

Submission to the independent aviation safety regulation review panel:

My name is Graham Rock and I am a Glider pilot and also the CFI of the Hunter Valley Gliding Club. I am also a member of the GFA [REDACTED].

I believe that a thriving aviation sector that includes strong Sport aviation activities is critical for Australia's future. I also believe that gliding in particular provides the strongest flying instincts of all the aviation activities.

The message I have for the panel is:

- That Part 149 Approved Organisation model is the best way forward.
- Funding and the method of fair audit of the GFA requires ongoing consultation.
- 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.
- The punitive, authoritarian and disrespectful attitude currently demonstrated by the regulator is contrary to the aims of a vibrant, successful, diverse and thriving aviation sector. Bear in mind that most gliding clubs are run by enthusiastic member volunteers.
- The Ministerial Policy is urgently needed directing CASA to adopt a core mission to support and promote aviation in all its forms.

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

Graham Rock
Chief Flying Instructor
Hunter Valley Gliding Club