey loving his new life as a DZ Bum!



Leesa Goldberg (Goldie) cruising through her B-Reis



Roeland van den Burg back after 10 months off



Mr Wong over from Singapore to do his Addiction 'A' Licence Package



Reilly Cartlidge



Tony Cummin from NT back in the air after 20 years, and loving it! New gear is on order!



Big John O'Neill from Coffs, loved it so much he came back for more - 2 round trips from Coffs in 1 week!



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



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- Retirement Blocks
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Contact Dave McEvoy 0428 781 604

What an eventful couple of months it has been at Coffs City Skydivers. Must be something in the water and there has been no shortage of that - our crew are jumpin' like kangaroos. Incredibly, extreme weather-storms and flash flooding in Coffs Harbour turned the DZ into Coffs City Swoop Pond. Jordi (pilot/skydiver) saved a wallaby from drowning in the flood waters and our new resident, Latvian Lexx, was more than happy to care for him in the hangar overnight. Congratulations to Lexx for achieving his tandem rating.

The past month brought some golden oldies out to play - the jump of their life. They were incredibly fearless and determined, 92 year old, Cyril Gorely, his 80 year old wife Enid Gorely and Jocelyn Windon, aged 81, all did their first tandem. Better late than never! Mitch delivered a letter from the Queen to his grandmother, Doris, under canopy for her 100th birthday. Awesome memories for such beautifully spirited people living every moment.

Lawrence Hill (Pom) got hung up with his birdman suit on the plane step, ripping off his bootie and sending him into a spin, destroying his much loved wings. Pom welcomed Ben Newton (local inspirational quadriplegic) to the sky, taking him for a tandem. Steve also took Annette Solomon, a happy local with MS for the time of her life with a tandem skydive. Great attitudes and brilliant fun times were had!

Chez and Mitch couldn't decide whether to skydive or play golf so landed on the green for the best of both worlds. Thanks to Phil for philingin while Jordi recovers and returns from his holiday home to France.

A crew of St Albion University students came to Coffs for the weekend to skydive and escape study for the weekend... awesome fun crew. Thanks Jake for organising it! The Coffs crew visited Grafton and Yamba for a weekend - awesome aerial views and great people.

Love is in the air in Coffs with 2 marriage proposals and acceptances, pulling the heart strings. All the best to Andrew and Sophie & Belinda & Jacob - wishing you a lifetime of luck, love, happiness and blue skies together. No better way to start than skydive!!

The Coffs Crew are busy organising the Afterlife Boogie in October. We are very excited and proud to have the Birdman himself, Jari Kuosma, from Finland to the Coffs City Skydivers Afterlife Boogie. Jari is the first wing suit manufacturer in the world who developed wing suit flying as a sport. He has earned an unsurpassed reputation as a true modern day aviator. Jari is internationally recognised and we hope that he is an inspiration to wing suit flyers and skydivers alike joining us at the Boogie. We are also very pleased to have Fiona McEachern for Rel formation work, Crikey of Team Off-Track and /or Adam Long of Earth Leakage as Freefly Coaches plus Michael Vaughan as canopy piloting coach. The Skyvan will be back and the second aircraft TBC.



Pom & Ben Newton



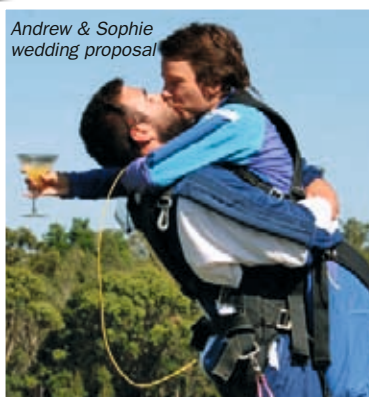
Belinda & Jacob wedding proposal



Enid(80), Cyril(92), Steve & Pom



Andrew & Sophie wedding proposal



Jack, Jacob, Charlotte & Xavia

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CORY

Time The BEDD

Compiled by the APF at
ASM deadline time.

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PAUL
GUY
MELISSA
SIMON
JEAN
THOMAS
DAVID
ANDRE
BEN
CLARE
JESSIE
DENNIS
GULLIVER
KRISTIAN
OLLI
PHILIP
TRACEY
LLOYD
HAMISH
HOWARD
PAUL
RYAN
JASON
SEAN
PHIL
BRETT
BENJAMIN

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TASMAN
RYAN

INSTRUCTOR 'E' TUTOR

CATHY

INSTRUCTOR 'D'

HEATH
MATT
STEVEN
OLEG
CHRIS
CHRIS
JEAN
LORI
WAYNE
ALEX
WAYNE
TONY
ALEX
MICHAEL
STEPHEN

INSTRUCTOR 'B'

