



APF BROADCAST NEWS

29 APRIL 2010

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1. CONFERENCE 2010 – 24, 25, 26 May 2010

Are you coming?

Have you registered?

The Conference kicks off in just 24 days and is being held at the beautiful Novotel Brighton Beach Sydney overlooking Botany Bay.

This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the APF and is set to be a very special event, definitely biggest on record. We have an **amazing Agenda** with an **impressive lineup of Speakers** including internationals, an exciting jam packed **program of Events**, a diverse **Exhibitors Trade area** and an **awesome pool of prizes** with all conference attendees going into the draw with multiple chances to win some fabulous prizes.

Visit the APF Conference website and see what we have planned and we urge you to lodge your registration forms ASAP. <http://conference.apf.asn.au>

2. POSITIONS VACANT

Technical Directors positions

Every year at the Annual Board meeting immediately following the Conference all APF positions are declared vacant. These include:

- **Director Safety**
- **Director Instructors**
- **Director Aircraft**
- **Director Rigging**
- **Director Competition**
- **Director Judges**
- **Director National Development**

Election to the Boards – PPC & APTAC

In addition to the APF Board of Directors there are two other Boards that exist within the framework that comprise APF members:

- **Australian Parachute Team Advancement Company (APTAC)**
- **Parachute Protection Company (PPC).**

Historically these positions have been held by APF Board members. At the November 2009 Board meeting the Board discussed the responsibilities and requirements of these positions and it decided that it would be prudent to seek additional applicants from outside the APF Board.

If you would like to lodge your interest in applying for any of these positions please contact Operations Manager at the APF Office. operations@apf.asn.au

3. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

NEW OPERATIONAL REGULATIONS

The new Op Regs have now been approved by CASA with multiple copies going to all Clubs around Australia. These new regs will come into effect May 15th 2010 and are available from the APF website. Hard copies can be requested by members at any time and we have also attached a PDF copy for your attention.

COMPONENT PRICING ADVERTISING

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) has been investigating a series of complaints regarding the advertising practices of a number of APF Clubs. To outline briefly the role of the ACCC – it is Australia's peak consumer protection and competition agency conducting enforcement work under the provisions of section 53C of the Trade Practices Act. On the 25th May 2010 amendments to section 53C of the Act came into effect changing component pricing regulations. The new legislation requires businesses that advertise part of the total price payable for a service to also advertise the total price payable for that service.

In layman's terms, this new law states that the total cost of Skydive must be immediately clear to the consumer and they must not be misled by advertisements that only advertise part of the price with extra costs in fine print. This means you cannot advertise the cost of Skydive and then add Membership Fees or Fuel levies or similar 'on the day'. All fees must be included in the total price.

ACCC has investigated this thoroughly throughout APF Clubs around Australia and has found practice common place and has subsequently advised us that action can and will be taken against offending Clubs. ACCC has also made it clear that they will be keeping a very close eye on our Industry and has tasked us with ensuring all Clubs are aware of these laws.

To comply with the Act, skydiving companies should either:

- 1) Advertise a skydive package with total all-inclusive prices; or
- 2) If it intends to continue to use component pricing, it may state the component price, but must state the total price of the packages as prominently as the component price.

There is a public register on the ACCC's website (www.accc.gov.au) which contains copies of a number of court enforceable undertakings accepted from other tourism industries relating to breaches of section 53C of the Act and other misleading price representations.

Further compliance issues

The ACCC would also like to inform industry participants that compliance with the Act relates to representations made by the businesses. Section 52 of the Act is a broad provision that relates to conduct that is misleading or deceptive, or which is likely to mislead or deceive. In other words, a skydiving business must be able to justify or substantiate each claim made in relation to freefall times, locations of DZ's, safety records and the availability of facilities.

We urge all skydiving companies around Australia to take heed of this notice and ensure that advertising practices are compliant with the Trade Practices Act or risk action being taken against them.

AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS

CASA Instrument 405/09 came into effect 1st November 2009 however APF Operations were given until 1st July 2010 to comply with certain provisions of the Instrument.

