

Mr Chairman

As an active glider pilot and member of the Gliding Federation of Australia (GFA), I wholeheartedly support and endorse the submissions made to the Panel by that organisation.

I do not propose to make detailed submissions which are repetitive of the GFA position.

However I emphasise that the very successful record of the GFA and of the Clubs and membership in safely pursuing this branch of sports aviation has stood the test of time.

There is great concern at the recent actions of CASA referred to in the GFA submission in withdrawing GFA delegations with respect to certifications.

Proposal for criminal culpability is indeed counter-productive to the just culture and safety management Australian gliding has developed and refined over decades. Open, just and remediation based culture underpins a functional, effective safety system.

CASA must adopt a transparent cost/benefit analysis of its risk management approach justifying the cost impacts that regulation imposes on the Australia's aviation industry and its participants. Gliding is a *comparatively* low cost from of aviation open to many. Having said that, cost pressures are mounting from all directions. Changes which increase cost without compelling evidence of need will damage the viability of many Clubs and the ability of citizens to participate.

As GFA puts it, CASA's position in respect to sport and recreational aviation administration must involve a carefully measured and respectful understanding of each of the aviation administration organisations it contracts with. To be successful, it must administer that relationship and undertaking in a cooperative manner.

Putting it another way, and with all due respect, if something isn't broken, please don't try to fix it.

Stephen Bourke

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