PAUL
GREGORY

INSTRUCTOR 'A'

JASON

AFF ENDORSEMENT

TONY

TANDEM ENDORSEMENT

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MATT
GREGORY

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WHATMORE
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GILLINGHAM SANDERS

GILLINGHAM
SANDERS

MEADE**BAIRD**

BARRELL
BURNIE
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CLARKE**MOORE****BAIRD****BARRELL****BENNIE**

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JEAN
LORI
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WAYNE
LEANDRO
ALEX
MICHAEL
HOWARD
VAL
JOE
STEPHEN
MIKE

TANDEM SUB-ENDORSEMENT**ATOM**

ROGER
PAUL
YOSSI

TANDEM SUB-ENDORSEMENT**ECLIPSE**

GARY
IGOR

TANDEM SUB-ENDORSEMENT**RACER**

SHELDON

TANDEM SUB-ENDORSEMENT**STRONG**

JEAN
MICHAEL

HEYDENRYCH**RAE****TANDEM SUB-ENDORSEMENT****VECTOR/SIGMA**

JAMIE
IGOR

OSBORNE**PERMINOV****PACKER 'B'**

HEATH
VATILI
JULIAN
GRANT
CHRIS
JEAN
SCOTT
ALEX
WAYNE
CRAIG
ANITA
VALERIE
WESLEY
PAUL
KERESONI
GABE

PACKER 'A'

KYLE
MATHEW
ROB
RHYS

RIGGER

KOPPEL

SOLOMON**WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON****RAE****TARPEY****TRAJANOVSKA****TUPPEN****WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON****RAE****TARPEY****TRAJANOVSKA****TUPPEN****WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON****RAE****TARPEY****TRAJANOVSKA****TUPPEN****WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON****RAE****TARPEY****TRAJANOVSKA****TUPPEN****WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON****RAE****TARPEY****TRAJANOVSKA****TUPPEN****WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON****RAE****TARPEY****TRAJANOVSKA****TUPPEN****WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON****RAE****TARPEY****TRAJANOVSKA****TUPPEN****WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON****RAE****TARPEY****TRAJANOVSKA****TUPPEN****WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON****RAE****TARPEY****TRAJANOVSKA****TUPPEN****WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON****RAE****TARPEY****TRAJANOVSKA****TUPPEN****WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON****RAE****TARPEY****TRAJANOVSKA****TUPPEN****WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON****RAE****TARPEY****TRAJANOVSKA****TUPPEN****WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON****RAE****TARPEY****TRAJANOVSKA****TUPPEN****WATERSON****WILDISH****KAISERMAN****KELLY****MAGNO****NELSON**

FRONT COVER



Another photo of the same jump

"Great front cover selection last issue... but I may be biased!" What a stir it seems to have caused ie. Apparently it gives the impression that it is OK to allow a tandem passenger to wear a camera – in this case hand cam. This is not correct!

APF Op Reg 5.9.A.1. A parachutist shall not carry a camera during a descent unless he or she is the holder of at least a certificate "C" and has the approval of the DZSO.

The 'student' was actually an 'E' licensed APF member. "**DEREK**" is a highly derogatory term for my best mate, **CHRIS DYKSTRA**. We were incidentally doing our tandem rating together, so there has been no apparent breach of any regulation whatsoever." **Mike Rae**

NEXT GENERATION

"Check my little man out in his brother's new wingsuit. He won't take it off. At the rate I'm going, I will have to make him one soon. **SHANE** is 7 years old and his brother is 27.

SHAUN was jumping with us all at Sydney Skydivers and did his AFF at a boogie in Bachelor about 1998 and stopped for a few years. He has moved in with me at Burleigh Heads as he left Virgin Mascot for a maintenance engineering job with Qantas Brisbane. He is now jumping at Caboolture with me." **Milly Onis**



NEXT GENERATION BOOGIE?

NICK EADIE and **SAM MOSS** are both second-generation skydivers at Elderslie.

"We are thinking of trying to organise a boogie aimed at second generation skydivers and their parents. At this point we are basically looking for expressions of interest and were wondering how many people would be interested in attending. We are thinking some time towards the end of the year, September or October possibly. Any help or hints would be greatly appreciated."

PICTON FREEFLY

Photos: Adrian Lloyd



BRAD POKROY, CATH COMYNS, OLLIE OLDHAM and **SONNICA VAN ZIJL**.



SONNICA VAN ZIJL, CATH COMYNS, MICHAEL VAUGHAN and **BRAD POKROY**.

HYBRID

ALEX DUNCAN'S 100th jump and **BELLA SMART'S** 50th jump. Also in the hybrid are **GILES COOPER, NADENE BEYERBACH, SAIED KHOSHNEVISSIAN, JOHN** with **STEPHEN WADE** flying camera.



