

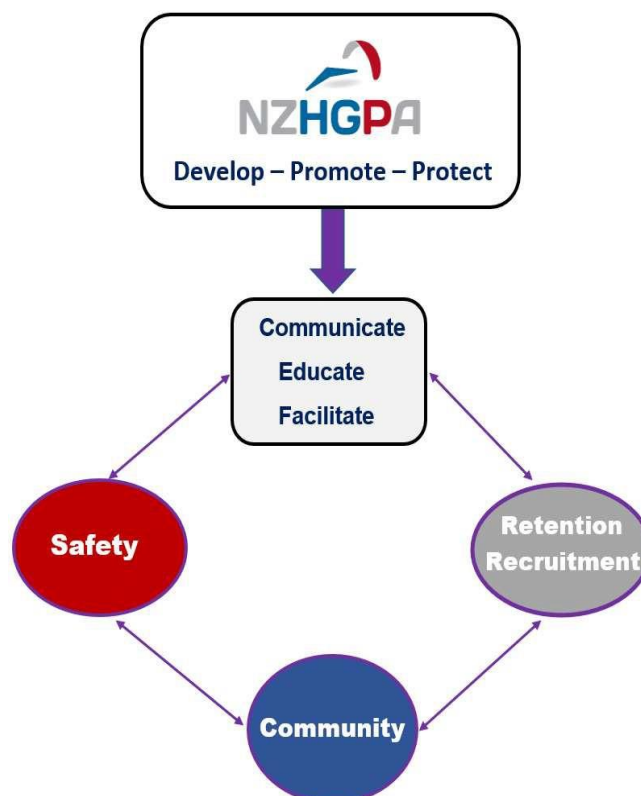
CEO's Focus for the NZHGPA



Here at the association, we start from a position of flying is fun - flying is our passion. The Association was born 26 October 1973 some 47 years ago as the Hang Gliding Association and later in 1994 the National Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association that we know today to be the NZHGPA. With the dramatic increase in aviation traffic, so followed an ever increasing burden on the airspace and compliance of the aviation world to make it safer to fly the skies. We operate in a very different compliance environment to that of our origins and we have evolved to meet those demands. Today the NZHGPA has grown to over 1,200 members and no matter what aircraft you fly; be it a hang glider, paraglider, speed wing, mini wing, motorised, non motorised, or if you like to whirl and twirl, speed down a mountain, go XC, or simply enjoy a sunset flight, we fly as one.

CEO Vision - A Positive Sports Culture

“As the CEO of the NZHGPA, I am committed to developing, promoting, and protecting the sport of hang gliding and paragliding, with a strong focus on safety, the flying community, and the retention and recruitment of pilots. This will be facilitated through communication and education, to proactively foster an inclusive and supportive - Positive Sports Culture.” - NZHGPA CEO Nick Taber



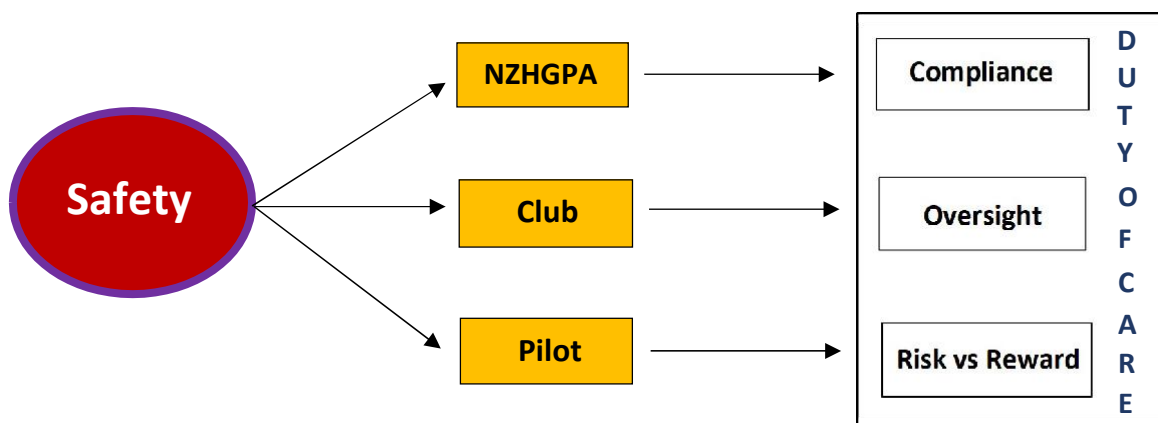
Safety, Community, Retention and Recruitment

These focus areas are at the heart of all NZHGPA decision-making and will shape the direction of the Association over the next three years.

