



BAFSA UPDATE November/December 2021

As the second year of restrictive Covid living draws to a close, we are left to consider the highs and lows, trials and tribulations of the year gone by.....

Remembering Bill and Mary Harrop

Both Bill and Mary left us shortly after our National Championships Event that was held at BHOBS in Skeerpoort in June this year.

Their contribution to ballooning in South Africa has been legendary and their passion and involvement continues to be missed. RIP Bill and Mary.

WORLD Hot Air Balloon Championships 2022

This event will take place in Slovenia in September 2022. Our selected pilot representatives are:

- **Marc Nuthall**
- **Andries Steyn**

CAA Free Balloon Pilots Licences/BAFSA Membership

Several pilots have already received their new card licences from the CAA and the rest will receive these as their licences are renewed.

The new card licences are valid for 2 years from date of issue.

It remains a requirement under the CAR's that all pilots are to be BAFSA members to ensure the full validity of their licences.

The Committee has elected to maintain BAFSA membership on an annual basis (expires on 31 December)

Should any active pilots fail to renew their membership by 28/02/22, the BAFSA Committee will consider advising CAA to suspend your licence.

BAFSA Aviation Recreation Organisation (ARO)

The BAFSA ARO approval was achieved at the end of November 2021, following our annual audit by CAA.

The ARO certificate and approved Manual of Procedures is on the BAFSA website.

Membership Fees 2022

Your committee has elected to maintain annual fees at their 2015 level of R1 000.00

Aero Club of South Africa and BAFSA membership renewals are due on 31/12/21.

Renewal notices have been distributed by AeCSA or access to the Blue Box Platform can be accessed via the AeCSA website on www.aeroclub.org.za

Kindly renew your membership timely.

Department of Sport, Art and Culture Training Grant

As most of you are aware, BAFSA has been in receipt of a grant for the purposes of training prospective pilots from PDI backgrounds. BAFSA selected 3 candidates to embark on this training programme.

On 04/12/21 we celebrated the awarding of a pilots licence to our first black female pilot, Semakaleng Mathebula, at a fantastic event held at BHOBS.



To those that missed the occasion, you missed out greatly!

Much media coverage took place prior and at the event to the greater promotion of ballooning.



Our thanks to Lorin Bowen and BHOBS for all their efforts in making the day a success.

See attached video of the event prepared by Karl Jensen.

Following the achievement of Sema, we advise that BAFSA will be in receipt of a further grant amount to continue training of PDI candidate pilots. We welcome Sbu Ngcobo from Howick in KZN who now joins this programme with enthusiasm and passion.

We trust that all our candidate pilots will achieve their "Wings" in the coming year.

Good Luck!

South African Hot Air Balloon Championships 2022

The Organising Committee will meet early in the new year to set dates and select a venue for the event.

Watch this space and the website for details.

A final word of thanks to the members of the BAFSA Committee and all others who assisted in the promotion and advancing of ballooning in South Africa.

Have a peaceful holiday and Merry Christmas.

Travel and fly safely.

See you in 2022.

BAFSA COMMITTEE 2021



Preserving Free Flight