Photo: Mai Fitzsimmons



TIM RAGDALES 1,000th

SOS WORLD RECORD

"I just got the photos of the SOS 48-way World Record that we did in January at DeLand, USA. This beat the 43-Way record we set in 2008 at Elsinore, California. We used a Skyvan as lead aircraft with two Twin Otters as left and right trail aircraft and the record jumps were from 18,000ft, using supplemental oxygen in all three aircraft.

Practice jumps were from 13,500ft on the Thursday (15th Jan) and the new record was set on the second jump on Saturday 17th. We then went for the elusive 60-WAY and had one attempt on the Saturday and two on the Sunday, all of which were unsuccessful due to people rushing and not taking enough care.

Some 81 SOS jumpers (Skydivers Over Sixty) registered for the 2009 attempts and these were broken down into a Record Team and a Standby Team... Mostly Americans with some Canadians, three from Germany, one from Austria, one from the UK and once again, a sole representative from Australia... Me!" **Tony Dale**

So come on Aussie SOS jumpers, how about making the trip to the next attempt in 2010 to do the world proud...



Tony is in red Jumpsuit at 1 o'clock

Photo: John Young Sr

WESTERN OZ



KARL MORRIS wingsuiting it over Pinjarra DZ, WA. **Photo: Ryan Tear**

TANDEM TIME



Tandem Master **JASON "TRIPLE J" CYRAN** over Cairns prepared for any season with thongs and a knitted beanie!

Photo: Karina Tuveng



TM DAVID GARRETTY took his 67 year old father for a tandem jump. He liked it so much he hasn't stopped watching the DVD since.



TIM DESHON (bottom) & **KARL MORRIS** (top) over Pinjarra with **ALCOA** scaring the landscape (Alumina Refinery). **Photo: Dave Harris**

SKYDIVE BROOME
OUT THERE BEYOND THE EDGE

FOR SALE

- Tandem Only Operation
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- Potential for Student Ops
- Peak Season: May to October
- Currently Operating All Year
- WIWO ← with or without C-182
- ZERO WEATHER HOLDS!!!**

Call Ralph: 0417 011 000
Email: info@skydivebroome.com.au

APOLOGIES

To **ROB ELLERY** & **CHRIS DYKSTRA** for incorrectly crediting **ROB'S** photos in the Xmas article last issue.



DROP ZONE DIRECTORY

Source: APF Database as at deadline time.

AIRCRAFT LEGEND

Aircraft Type	Max. Skydivers
Cessna 182	5 place
Cessna 206	6 place
Islander	10 place
Piper Navajo	10 place
Cessna Caravan	16 place, turbine
Cresco	10 place, turbine
XL	17 place, turbine
Twin Otter	20 place, turbine
Skyvan	20 place, turbine

NORTHERN TERRITORY

DARWIN PARACHUTE CLUB INC.

PO BOX 3114, DARWIN NT 0801
Non Training Operation
Club & Drop Zone Phone: 0412 442 745
Email: skydive_territory@yahoo.com.au
Drop Zone Location: BATCHELOR
Web: www.skydiveterritory.com.au
Aircraft: Cessna 182 and 206

TOP END TANDEM

PO BOX 692, SANDERSON NT 0813
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ASHLEY SMITH
Club & Drop Zone Phone: 0417 190 140
Email: topendtandems@bigpond.com
Drop Zone Location: DARWIN - Lee Point Beach & Batchelor
Web: www.topendtandems.com.au
Aircraft: Cessna 182

QUEENSLAND - NORTH

AYRSPO RTS INCORPORATED

35 ROBERTS ST, HERMIT PARK QLD 4812
Non Training Operation
Club Phone: 0407 601 387
Email correspondence@ayrsports.org.au
Drop Zone Location: The Ayr Aerodrome
Web: www.ayrsports.org.au

CORAL SEA SKYDIVERS

PO BOX 5731, TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: STEPHEN FICKLING
Club Phone: 07 4772 4889
Drop Zone Phone: 0409 185 228
Email css@coralseaskydivers.com.au
Drop Zone Location: STRAND BEACH & AYR
Web: www.coralseaskydivers.com.au
Aircraft: 2 X Cessna 182

FAR NORTH FREEFALL INC.

PO BOX 1058, TULLY QLD 4854
Non Training Operation
Club Phone: 0419 024 413 (Gavin)
Email Brian: bdore77@hotmail.com
Drop Zone Location: TULLY AERODROME
Aircraft: Cessna 182 and Cresco.

