



BAFSA UPDATE May 2023

South African Hot Air Balloon Championships 2023

This years event has been cancelled due to lack of entrants.

This is indeed a sad day for Sport Ballooning in South Africa as we will no longer be represented on the international stage at the World Hot Air Balloon Championships.

The BAFSA Committee will revisit holding a National Championship Event in early 2024 to gauge the level of interest of pilots and plan accordingly.

Dinosaur Derby

Bill Harrops Original Balloon Safaris once again arranged and hosted a most successful event on the afternoon of 30 April 2023.

A tradition is born, long may it continue.

Thanks to all at BHOBS for their sterling efforts.



CAA Fees

The CAA recently proposed their revised fee schedule.

The Aero Club of South Africa, on behalf of all pilots, crew and aircraft owners, formally rejected their proposal as the increases were greatly excessive. We will advise the outcome of this issue as soon as this is known.



Presidents Trophy Air Race

In support of our fellow Aero Club Sections at this prestigious event, Hanke Fourie and Richard Bovell took the Aero Club balloon to Middleburg for this event.

We were joined by Marco and Theresa Febbraio (Marco was flying in the event) and managed a free flight prior to the event on the Saturday morning, followed by a sunset tether at the events gala dinner held in Richard Lovett's spectacular hanger at Middleburg airfield.

Our attendance at the event was most appreciated by the organisers and attending pilots.

**PRESIDENTS TROPHY
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Our attending "Crown Prince" in suitable attire for crown rope duty!!!



Upcoming Events

1. Experimental Aircraft Association Convention 2023



This event takes place from 09/06/23 – 011/06/23 at Middleburg airfield.

BAFSA intend to support this event but additional pilot and crew attendance is required.

Please contact Hanke Fourie on 082 553 0210 if you are able to assist.

2. Aero 2023

This exhibition of general aviation interest and activity takes place at the Wonderboom Airport from 06/07/23 – 08/07/23.

Aero Club Section will be represented and BAFSA are proposing to have a static exhibit along with other aviators.

We are looking for assistance in setting up and manning our exhibit.

Please contact Hanke Fourie or Richard Bovell if you are willing to assist.



3. Grand Est Mondial Air Balloon Festival



Takes place in France from 21/07/23 – 30/07/23.

Martyn Evers, Hanke Fourie and Richard Bovell will be joining the flying specular.

4. Berg Air Festival 2023

A festival of flying and music will be held at the Berg Air Lifestyle Centre near Winterton in the Drakensberg on 29/07/23.

Warwick Cook is arranging for balloons to be present and would welcome attendance from other balloonists.

Accommodation and gas (limited) will be available.

Please contact Warwick on 083 655 4658 if you are keen on joining in on this event.



BERG AIR Festival
Lifestyle Centre
Sat 29 July 2023

HOT-AIR BALLOONING
06h00 (Bookings - 083 446 9423)

MUSIC BY DAVID ATKINSON
11h30-14h00

HELICOPTER RIDES
12h00-14h00 (Bookings - 000 000 0000)

MUSIC BY ANDREW VERSFELD
15h30-16h30

HOT-AIR BALLOON NIGHT GLOW
18h30

MUSIC BY AMIRA
17h00-18h00 (Dutch Soprano Singer)

DRAKENSBURG BOYS CHOIR
18h00-19h00

Extended trading hours till 19h30

ENTRANCE: R100 • SEATED R150 • KIDS U17 FREE
Includes raffle ticket to WIN a hot-air balloon ride, Canopy Tour and gift vouchers to spend at Berg Air Lifestyle Centre

Department of Sport Art and Culture (formally Sport & Recreation)

The Department of Sport Art and Culture has advised the Aero Club of South Africa that no further grants will be made available for 2023.

This unfortunately means that BAFSA will not be in a position to make grant monies available for further pilot training candidates.

We hope the situation may change in 2024.

BAFSA COMMITTEE 2023