Those provisions are:

- Charter B Maintenance Schedule
- Jump Pilot Authorization requirement

Charter B Maintenance Schedule:

Previously aircraft used for Para Ops were required to be maintained in the 'Airwork' category however CASA believes there is a need to raise the maintenance standard for all aircraft involved in training operations. There was evidence that some aircraft were being maintained on an annual basis, yet were involved in high volume operations. Consequently CASA Instrument 409/09 was developed to enforce a greater standard of maintenance for all aircraft involved in APF training operations.

APF Jump Pilot Authorisation

The APF Jump Pilot Authorisation was proposed by CASA as a means for the APF to ensure a level of 'control' or 'oversight' of all Jump Pilots. This Authorisation will be a requirement for all pilots before flying para ops at Training operations (Students, Novices and Tandems).

A course syllabus and examination approved by the APF Director Aircraft has been developed and

included in the Jump Pilots Manual(JPM) and will be administered by APF approved Examiners.

Recognition of prior experience

Existing Jump Pilots who have flown a minimum of 50 para ops sorties may apply for recognition of prior experience. They will still be required to sit the written examination but will not necessarily be required to complete the practical unless instructed to do so by the Examiner. Upon receipt of a successfully completed written examination at the APF National Office, the pilot will be issued the Jump Pilot Authorisation without charge prior to July 1st 2010.

New Jump Pilot process:

Pilots meeting requirements as per Operational Regulations .. may apply for a Jump Pilot Authorisation by:

- Studying the APF Jump Pilot Manual (available from APF website)
- Undergoing a course of instruction (Jump Pilot Training Course syllabus is included in the Jump Pilot Manual) and successfully pass a written, oral and practical examination with an approved Examiner
- Upon receipt of the successfully completed examination and provision of a passport size photograph, and providing the fee of \$30 is paid, the applicant will be made a member of APF and will be issued an APF Membership card showing their Jump Pilot Authorisation. This membership will last for two years from the date of issue after which time a revalidation examination must be completed in order to renew this Authorisation.

Jump Pilot Examiners:

Senior existing Jump Pilots, who are interested in becoming an APF approved Jump Pilot Examiner are invited to register their interest with the Director Aircraft or the Operations Manager at the APF Office.

It is envisaged that approved Examiners will be available at most of the larger DZ's around Australia thereby making this process as seamless as possible.

4. COMPETITION AND JUDGING

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST 2-WAY WINGSUIT COMP HELD AT WILLOWBANK

The weekend of the 10th and 11th April saw the first Aussie 2-way wingsuit competition held at Willowbank, QLD. With a total of 7 teams competing, the inaugural competition went well. The teams did 1 practice round followed by 3 Competition rounds with each round having an "over the top" rotation of sorts followed by a physical hand to hand dock to be awarded a point.

Congratulations to the winning teams:

1st: Team Munted - Lawrence Hill & James Throsby from Coffs Harbour

2nd: The COLTECH Experience - Col Sanders & Paul Wainright from Byron Bay and Toogoolawah

3rd: Team Darwin - Michael Schenk & Megan Leadle from Darwin



SOUTH QUEENSLAND PARACHUTE COUNCIL STYLE AND ACCURACY

The SQPC held their annual Style and Accuracy Championships from the 17th – 18th April at Caboolture. There were 14 competitors in the Open category of the Sports Accuracy and 6 competitors in the Novice as well as 7 competitors in the individual accuracy. The Style and Team Accuracy disciplines were not conducted.

Congratulations to the winners of each discipline:

Open Sport Accuracy

- 1st – Luke Oliver
- 2nd – Sam Gray
- 3rd – Attila Novak

Novice Sport Accuracy

- 1st – Owen Meekis
- 2nd – James Goddard
- 3rd – Victoria Mutton

Individual Accuracy

- 1st – Tibor Glesk
- 2nd – Attila Novak
- 3rd – Shaun Hagan

Thanks to the Judges Lindy Williams (Event Judge) and Karen McEvoy (new training judge), Ian McGrath who kept the jumping going as Meet Director, and Mike Dyer and Tibor Glesk who worked hard to make sure these events happen.

GRAEME WINDSOR SCORING THE FIRST DEAD CENTRE IN THE WORLD PARASKI CHAMPIONSHIPS 10 – 14 MARCH 2010.



