



## BAFSA UPDATE May 2020

### 1. Annual General Meeting 2020

This meeting was held as a zoom meeting on 09/05/20. Attendance was 11 persons with 2 proxies.

The elected Committee for 2020 is:

- Flip Steyn
- Bill Harrop
- Hanke Fourie
- Richard Bovell
- Martyn Evers

Portfolio allocations will be decided on by the Committee at their first Committee Meeting.

Our thanks to Sarah Bauling for hosting the Zoom sessions from Sydney.

### 2. Covid-19 Issues

All members would have received the various communiques from Aero Club regarding the status of recreational flying. Refer to link below for access to all recent communiques:

[www.aeroclub.org.za/aeroclub-latest-news/](http://www.aeroclub.org.za/aeroclub-latest-news/)

Representations have been made by the Aero Club to the CAA regarding various aspects of lifting or partial lifting of restrictions. These have been in relation to aircraft maintenance, licensing (pilots and aircraft) currency and training.

Success was achieved recently regarding maintenance flights for powered aircraft following a strict application and approval process by CAA. This is in accordance with the engine manufacturers manuals.

The director of the CAA has recently written to the Director General of Department of Transport (DOT) regarding the state of readiness of aviation under Level 3.

Rob Jonkers, the Chairman of Aero Club attended a meeting with the DOT and CAA on 27/05/20 regarding the opening of aviation during Level 3. The outcomes were that limited domestic airline operation for business travel would be allowed only. It was apparent that General and Recreational aviation may only be possible during Level 2.

Rest assured the Aero Club Executive has been and continues to be intensively interactive with the CAA regarding the impact on all relevant aspects relating to recreational aviation. They are doing a sterling job in looking after our interests in the current circumstances.



### 3. South African Hot Air Balloon Championships 2020

Issues surrounding this year's event were debated at the AGM, in short the following was concluded:

- The event will be postponed from the original July 2020 dates.
- Options for new dates:
  - Later in the year when we can determine a suitable date
  - Hold event in 2021 at a date to be determined

Following the meeting we approached our main sponsor Afrox, who advised that all their marketing and promotions budgets for 2020 had been frozen as a result of the implications of Covid-19.

Based on the uncertainties of confirming dates and the withdrawing of our title sponsor, it is patent that holding an event this year is becoming more and more unlikely – pity!!

### 4. Events

- World Championships 2020

A final decision on this event proceeding will be made on 19/06/20



- Centenary Balloon

Centenary Balloon Official Launch – As you are aware, our original launch function arranged for 28/03/20 did not occur due to the lockdown.

A new date will be advised as soon as we are able to determine one – watch this space.



- **Battlefields Balloon Fiesta 2020**

The idea of a casual, fun ballooning fiesta long weekend was mooted at the AGM.

Subsequently it has been decided to hold this event in Dundee, KwaZulu Natal (hence the name), hopefully this “midway” venue will suit the KwaZulu Natal and Gauteng pilots.

The event will be held at the Battlefields Lodge, a popular aviation fly in venue. Check out their website on:

[www.battlefieldslodge.co.za](http://www.battlefieldslodge.co.za)

Details to follow. Please support this event

## 5. **Aero Club of South Africa – Centenary 2020**

The vast majority of aviation events planned for Centenary Year have unfortunately been postponed or cancelled.

New dates for events that will “survive” will be announced and confirmed as soon as possible.

The production of the centenary book is proceeding well, this will be launched later in the year and will be available as a hard cover coffee table book or a leather-bound collectors item.

Details to follow in due course.

Trusting that all members and families are keeping safe and well in these interesting times. No doubt we will get through this, to enter a phase of the “new normal”. Let’s remain positive that we will all be able to return to the skies soon.

Be safe, keep well.

## **BAFSA COMMITTEE 2020**