Safety

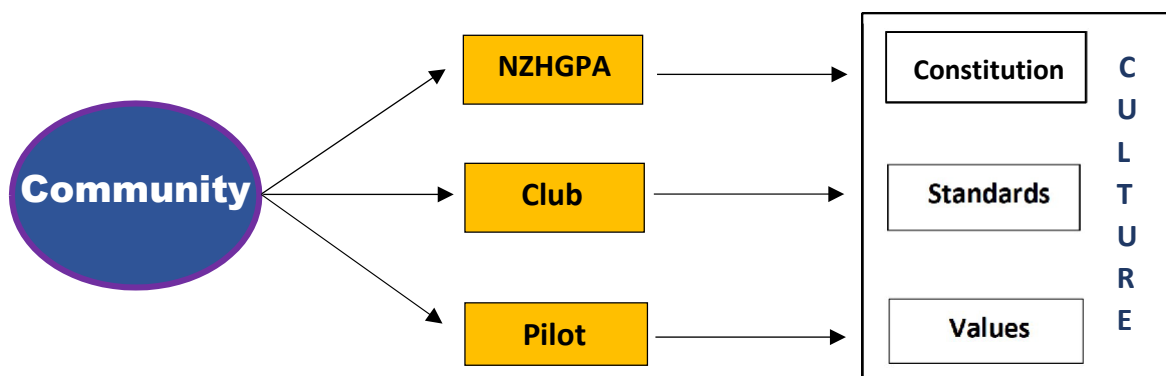
Safety is everyone's responsibility, from the CEO, to the Executive, to the club and the pilot. Tragic events such as accidents and fatalities not only impact those involved, but also families, friends, the wider pilot community, external stakeholders like landowners, councils and CAA, and the general public's perception of the sport.

It is the responsibility of the NZHGPA to meet Civil Aviation Authority compliance and set high standards of care around the quality of instructors, training and general piloting. This is achieved through a Quality Management System (QMS). The twelve Regional Clubs are at the coal face of the operation and best placed to oversee a duty of care is embraced both on the ground and in the air, by identifying local hazards and risks through the site and safety officers. The individual pilot makes the ultimate decision to fly after considering the Risk vs Reward.



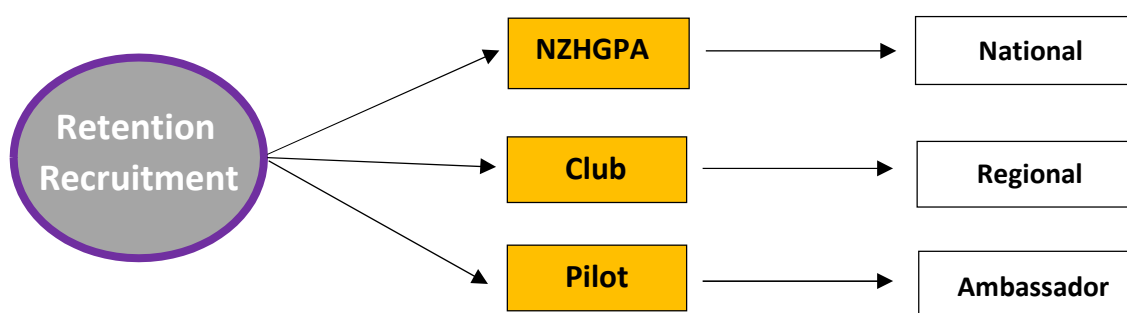
Community

While we fly as individuals, together we are a team. A positive sports culture is an environment where pilots feel valued and supported to have fun, while growing to become a master of their sport. Let's build on our enthusiasm for flying, support each other, and set the standards and values for how we would like to be treated and respected within our flying community.



Retention and Recruitment

If we keep each other safe and foster a positive flying community, then a pilot is more likely to stay engaged in the sport. It is easier to retain pilots who are already invested than find new pilots, so retention after PG1 to PG2 and facilitating pilots, including advanced pilots, to reach their goals is important to keep everyone engaged. Without new pilots, there is no NZHGPA, everyone has a role in the retention and recruitment process, be it at a national level, club, or the pilot. Remember each and every one of you is an ambassador for the sport of free flying, how you interact through social media, with landowners, members of the public who approaches you in the landing site and comments that looks fun, encourage and grow the sport.



Final thoughts

The NZHGPA is first and foremost a sports organisation that operates in an aviation world. The job of the CEO is to meet government compliance and implement the QMS/OPM, the executive team is governance guided through the constitution and taking care of the pilot, clubs, and general business. Many will be unaware of the extensive workload required to run the NZHGPA and twelve regional clubs. The NZHGPA relies and runs on a tremendous amount of goodwill from external stakeholders to volunteers, please support those that devote their free time for the benefit of us all, so that you can grab your kit and go fly.

Communication, education, and facilitation are key drivers to enabling positive outcomes for the Safety, Community, Retention and Recruitment of our pilots. This document provides a start point and work is already underway, with more detail on implementation to follow.

Ultimately, the success of our association is down to every one of us. We are all ambassadors for our sport. I thank all those that have gone before us since 1973, and those yet to follow. My vision as the CEO, together with the executive, is to foster an environment where pilots can contribute, master the sport, and above all have fun as we grow the spirit of free flying and the future of the NZHGPA for generations to come.

Lets Fly