MACKAY PARACHUTE CENTRE

9 ELAMANG ST, MACKAY QLD 4740
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: RAY MAKIN
Club Phone: 07 4957 6439
Drop Zone Phone: 0408 703 554
Email: ray@skydivemackay.com.au
Drop Zone Location: MARIAN AIRFIELD
Web: www.skydivemackay.com.au
Aircraft: Cessna 182

PAUL'S PARACHUTING

51A SHERIDAN ST, CAIRNS, QLD 4870
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GLENN BOLTON
Club Phone: 07 4051 8855
Drop Zone Phone: 0418 770 250
Email: info@xtremeskydiving.com.au
Drop Zone Location: EDMONTON - CAIRNS & MISSION BEACH
Web: www.xtremeskydiving.com.au
Aircraft: Navajo (x 2), Cessna 182 and a Dornier 228 (2 Place)

SKYDIVE AIRLIE BEACH

PO BOX 1152, AIRLIE BEACH QLD 4802
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: JONNY GOSS
Club Phone: 0417 799 862
Drop Zone Phone: 07 4946 9833
Email: info@skydiveoz.com
Drop Zone Location: WHITSUNDAY AIRPORT SHUTE HARBOUR & LINDEMANN ISLAND
Web: www.skydiveoz.com
Aircraft: Two Cessna 182s & GA8 Airvan

SKYDIVE CAIRNS

PO BOX 105N, NORTH CAIRNS QLD 4870
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: TODD GERRARD
Club Phone: 07 4031 5499
Drop Zone Phone: 07 4068 3801
Email: operations@skydivercairns.com.au
DRO P ZONE LOCATION: PAGE ROAD, EDMONTON,

MISSION BEACH & TULLY

Web: www.skydivercairns.com.au
Aircraft: 2 x Cresco 750 (10 place) & Cessna 182

SKYDIVE CAPRICORN COAST

1 MIAMI CRESCENT, PACIFIC HEIGHTS QLD 4703
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ANDREW JONES
Club Phone: 07 4939 6640
Drop Zone Phone: 0408 871 595
Email: skycapcoast@cqnet.com.au
Drop Zone Location: SPRINGFIELD AIRFIELD
Web: www.skydivecapricorncoast.com.au
Aircraft: Cessna 182

SKYDIVE THE WHITSUNDAYS

PO BOX 291, CANNONVALE QLD 4802
Non Training Operation
Club Phone: 07 4940 7260
Email: nqpc@mackay.net.au
Drop Zone Location: PROSERPINE/SHUTE HARBOUR
Aircraft: Cessna 182

TANDEM CAIRNS

PO BOX 753, BUNGALOW QLD 4870
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ADAM DAVIES
Club Phone: 1800 805 432
Drop Zone Phone: 07 4061 7897
Email: admin@tandemcairns.com.au
DRO P ZONE LOCATION: MUNDOO AERODROME INNISFALL
Web: www.tandemcairns.com.au
Aircraft: Cessna 185

QUEENSLAND - SOUTH

BRISBANE SKYDIVING CENTRE

PO BOX 18, AMBERLEY QLD 4306
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: BRIAN SCOFFELL
Club Phone: 07 5464 6111
Drop Zone Phone: 0438 734 845
Email: info@BrisbaneSkydive.com.au
Drop Zone Location: WILLOW BANK
Web: www.brisbaneskydive.com.au
Aircraft: Cessna 182

RAMBLERS PARACHUTE CENTRE

PO BOX 136, TOOGOO LAHAW QLD 4313
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: DAVID MCEVOY
Club Phone: 07 5423 1159
Email: skydive@ramblers.com.au
Drop Zone Location: TOOGOO LAHAW and COOLUM BEACH
Web: www.ramblers.com.au
Aircraft: Cessna Caravan and Cessna 182

REDCLIFFE CITY SKYDIVING

PO BOX 105N, NTH CAIRNS QLD 4870
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: JOHN COOK
Club Phone: 07 3283 8911
Email: skyscool@sctelco.net.au
Drop Zone Location: SUTTONS BEACH (REDCLIFFE)
Web: www.skydiveredcliffe.com.au
Aircraft: C182 & PA31 Navajo

RIPCORD SKYDIVERS

PO BOX 266, CANNON HILL QLD 4170
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: JOHN FRISWELL
Club Phone: 07 3399 3552
Drop Zone Phone: 07 5466 5521
Email: ripcord@ripcord-skydivers.com.au
Drop Zone Location: GATTON
Web: www.ripcord-skydivers.com.au
Aircraft: C-182 and C-206

RIPCORD SKYDIVERS ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 266, CANNON HILL QLD 4170
Non Training Operation
Club Phone: 07 3399 3552
Drop Zone Phone: 0438 060 733
Email: john@ripcord-skydivers.com.au
Drop Zone Location: GATTON
Web: www.ripcord-skydivers.com.au
Aircraft: C-206 & C-182

