

UPDRAFT

26 September 1998

Volume 23, Issue 3

The Newsletter
of the
Massachusetts
Hang Gliding
Association

P.O. Box 1549
North Adams MA 01247
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275 East Hadley Road
Amherst MA 01002

Meeting Schedule:

Saturday,
October 10, 1998

7:30 PM

Holiday Inn
North Adams

Other dates

November:
to be determined

Where to
Send Money:
MHGA
PO Box 1549
North Adams, MA
01247

Officers:
Brooks Ellison
President
802 694 1544

John Gavriel
Vice-President
978 453 5535

Gary Trudeau
Treasurer
413 743 0147

Mark Droy
Secretary/Editor
413 256 3487

Tim Donovan
Flight Director
603 543 9525

Meeting Notes - The July Meeting

The second meeting of the year was called to order at 7:55 PM July 18, 1998. 8 members were present. There is \$1607.30 in the treasury. We updated the information sheet available for flying the State Park sites (Greylock, Prospect, Skinner). The Greylock Challenge has cash rolled over from previous years. The pot, split between the winner and the club, is about \$145. Call Gary Trudeau with your farthest flight from Greylock, or get \$5 to him to enter. John Gavriel is taking a turn at windsock manufacturing this year. Jack Hannus' windsocks are still working well at the RC field and Cirrus LZ. Thanks Jack and John!

News From the Internet

A new Hang Gliding school, run by Bob Corbo, has opened in West Rutland.

Nico Cauchy and Klaus Fiebig have announced an agreement with the Ascutney Mountain Resort to open flying from the ski area. This may mean winter flying when the road is impassable.

Bob Trampenau (Seedwings) is reported to be working on a topless glider design.

Dutcher Sterling is looking to continue his work of helping local clubs purchase sites by using the tax-deductible structure of the USHGA a clearing house for matching need to resources.

The New England Paragliding Club and the Sky Riders are considering a merger of the two clubs.

The Soaring Wing of ASC (Aero Sports Connection), has been formally recognized by the ASC, and is developing a rating system. USHGA Hang 3 and 4 and 5's can be converted to; or rated as; "Pilot", all others will be "Student"

The combined HG/PG issue got a mixed review. The opinion on the net seemed evenly divided about whether or not to continue the joint publication.

A USHGA survey showed that the waiver caused many people not to renew their membership.

The club voted to not to apply for USHGA chaptership this late in the year, and to consider it next season.

We were joined by executive representatives of the New England Paragliding Club to finalize the rules for paragliding on Mt Greylock. They are the same as for hang gliders. There was discussion about changing sponsorship of lower ratings, but it was noted that the requirement of an Observer, Advanced Instructor, or Examiner was encoded in the State Rules, and could not be changed by the clubs without State approval. That effort was tabled for now. Meeting adjourned at 9:40PM

Work Parties at Cirrus Corp Field

Many thanks to those who helped out at the August and September work parties in the Cirrus LZ, below Mohawk Trail, especially to Gary Trudeau for the effort in organizing the events.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Current members will have a copy of the bylaws attached, with proposed changes included in **bold font**.

The changes reflect how we have run the club for the past few years. The Parliamentarians among us would point out that we are doing things backwards. They would be correct.

The changes will be discussed at the **October 10** meeting, and a ballot containing the final wording will be mailed with the next newsletter.

North Adams Area Ambulance/Rescue - 155.220Mhz

Site Info

Greylock:

Advanced HG/PG site. Sign in with the Bascom Lodge Staff before flying. Be familiar with State rules. Landing area is the radio-controlled airplane field off of Route 8. Needs some work on launch.

Prospect:

Advanced HG only. Sign in with the Bascom Lodge Staff before flying. Be familiar with State rules. Land by airport or over the back at RC field. Work party pending for some brush-cutting. Not launchable in calm air.

Skinner:

Intermediate HG/PG site. Sign in with the Park Rangers before flying, even if they are hard to find on weekdays. Vehicles should be outside the gates 30 minutes prior to closing. Be familiar with State rules. Land in large hay field across Rt47 west of launch. Needs some trees topped under launch.

Mohawk Trail:

Advanced HG Site. Hang 3 with sign-off. Route 2, North Adams. Launch is north of towers above hairpin turn. Usual LZ is the RC field on Route 8. Bailout is Cirrus Corp field in front of launch.

Petersburg Pass:

Advanced HG/NovicePG site. Has about a 8:1 glide out to the HG landing area, can get tight on a dead glide with headwind. PG can land in parking lot or small clearing below launch. Route 2, just past the New York border.

