

Chris Madden



## Submission to the independent aviation safety regulation review panel

My name is Chris Madden and I am a Glider pilot and a member of the RAAF Richmond Gliding club and the GFA.

I have been flying gliders for more than three years gradually building up to cross country flying skills. In that time I have been closely associated with the instructors at Richmond and Lake Keepit. The training schedule and milestones achieved have been under the GFA guidelines and have been consistently applied.

I am also an ex RAAF transport pilot and hold an ATPL licence.

All previous formal RAAF training and that for both the ATPL and Command Instrument Rating have been focussed on risk management. At the start of my RAAF career a significant number of military flying accidents occurred regularly. Later, while working as an operational flight commander the management team adopted a strong focus on risk management and professional collaboration for flight safety. This has continued with military squadrons providing the right level of peer support, mentoring and instruction. When well applied, this works well and has produced the current safe and effective operations. Gliding clubs have number of similar practices supporting safe flying.

In my more recent gliding experience a number of very experienced general aviation and airline pilots have been involved. They both support the sport and see its potential for quality development of new pilots.

Based on correspondence from my association and discussions with my club I ask that the following be considered by the panel:

- That the Part 149 Approved Organisation model is the best way forward,
- That Funding and the method of fair audit of the GFA requires ongoing consultation,
- Acknowledgement that GFA is held in high regard by aviation generally and is well placed in cooperation with CASA to build upon its existing administration and oversight of gliding in Australia,
- That the poor attitude of regulator representatives currently reported by some GFA members is contrary to the aims of a vibrant, successful, diverse and thriving aviation sector.
- A Ministerial Policy is urgently needed directing CASA to adopt a core mission to support and promote sport and recreational aviation.

Thank you for your consideration and appreciation of the importance of the Gliding Federation of Australia in the sport and recreational aviation sector.

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