SKYDIVE CABOOLTURE

PO BOX 268, GLASS HOUSE MOUNTAINS QLD 4518
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: IAN MCGREGOR
Club Phone: 07 5496 9562
Drop Zone Phone: 0414 704 415, Email: imc@big.net.au
Drop Zone Location: CABOOLTURE AIRFIELD
Aircraft: 2 X Cessna 182

SKYDIVE HERVEY BAY

PO BOX 4274 Millperra Bc 1891
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: PHIL ONIS
Club Phone: 07 4183 0119
Email: admin@herveybayskydivers.com.au
Drop Zone Location: HERVEY BAY
Web: www.herveybayskydivers.com.au
Aircraft: Cessna 182

SKYDIVE RAINBOW BEACH

PO BOX 7, RAINBOW BEACH QLD 4581
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ROB CARBERRY
Club Phone: 0418 218 358
Email: info@skydiverainbowbeach.com
Drop Zone Location: RAINBOW BEACH
Web: www.skydiverainbowbeach.com
Aircraft: C-182

SUNSHINE COAST SKYDIVERS

PO BOX 1079, CALOUNDRA QLD 4551
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: TIBOR GLESK
Club & Drop Zone Phone: 0418 776 775
Email: jump@jumpscs.com
Drop Zone Location: CALOUNDRA and VARIOUS BEACHES
Web: www.jumpscs.com
Aircraft: Cessna Caravan, C182 & C206

TANDEM SKYDIVE GOLD COAST

PO BOX 13, TUGUN QLD 4224
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: Robert McMillan
Club & Drop Zone Phone: 07 5599 1920
Email: info@goldcoastskydive.com.au
Drop Zone Location: KIRRA BEACH AND LEN PEAK OVAL
Web: www.goldcoastskydive.com.au
Aircraft: Cessna 182

TOOGOO LAHAW SKYDIVERS CLUB INC.

18 DESERT FALLS CRES, PARKWOOD QLD 4214
Non Training Operation
Club Phone: 0418 154 119
Drop Zone Phone: 07 5423 1159
Email: tscqld@gmail.com
Drop Zone Location: TOOGOO LAHAW
Aircraft: Cessna Caravan

NEW SOUTH WALES

BYRON LANDINGS TANDEM SKYDIVE

PO BOX 9, BANGALOW NSW 2479
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: STEPHEN LEWIS
Club Phone: 1300 887 037
Email: releze@bigpond.com
Drop Zone Location: GLEN VILLA HOLIDAY PARK
www.byronlandings.com.au
Aircraft: C182

COASTAL SKYDIVERS

15 WEISMANTLE STREET, WAUCHOPE NSW 2446
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: TONY MAURER
Club & Drop Zone Phone: 0428 471 227
Email: jumpportmac@bigpond.com
Drop Zone Location: HANGER 7 PORT MACQUARIE AIRPORT NSW
Web: www.coastalskydivers.com
Aircraft: Cessna 206

COFFS CITY SKYDIVERS

PO BOX J208, COFFS HARBOUR JETTY NSW 2450
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: TONY MAURER
Club & Drop Zone Phone: 02 6651 1167
Email: jump@coffsskydivers.com.au
Drop Zone Location: COFFS HARBOUR AIRPORT & WEST MARSHALLS FIELD
Web: www.coffsskydivers.com.au
Aircraft: Cessna 182

FUNNY FARM SKYDIVING

3/12 HACKET LANE, BALLINA NSW 2478
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GARY GNAPP
Club Phone: 0402 008 924
Drop Zone Phone: 1800 302 005
Email: info@goskydive.com.au
Drop Zone Location: Kingsford Smith Park - Ballina
Web: www.goskydive.com.au
Aircraft: C-182 (Super)

JUST JUMP SKYDIVE

PO BOX 4009, EAST GOSFORD NSW 2250
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: DEE WATKINS
Club Phone: 02 4322 9884, Email: bookings@justjumpskydive.com.au
Drop Zone Location: CESSNOCK & WARNERVALE
Web: www.justjumpskydive.com.au
Aircraft: Cessna 206 & XL-750

NEWCASTLE SPORT PARACHUTE CLUB

P.O BOX 116 BRANXTON, NSW 2335
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: BILL TUDDENHAM
Club & Drop Zone Phone: 02 4938 1040
Email: committee.nspc@skydivenewcastle.com
Drop Zone Location: MOORES LANE ELDERSLIE
Web: www.skydivenewcastle.com
Aircraft: Cessna 182

SIMPLY SKYDIVE - PENRITH LAKES SKYDIVING CENTRE

PO Box 5060, Elanora Heights NSW 2101
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: DONOVAN CASEY
Club Phone: 02 9223 8444
Drop Zone Phone: 0403 088 697
Email: donno@simplyskydive.com.au
Drop Zone Location: PENRITH LAKES, West White Water Stadium
Web: www.simplyskydive.com.au
Aircraft: Piper Navajo, C-207, C-210, HELIO COURIER

SKYDIVE BYRON BAY

PO BOX 1615, BYRON BAY NSW 2481
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: STEPHEN EDWARDS
Club Phone: 02 6684 1323
Email: info@skydivebyronbay.com
Drop Zone Location: TYAGARAH AIRFIELD (Pacific Hwy) and BYRON BAY
Web: www.skydivebyronbay.com
Aircraft: Caravan

*Some members have commented that a few of these Club records are not accurate. We can only print what we're told. Please contact Kim Hardwick at the APF if you find any inaccuracies.