5. RIGGING ISSUES / SERVICE BULLETINS

The Index of all Rigging Bulletins from Manufacturers, Federations, Aviation Authorities, APF and the International Parachuting Commission (IPC) can be found linked off the Rigging & Equipment Portal on the APF web site at: [Rigging and Equipment](#)

[APF SB No. 100427 Issued 27th April 2010](#) Reserve Ripcord Pin Test

This APF SB was issued on 27th April under the authority of the APF Director Rigging and promulgated to all Packers/Riggers/Chief Instructors/Clubs on that date.

The following is an **EXCERPT ONLY** from [APF SB 101427](#). Open the link to the document on the APF web site for the complete document including pictures.

SUBJECT: RIPCORDER PIN TEST

STATUS: MANDATORY. This is a one-time TEST. One of two tests (either test 1 or test 2) must be performed and marked as per test procedure.

IDENTIFICATION: Reserve ripcorders without markings to indicate manufacturer or previous test marking in use must be identified as manufactured before July 2003.

BACKGROUND: A reserve being closed after repack had the terminal pin of the ripcord break as it was inserted into the closing loop. The rigger had closely inspected the pin prior to attempting to insert it and it was straight with no any visible defect. The pin fractured 0.40" (10mm) from the shoulder at the place where the CYPRES closing loop would sit. The rig, a PA Talon was manufactured in 07/96 and the ripcord was unmarked and presumed to be original as no other data was available on the log card to indicate otherwise. The ripcord is outside the date period as not

[Capewell SB No. CW03-01](#) and there are no indications that it may have been previously tested.

The purpose of this bulletin is to ensure that unmarked and untraceable ripcords have their pins tested for integrity and so marked as to remain in safe use.

COMPLIANCE: This SB to be carried out by an APF Packer 'A' or Rigger (or foreign equivalent), before the next jump. Test 1 to be carried out using a calibrated scale of minimum 20lb (9kg) capacity and is within its 12 month recalibration cycle.

Test 2 can be carried out using a weight that was measured using a calibrated scale.

6. INDUSTRY VACANCIES & GEAR FOR SALE/WANTED

- **Tandem Master Wanted** - Rare full time position available at Skydive Airlie Beach. Small busy drop zone, must have handy cam experience. Email enquiries send to info@skydiveairliebeach.com.au, phone enquiries call Chook on 0417799862.

- **Instructor Wanted:**

ID AFF/Tandem handy cam equipped for drop zone in Perth WA. Will help with relocation. Retainer position. Contact WA Skydiving Academy on: 08 9227 6066

- **Tandem master wanted:**

Contact Dave on 0433254438 or e-mail skydivecoffsharbour@australiaskydiver.com

- **Australian Skydiving Online Business For Sale:**

Attention Skydiving Buddies! [Terminal Sports](#) is up For Sale. If you are interested in taking over Terminal Sports we would love to hear from you.

The online store is for sale with or without stock. It's very easy to run and has a semi-automated Admin side. Great Google rankings and plenty of regular customers. Minimal time and space required (1 hour a day plus your spare bedroom). Contact Steve Smith steve@terminalsports.com.au for more info.

- **2nd Hand Equipment can be found at:** [Gear for sale](#)

7. ITEMS OF INTEREST / CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CANOPY COURSE, WILLOWBANK DZ WITH MICHAEL VAUGHAN, 5TH AND 6TH JUNE

Description: \$28 Hop and pops from 5000 feet.

Focus on circuits, landings & in-flight exercises.

All landings filmed and debriefed.

Maximum 10 participants per day.

Target audience – all experience levels, students/novices to swoopers/instructors

Registration is \$38 includes your first jump

Contact: Michael Vaughan to register.

Email: Michael QLD@yahoo.com

Website: www.sqpc.org.au

The following State & National events AND MORE (including club events, boogies and Instructor courses) can be found in detail at: [Calendar of Events](#)

49th National Championships in Style & Accuracy, 1 – 5 May, 2010. [click here](#)
Caloundra/Caboolture, QLD

Ramblers ID - Tandem course 3 – 7 May, 2010 [click here](#)

Nagambie Instructor B AFF & Tandem Course, 10 - 14 May 2010 [click here](#)

Nagambie Instructor D AFF & Tandem Course, 15 – 23 May 2010 [click here](#)

See you at the Conference - from all of us at the National Office.

For more information, comments or suggestions please email apf@apf.asn.au

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