

AIR SPORT AUSTRALIA CONFEDERATION

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Ms Susanne Schödel Secretary General FAI - Fédération Aéronautique Internationale Maison du Sport International Av. de Rhodanie 54 CH-1007 - Lausanne

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I would be pleased if you would review and consider my request below.

Secretary General,

In Australia many of our air sports are overseen by the national federation, such as the Hang Gliding Federation of Australia, the Gliding Federation of Australia, the Australian Ballooning Federation and so forth. Responsibility for the conduct of these air sports has been delegated by the Australian aviation regulator.

The national federations are therefore legally responsible for licensing, procedures, oversight and ensuring adherence to the regulations by the respective pilots and membership.

What we have found is that visiting pilots, who wish to undertake the various air sports in Australia, are either failing to make contact with the national federation or are making contact but failing to follow the rules and procedures. Effectively they are conducting flying operations without adherence to the requirements. This places the national federation at risk of appearing to have failed in its obligations of due oversight as well as placing the pilot at risk of litigation and possible punitive action.

We have also noted pilots involved with the sport of Paramotor and Paragliding attempting to exercise the privileges of the IPPI system. Yet they are clearly from countries which are not recognised under this system.

My request is for a communique to be sent from the FAI to the active members, asking that they broadcast the following information to their membership. Namely; should any pilots wish to undertake air sport activities in a foreign country then they should contact the NAC and seek guidance on the local licensing requirements, regulations and procedures. This is particularly important for the conduct of safe operations, the reputation of the air sports and the avoidance of punitive action by the national aviation authorities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Grahame Hill President