SKYDIVE MAITLAND PTY LTD

PO BOX 202, RUTHERFORD NSW 2320
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: JASON CLARKE
 Club Phone: 0425 200 185
 Drop Zone Phone: 02 4930 7989
 Email: info@tandemskydiving.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: RUTHERFORD AIRPORT
 Web: www.tandemskydiving.com.au
 Aircraft: Two C-182's

SKYDIVE COFFS HARBOUR

PO Box 351, COFFS HARBOUR NSW 2450
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: Mark Brody
 Club Phone: 0433 254 438
 Drop Zone Location: COFFS HARBOUR JETTY & WEST MARSHALLS FIELD
 Web: www.skydivecoffs.com
 Aircraft: C-182

SKYDIVE NOWRA

PO BOX A32, NOWRA NAVAL PO NSW 2540
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: RALF JAEGER
 Club Phone: 0419 446 904
 Drop Zone Phone: 02 4424 2138 (weekends)
 Email: skydivenowra@bigpond.com
 Drop Zone Location: NOWRA AIRFIELD
 Web: www.skydivenowra.com
 Aircraft: Cessna 185, 182

SKYDIVE OZ

PO BOX 925, MORUYA NSW 2537
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: PAUL SMITH
 Club Phone: 0438 185 180
 Email: fun@skydiveoz.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: MORUYA & TRANGIE AIRFIELD
 Web: www.skydiveoz.com.au
 Aircraft: Cessna 180 and Cessna 185

SKYDIVE TEMORA

PO BOX 2, TEMORA NSW 2666
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GREG COX
 Club Phone: 02 6978 0137
 Drop Zone Phone: 0417 695 759
 Email: sales@skydivetemora.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: TEMORA AIRPORT
 Web: www.skydivetemora.com.au
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

SKYDIVE THE BEACH SYDNEY

PO BOX 5361, WOLLONGONG NSW 2500
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ALAN MOSS
 Club Phone: 02 4225 8444
 Drop Zone Phone: 1300 663 634
 Email: info@skydivethebeach.com
 Drop Zone Location: WOLLONGONG
 Web: www.skydivethebeach.com
 Aircraft: Navajo, Cessnas 206 & 182 and Caravan 208

SKYDIVING NSW DROP ZONE

PO BOX 764, TAREE NSW 2430
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: MARK BRODY
 Club & Drop Zone Phone: 0418 730 741
 Email: skydiving@westnet.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: TAREE AIRPORT
 Aircraft: C182

SYDNEY PARACHUTE & SKYDIVING CENTRE

PO BOX 4274 Milperra Bc 1891
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GRAHAME HILL
 Club Phone: 1800 805 997
 Drop Zone Phone: 02 97919155
 Email: admin@sydneyskydivers.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: PICTON, NSW
 Web: www.sydneyskydivers.com.au
 Aircraft: Skyvan, 750 XL & Beaver

SYDNEY SKYDIVERS

PO BOX 4274 Milperra Bc 1891
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: JON McWILLIAM
 Club Phone: 1800 805 997
 Email: admin@sydneyskydivers.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: PICTON, NSW
 Web: www.sydneyskydivers.com.au
 Aircraft: Skyvan, Beaver & 750XL

TANDEM SKYDIVING

37 SEGENHOE ST, ARNCLIFFE NSW 2205
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: DICK PETERS
 Club Phone: 02 9597 5918, Drop Zone Phone: 0418 275 200, Email: rpeters@ozEmail.com.au
 DROP ZONE LOCATION: CAMBEWARRA
 Web: members.ozEmail.com.au~rpeters/
 Aircraft: Cessna 180

THE DROP ZONE

PO Box 250, Hurstville BC 1481
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GLENN HOGAN
 Club Phone: 02 9533 8833, Drop Zone Phone: 0418 458 310, Email: glennskydive@bigpond.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: WHITTINGHAM
 Web: www.dropzone.com.au
 Aircraft: C 206

