

IN THE MATTER of the
AVIATION SAFETY REGULATION
REVIEW PANEL

RE GLIDING FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA.

My name is Christopher Douglas Hamilton. I am a practicing solicitor of 39 years' experience in many fields of practice. I now live in Adelaide. I have conducted my own legal practice as a partner and sole practitioner for about 37 years. I have my PPL, although I have not exercised the privileges of the same since about 2004.

I have been gliding under the auspices of the GFA and 3 gliding clubs in South Australia, and I have visited and flown with another 4 gliding clubs. I now have logged about 200 gliding hours.

I have read the GFA's six page submission to you and I agree with everything in it, and commend it to you.

My personal observation and experience is that all the Gliding Clubs with which I have been associated are very attentive to high standards of maintenance of their equipment, compliance with all the air rules, they all place a strong focus on good airmanship and do a remarkable job of training students of all ages and backgrounds and maintaining those standards regularly during a member's gliding lifetime. The emphasis is at all times on safety, and reduction of the risks inherent in aviation.

I am of the opinion that my GA training was, in a practical sense, no more comprehensive than any of the gliding clubs I saw, and that very few air schools I have been associated with would have had as strict currency/proficiency requirements as a gliding club. Many Private pilots who fly, in my experience, would not "pass muster" in a gliding club without their skill level being brushed up before they went solo again.

I exhort the Panel to ensure that this wonderful gliding culture is able to continue.

If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me.

Chris Hamilton

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