Pocumtuck:

Intermediate HG site. The road to the launch has been widened and regraded, and has a new gate with a new combination lock.

Deerfield MA, behind Eaglebrook Academy off Route 10. Launch is north of the radio towers. Landing is across route 10. Check with landowners in garden shop before landing there.

Common Courtesy:

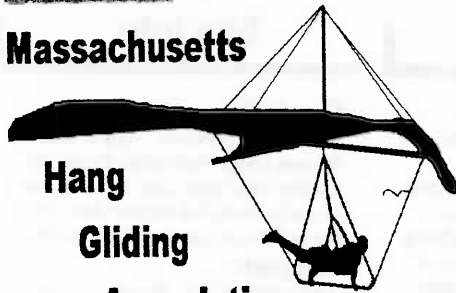
Be respectful of landowner's property. Avoid landing in crops or trampling hay. Break down off the field. Please remember that we are guests, and remind visiting pilots.

Massachusetts Hang Gliding Association

PO Box 1549
North Adams MA 01247

Since 1975

Massachusetts



**Hang
Gliding
Association**



Mark Droy
275 East Hadley Road
Amherst, MA 01002

UPDRAFT

Next Meeting:

Saturday, October 10, 1998, 7:30 PM

North Adams Holiday Inn

Current bylaws with proposed changes in *bold italics*

Bylaws of the Massachusetts Hang Gliding Association

Article I Definitions *(Renumber to "Article II Definitions")*

- 1.1 "Officers" shall refer to those members, elected by the membership, to the posts of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- 1.2 "Members" shall refer to all dues paying members of the Association.

Article II Name and Purposes *(Renumber to Article I) Name and Purposes*

- 2.1 The name of the organization is the Massachusetts Hang Gliding Association; herein referred to as the "Association".
- 2.2 The purposes of the Association shall be as follows:
 - For educating its members and the general public about the sport of Hang Gliding;
 - For representing local and regional Hang Glider pilots in meetings with local, State, and national entities that may regulate the sport or sites at which it is practiced.**
 - For fostering, encouraging, and engaging in the sport of Hang Gliding;
 - For promoting safety in the sport of Hang Gliding.

Article III Affiliation

- 3.1 The Association will be affiliated with other organizations of like purpose in a manner to be determined by the officers, as approved by the membership present at a **monthly regular** meeting.

Article IV Membership

- 4.1 The members of the association shall consist of individuals whose applications for membership have been accepted by the officers.
- 4.2 A member will receive the Association's periodic publications at no charge as a benefit of his/her dues, and may vote as provided for in these bylaws.
- 4.3 **(Moved from preceding paragraph to new paragraph)** Each member shall have one (1) vote.
- 4.4 The officers may designate certain persons or groups as benefactors, advisers, friends, or such other title as they deem appropriate. Such persons or groups serve in an honorary capacity **for the fiscal year in which they are appointed**, and shall have no right to notice, or vote, shall not be considered for purposes of quorum, and shall have no other rights or responsibilities.
- ~~4.5 **Membership shall for the fiscal year on an annually renewable basis. Membership may be renewed a maximum of 6 months in advance. Members remain in good standing for two (2) newsletters after expiration of membership**~~
- 4.6 **There shall be one (1) general membership category.**

Article V Meetings and Members

- 5.1 Meetings of the Association shall be held for the purpose of conducting such business as may come before such meeting, and shall be held at a place and hour to be selected by the officers.
- 5.2 **(Added) Meetings shall be held a minimum of four (4) times per year, one each during the months of March, May, September, and November.**
- 5.3 **A notice of the date, time, and place of the first yearly meeting shall be made by mail, fourteen (14) days in advance of the meeting, to all members in good standing of the previous fiscal year.** ~~Written notice of the date, time, place, and purpose of a meeting shall be published in the Association's publication and mailed to all members at least seven days prior to the meeting.~~
- 5.4 **A schedule of meetings for the year shall be voted on at the March meeting and published in the next issue of the Association's publication. Any future changes to that schedule must be announced in subsequent publications or by a special mailing at least 14 days prior to the original or amended date of the meeting, whichever is sooner.**
- 5.5 A quorum for the conduct of business at a meeting shall be five (5), **of which two must be officers.**
- 5.6 ~~All meetings shall follow Robert's Rules of Order.~~

