



FLIGHTLINE



The publication of the Wings Of Rogallo Northern California Hang Gliding Association
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May 2020 Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's report

- \$18k in the bank
- Everything from previous administration seems to be in order.

Membership services report

- Dave consulted with Phyl Hamby today (previous officer). Phyl has agreed to continue helping with club business during the transition.

Site statuses

Diablo

- "Open" to flying, but access is severely limited (roads closed, parking lots closed)

Ed Levin

- permit has been renewed, but the park is closed to flying.
- Soham is trying to convince the senior park ranger and permit office to allow flying to continue.
- Current response is that the "health department has prohibited flying". Plan is to follow up with the health department (which we expect, has no idea about HG/PG)
- Expectation is that it will reopen on Jun 1
- Wind talker: Awaiting update from Wind Talker Committee, namely cost estimate
- Storage containers: Tried and failed in the past (per Wayne Michelsen).

Mission

- City of Fremont has forced East Bay Parks to close the park until Jun 1
- RRRG renewal went through, but we need to make some retroactive changes to the website

and documentation to comply with their requirements.

RRRG insurance email

- Has asked all chapters to notify them if anyone is aware of commercial operations that are happening at chapter sites.

Bylaws

- Working on updates related to making it easier to operate the club, including permitting online meetings, online voting.
- Will plan to send draft out to the membership for review before they are finalized.

Website

- Thanks to Don for all of your hard work!
- Bob has taken over as webmaster. Evan helping too.
- Updates: passwords are encrypted, password reset is functional, email service changed to Amazon SES, added notifications about site closures.
- New website is a work in progress.

END

Next Wings of Rogallo Meeting: June 16th 2020 7:00 PM with Zoom component emailed to members

Editorial June 2020

A new season is presented not a moment too soon. Today, sites around the region open up with guidelines for the next phase of the pandemic put forth by Wings of Rogallo in coordination with the government. COVID-19's impact on the free-flight community presents opportunities and risk.

In the club's first ever online vote, the leadership of paragliding pilots was recognized more than ever. The new administration offers all of the skills and tenacity needed to maintain the club and let it thrive for free-flight. The new de facto form of communication is second-nature for them and it has fostered an 'always-on' format of communication and governance. The closing of the sites has been a boon to the productivity of the executive board expected to pay off as the next seasons are realized.

The free-flight community is presented the opportunity to set an example to others in the parks by following the guidelines and being respectful to the plight of the health officials and park rangers. This behavior will enhance the way the local community and government thinks of free-flight and strengthen relationships that can bolster the longevity and

productivity of the club. Free-flight relies on strong relationships with the surrounding communities like park visitors and rangers.

Mission Peak officially opens the Stanford staging area today for parking. Diablo is partially open starting today with a gradual full opening based on parking. Ed Levin is expected to open when Santa Clara County achieves Phase 2 metrics, despite a ranger's (mis)interpretation of the health order regarding hang gliding vs kitesurfing.

The inherent risk caused by the season-lapse is physical fitness and safety. Pilots have been barred from flying most home sites for months, producing a significant prolonged shortage of flying practice hours. Recency is key to safe flying, so pilots should ease in with extra care and conservative consideration if they wish to utilize the rest of the year's flying.

The upcoming days are expected to see rapid increases in activity for all interests. Aim to seize the opportunity for growth and prolonged free flight. The virus ran off with the entire Spring 2020 season, but may seed a stellar Summer and Autumn season.

Skydancer

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