WESTERN DISTRICTS PARACHUTE CLUB

BINDI, WANDARY LANE, FORBES NSW 2871
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: MIKE CARRE
 Club Phone: 02 6852 1221
 Drop Zone Phone: 02 6852 3845
 Email: juliehurkett@hotmail.com
 Drop Zone Location: FORBES AIRPORT
 Web: www.wdpc.info/
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**AERIAL SKYDIVING PTY LIMITED**

8 FRASER PL, YARRALUMLA ACT 2600
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GRAEME WINDSOR
 Club Phone: 02 6285 1453
 Drop Zone Phone: 0418 487 953
 Email: aerialskydiving@ozEmail.com.au

Drop Zone Location: DEAKIN MINT OVAL, ACT
 Web: www.jump-act.com
 Aircraft: Cessna 206

JUMP! AUSTRALIA

PO BOX 224, CURTIN ACT 2605
 Non Training Operation
 Club Phone: 02 6282 9977
 Drop Zone Phone: 0418 829 977
 Email: george.creecy@infofocus.com
 Drop Zone Location: Mint Oval Deakin
 Web: www.jump.com.au

SKYDIVE CANBERRA

29 MORTIMER LEWIS DR, GREENWAY ACT 2900
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: TERRY RIDDLE
 Club Phone: 02 6296 1911 (BH)
 Drop Zone Phone: 0419 289 769
 Email: skycan@bigpond.net.au
 Drop Zone Location: CANBERRA - MINT OVAL, DEAKIN
 Web: www.skydivecanberra.com.au
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

VICTORIA**AERIAL SKYDIVES**

PO BOX 266, CHURCHILL VIC 3842
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: JANINE HAYES
 Club Phone: 03 5122 3096
 Email: janine@aerialskydives.com
 Drop Zone Location: LATROBE REGIONAL AIRPORT, TRARALGON
 Web: www.aerialskydives.com
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

AUSTRALIAN SKYDIVE

PO BOX 839, TORQUAY VIC 3228
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: RALPH HAMILTON-PRESGRAVE
 Club Phone: 1800 557 101
 Drop Zone Phone: 0434 174 443
 Email: info@australianskydive.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: BRIDGEWATER ON LODDON & TIGER MOTH WORLD TORQUAY
 Web: www.australianskydive.com.au
 Aircraft: Cessna 182 & 206

COMMANDO SKYDIVERS INCORPORATED

PO BOX 2066, ROWVILLE VIC 3178
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GREG HILL
 Club Phone: 1300 555 956
 Drop Zone Phone: 03 5998 3702
 Email: secretary@commandoskydivers.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: 3260 STH GIPPSLAND HWY, TOORADIN
 Web: www.commandoskydivers.com.au
 Aircraft: 2 x Cessna 206

FREEFALL UNITED INC

14 ITKESTON ST, HERNE HILL, VIC 3042
 Non Training Operation
 Club Phone: 03 5221 8606
 Email: geoffg@oamps.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: various
 Web: www.freefall.alphaalink.com.au
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

MELBOURNE SKYDIVE CENTRE

285 AUBURN ROAD, HAWTHORN VIC 3122
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: PAUL MURPHY
 Club Phone: 1300 734 471
 Drop Zone Phone: 03 9739 0333
 Email: sales@melbourneskydivecentre.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: Lilydale Airport
 Web: www.melbourneskydivecentre.com.au
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

RELWORKERS INCORPORATED

3 DEE STREET, BALWYN VIC 3103
 Non Training Operation
 Club Phone: 0402 143 389
 Email: carsten.boeving@bigpond.com
 Drop Zone Location: No fixed DZ
 Web: www.relworkers.org/

SKYDIVE NAGAMBIE

11 PARK STREET, NAGAMBIE VIC 3608
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: DON CROSS
 Club Phone: 03 5794 1466
 Drop Zone Phone: 03 5794 2626
 Email: jump@skydivenagambie.com
 Drop Zone Location: NAGAMBIE & PHILLIP ISLAND
 Web: www.skydivenagambie.com
 Aircraft: XL 750 & Cessna 185

SKYDIVE VICTORIA

PO BOX 16, COROWA NSW 2646
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: FRANK SMITH
 Club Phone: 0415 704 748
 Email: enquiries@skydivevictoria.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: COROWA
 Web: www.skydivevictoria.com.au
 Aircraft: VARIOUS

SOUTH AUSTRALIA**ADELAIDE TANDEM SKYDIVING**

PO BOX 1014, GOLDEN GROVE SA 5125
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ALLAN GRAY
 Club Phone: 08 8288 8420
 Drop Zone Phone: 08 8520 2660
 Email: info@adelaideskydiving.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: Port Wakefield Road Lower Light
 Web: www.adelaideskydiving.com.au
 Aircraft: C-182

