

ASAC President Report 2021 ASAC AGM

Welcome everyone to the ASAC AGM. It is great to see a good in person meeting after the mixture of meeting in the past few years

Pleased to report ASAC is solvent, and you will have the details of our financial position from the treasures in his report to the meeting.

From an ASAC perspective, the most important issues in the past year have been the WWGC appeal and the CASA technical working groups Associated with the introduction of CASA Part 91 regulations.

WWGC Appeal

The appeal process has played out. The CAS has ruled the appeal did not get lodged correctly within the time allowed. The timeline was disputed by the FAI. The lawyers acting for the team made a mistake in this matter. They knew the timeline was critical, but missed the deadline, though the deadline was in the middle of our public holidays. They knew the Swiss are very focused on timelines and rules.

The FAI position appeared hypocritical given FAI had allowed the British and German appeals against the Australian Team, when those appeals were not within the timeframe set by FAI rules. The FAI clearly acted in its own corporate interest only.

In a phone call with the FAI President, he did state, he did not deal with the WWGC appeal as the British were party to the appeal process. He is President of the Royal Aero Club of GB. His deputy and the Secretary General were dealing with the WWGC appeal matter.

Coming out of the pandemic, the world opening up, it should lead to more activity and contact with the air sport community in the region and around the world. It is hoped the FAI General Conference will not be a zoom event.

The General Air Sport Commission (CASI) of the FAI at a recent meeting produced a draft of a ethical and disciplinary code. It is intended to put the code to a vote at the FAI General Conference in November 2022. It was voted to split the document between ethics and disciplinary. It has a lot of fixes for matter raised in the current WWGC event and appeal.

Ray and I met with the CASA Board Chairman, Mark Binskin, and at another meeting with CASA DAS, Pip Spence. The meeting went for an hour each and covered mostly the same topic. The main theme being issues surrounding Part 149 and its implementation. The implementation has revealed a difference of what self- administration actually means. There is a clear difference of interpretation between CASA executive and branch management, and ASAC members. There should be clarification of the Part 149 issues at the SAF tomorrow. If there is not, I suggest we raise questions on issues of concern.

There has been a welcome change in focus at CASA since Pip took over as DAS. She is adopting a far more engaging approach to stakeholders in the industry. This is a feeling expressed by an assortment of GA stakeholders. ASAC members should begin to notice, the improved attitude. Pip Spence and Andreas Marcelja, who now fills the role previously held by Rob Walker, both have invited our members to contact them with any issues which are not getting dealt with by a CASA branch.

ASAC is maintaining its engagement with aviation focused groups to ensure there are no surprises and to have a network of stakeholders we can work with as the need arises. We are also represented on a number of CASA technical working groups associated with Part 149. I believe strongly that we should insist CASA hold the working groups on Parts 103 and 105, face to face in one session. The session on Part 103 may take a few days. Part 105, an afternoon.

The Deputy PM has asked me to remain another 3 years on his General Aviation Advisory Network (GAAN) The GAAN is a very representative group which advises and proposes policy issues to the Deputy PM. The GAAN had a major input into the aviation recovery plan released last December. It is always good to get a seat and have input on national aviation issues.

I would like to thank Ruth, Bob, Graeme and Ray for the advice and assistance with the management of issues during the year. Ray has done an amazing job pulling the Sport Aviation Forum together.

I have enjoyed the role would like to continue serve again.

Grahame Hill

Grahame Hill
President
Air Sport Australia Confederation

February 2022