



BAFSA UPDATE April 2019

1. Department of Sport & Recreation Grant

- The 8 keen, aspirant candidates for this grant to undertake pilot training are entering the final selection phase, following the aerostatics examination that was held over the past weekend.
- Final selection of candidates is in progress.

2. BAFSA AGM

- The AGM was held on 6th April 2019. There were no new nominations from the 2018 Committee, who will therefore continue as the 2019 Committee.
- Portfolios and Office Bearer appointments will be determined at the next Committee Meeting.

3. South African Hot Air Balloon Championships : 23 – 28 June 2019

- Entry Forms and information has been distributed to the BAFSA database.
- Entry Closing date is **30th April 2019**.
- Event Officials and great sponsorship deals have been arranged, all we require now is **Your Entry!!**
- In order to have a meaningful event, a minimum number of 10 participating competitive entrants is required.
- Should we fail to achieve the 10 required entrants, the event is at risk of being cancelled and the sponsorship lost.
- The 2019 event is the second event in the cycle to determine the entrants to the 2020 World Championships to be held in Slovenia from 19 – 26 September 2019.
Visit: www.hotairballoons2020.com



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4. Membership

All outstanding membership renewals are please to be finalised. There are a few active pilots out there who have as yet not renewed their 2019 membership.

Remember, it is a condition of your licence to be a member of BAFSA.

5. **Balloon Clubs**

Many of you will remember the original 2 Johannesburg based clubs, Pioneer Balloon Club and Drifters Balloon Club.

Both of these clubs are largely defunct without any current membership or committees. Both clubs own inactive balloons and other assets which are unused and deteriorating.

It was mooted at the recent AGM that an effort should be made to revitalise these clubs and possibly combine the clubs into one.

A “social type” meeting will be arranged in the near future to gauge support for this venture.

6. **Aero Club of South Africa Centenary 2020**

We are still looking for great ideas and opportunities of how ballooning can meaningfully participate along with Aeroclub in the Centenary Year.

All ideas proposed, need to be discussed and an implementation plan developed. Please revert to Richard Bovell in the first instance.

Get those “Nationals” entries rolling in!!

Happy Easter

BAFSA COMMITTEE