ADVENTURE AIR SKYDIVING PTY LTD

PO BOX 571, GOODWOOD SA 5034
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: SCOTT GRIST
 Club Phone: 0438 148 490
 Email: markgazley@bigpond.com
 Drop Zone Location: GOOLWA AIRFIELD, AIRPORT RD, CURRENCY CREEK

Web: www.skydivegoolwa.com.au
 Aircraft: C-182

SA SKYDIVING

89E GOODWOOD RD, GOODWOOD SA 5034
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GREG SMITH
 Club Phone: 08 8272 7888
 Drop Zone Phone: 08 8531 1516
 Email: skydive@skydiving.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: LANGHORNE CREEK AIRFIELD, SKELDON ROAD
 Web: www.skydiving.com.au
 Aircraft: Cessna 206 & 182

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SPORT PARACHUTE CLUB INC

P.O. BOX 884, NORTH ADELAIDE SA 5006
 Non Training Operation
 Club 0422 469 608
 Email: skydive@saspc.asn.au
 Drop Zone Location: LOWER LIGHT, LANGHORNE CREEK, GOOLWA
 Web: www.saspc.asn.au

WESTERN AUSTRALIA**HILLMAN FARM SKYDIVERS INC.**

125 RIVERTON DRIVE WEST, ROSSMOYNE WA 6148
 Non Training Operation
 Club Phone: 0415 714 585
 Drop Zone Phone: 08 9736 1386
 Email: lwilthshire@bigpond.com
 Drop Zone Location: HILLMAN FARM
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

KAMBALDA SKYSPORTS

PO BOX 79, KAMBALDA WEST WA 6444
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: MICK MURTAGH
 Club Phone: 08 9027 1043
 Drop Zone Phone: 0419 853 193
 Email: murtaghm@bigpond.net.au
 Drop Zone Location: KAMBALDA WEST AIRSTRIP
 Aircraft: C-182

PETE'S PARACHUTING (NW) Pty Ltd

PO BOX 284, WICKHAM WA 6720
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: PETE LONNON
 Club Phone: 0417 180 064
 Drop Zone Phone: 08 9187 0105
 Email: jumpnow@bigpond.net.au
 Drop Zone Location: WICKHAM AIRSTRIP
 Web: www.australianskydivingadventures.com
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

SKYDIVE ADVENTURE

116 BLAIR ST, BUNBURY WA 6230
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: PETER SWANN
 Club Phone: 08 9791 7311
 Drop Zone Phone: 0417 965 763
 Email: swanny@gateway.net.au
 Drop Zone Location: HILLMAN FARM, DARKAN
 Web: www.skydiveadventure.com.au
 Aircraft: C-182

SKYDIVE BROOME

P.O. BOX 2820, BROOME WA 6725
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: RALPH FORD
 Club Phone: 0417 011 000
 Email: info@skydivebroome.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: BROOME TURF CLUB - RACETRACK OVAL
 Web: www.skydivebroome.com.au
 Aircraft: C-182

SKYDIVE EXPRESS

PO BOX 151, LEEDERVILLE WA 6903
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GRAHAM LEE
 Club Phone: 08 9444 4199
 Drop Zone Phone: 08 9641 2905
 Email: jump@skydive.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: YORK
 Web: www.skydive.com.au
 Aircraft: Cessna Caravan and Cessna 182

SOUTHERN SKYDIVERS

PO BOX 1478, BUSSELTON WA 6280
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: AUSSIE POWER
 Club Phone: 08 9753 1661
 Drop Zone Phone: 08 9439 979 897
 Email: paulhogan@oceanbroadband.net
 Drop Zone Location: BUSSELTON REGIONAL AIRPORT
 WEB: www.southernskydivers.com.au
 Aircraft: BN2A Islander, Cessna 182

SPORTING SKYDIVERS CLUB OF WA

10 VALENCIA GROVE, MOUNT NASURA WA 6112
 Non training Operation
 Club Phone: 08 9399 7333
 Email: cblenco@bigpond.net.au
 Drop Zone Location: VARIOUS

WEST AUSTRALIAN SKYDIVING ACADEMY

PO BOX 439, NORTHBRIDGE WA 6865
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ROBIN O'NEILL
 Club Phone: 08 9227 6066
 Drop Zone Phone: 08 9531 1433
 Email: wasac@iinet.net.au
 Drop Zone Location: PINJARRA
 Web: www.waskydiving.com.au
 Aircraft: 2 X Cessna 182s

TASMANIA**SKYDIVE TASMANIA**

20 MCVILLY DRIVE, HOBART TAS 7000
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: KEN HIGGINS
 Club 0400 500 123
 Email: info@skydivetasmania.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: SWANSEA & HOBART REGATTA GROUNDS
 Aircraft: C-182
 Web: www.skydivetasmania.com.au