Article VI Officers

- 6.1 ~~At the meeting for the month of May, m~~ **Members shall elect from their numbers, officers to serve for the following twelve-month fiscal year; specifically, a President, a Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be served concurrently by a member elected to those posts. Vacancies in any office occurring during the year shall be filled by an election in accordance to these bylaws.**
- 6.2 The President shall preside over all meetings, appoint all committee chairmen, and otherwise have general charge and supervision of the affairs of the Association.
- 6.3 The Vice President shall be vested with all powers, and shall perform all the duties of the President in the case of the absence or disability of the President, and shall perform such duties as may be delegated him/her by the President.
- 6.4 The Secretary shall be responsible for meeting notices to the membership; keeping historical records for the Association; and shall perform such duties as may be delegated him/her by the President.
- 6.5 The Treasurer shall manage the receipt and deposit of all Association monies, make disbursements authorized by the President as approved by the membership present at a vote taken at a meeting, prepare monthly financial and operating statements, and shall perform such duties as may be delegated him/her by the President.
- 6.6 An officer may be removed from his/her post; or expelled for cause, such as violation of these bylaws; or for conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Association; or for absence from three consecutive meetings, or two consecutive meetings twice during the same fiscal year. Such action shall require the affirmative vote of a two-thirds majority of the membership, provided that a statement of the charges and a notice of the time in place of said meeting has been mailed to the officer at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting, and that the officer will have the opportunity to present a defense at the meeting.
- 6.7 The Flight Director shall be chosen from the membership by the officers at the **March May** meeting. ~~The term of the Flight Director shall be twelve (12) months.~~ The Flight Director shall supervise flight activity at local sites, assign Site Directors, and perform such duties as may be delegated him/her by the President.

Article VII Elections
(Renumber to Article VIII) Elections

- ~~8.1~~ Members interested in being elected to any office **officer post** must be nominated, by him/her self or another member during the time period commencing at the **March September** meeting and ending fifteen (15) days prior to the election meeting **at the close of the November meeting**. Nominations submitted after the March meeting must be in writing and delivered to the Secretary of the Association. **Nominations not submitted at either meeting, or any regular meeting between, must be in writing and delivered by Certified mail to the Secretary of the Association, postmarked no later than the seven (7) days prior to the date of the regularly scheduled November meeting.**
- ~~8.2~~ Members shall vote for those nominated to their respective posts by secret ballot at the meeting. For each post, the nominee of the most votes shall hold that office. **Members shall vote for those nominated to their respective posts by ballots mailed to them after the November meeting.**
- ~~8.3~~ Members shall set a date for the election meeting at the nomination meeting. **Ballots not returned (postmarked) within 30 days shall be considered abstaining votes.**
- ~~8.4~~ **The results of the election shall be announced in the Association's publication by 31 December.**
- ~~8.5~~ **Returned ballots shall be held by the Secretary for a period of three months, but shall not be associated with the member returning the ballot. The President may appoint an election committee to open and count ballots.**
- ~~8.6~~ **For each post, the nominee with the most votes shall hold that office.**

Article VIII Special Committees
(Renumber to Article VII) Special Committees

- 8.1 Special Committees may be formed by the President at any time deemed necessary.

Article IX Finances

- 9.1 The fiscal year shall be from ~~May 1 to April 31~~ **January 1 to December 31.**
- 9.2 Upon liquidation of the Association, all assets **of the Association** shall be divided equally among all the members in current standing. **donated in whole to any long-standing organization of like purposes.**

Article X Amendments

- 10.1 These bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed; in whole or in part; by the affirmative vote of two-thirds majority of the membership, ~~present at an official meeting~~ **in a special ballot mailing.**
- 10.2 Proposed amendments must be stated in a meeting notice, and be read **and debated** at a general membership meeting, one meeting prior to being voted on.
- 10.3 **Ballots not returned (postmarked) within 30 days shall be considered abstaining votes.**
- Returned ballots shall be held by the Secretary of the Association for a period of three months, but shall not be associated with the member returning the ballot. The President may appoint an special committee to open and count ballots.**

1998 DRAFT Bylaws of the Massachusetts Hang Gliding Association

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- 2.1 **"Officers" shall refer to those members, elected by the membership, to the posts of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.**
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- 3.1 **The Association will be affiliated with other organizations of like purpose in a manner to be determined by the officers, as approved by the membership present at a regular meeting.**

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- 4.1 **The members of the Association shall consist of individuals whose applications for membership have been accepted by the officers.**
- 4.2 **A member will receive the Association's periodic publications had no charge as a benefit of his/her dues, and may vote as provided for in these bylaws.**
- 4.3 **Each member shall have one (1) vote.**
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