

Club Good Practice Sharing and Best Practice Awards

Why re-invent the wheel? Clubs are often willing to share and help each other with ideas and mutual support. This scheme aims to support that process and to bring your ideas to the attention of other clubs that may not otherwise be aware of them.

You can contribute ideas that have been practised and tested at your club, which you think are capable of being adapted for the benefit of members at other BGA clubs. Ideas may be anything – small or large – the main criterion is that you should feel that introducing the idea has had a significant and positive impact on your club's operations.

We are looking for innovative and effective ideas in any aspect of club management and operations, for example:

- Membership recruitment
- Membership retention
- Project finance
- Other financial management
- Design of buildings & facilities
- Operational safety
- Operational efficiency
- Site protection & safeguarding
- Noise limitation and control
- Diversification of income
- Environmental schemes
- Site supervision
- Advanced training & coaching
- Community benefit
- Local PR and community liaison
- Volunteer management
- Use of technology
- Sport development
- Activities for specific groups
- Club administration systems

Best Practice Award

The BGA is offering an annual award for the idea judged to be the best in any year. Minimum criteria are:

Innovative ideas must have either something completely new, or apply existing ideas or methods in a new way.

Effective must have been in use for a sufficient period of time for measurable benefits to be identified.

Evidence of other clubs already adopting/borrowing the idea will be seen as a positive factor in assessing the concept.

Advice or observations from relevant experts in specific areas may be sought.

The Award offered will be in the form of a free place at BGA Assistant instructor course and will be presented at the annual BGA Club Management Conference.

Assessment process

A small group consisting of the BGA Chief Executive, Chairman of the Development Committee and the Development Officer will assess applications from member clubs and make awards recommendations to the BGA Executive Committee.

Follow up

Clubs receiving an award will be requested to assist in the promulgation of information about their projects for the benefit of British gliding and to help and advise other member clubs wishing to implement their recommendations.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE BGA CLUB INNOVATION BANK

Club: Deeside

Site: Aboyne

Current membership numbers: 80 (380 temporary)

Name of Contributor: Mark Recht

Contact telephone number: 07964 910 590

Postal address

2 Gladstone Place

ABERDEEN

AB10 6XA

E- mail address (confidential): mark@recht.co.uk

Please describe briefly the “Good Practice” that is subject of this application.

Use of a detailed membership survey:

- Tool to build our strategy for the future and ensure we take the members’ views into account as much as possible
- Improve any areas of weakness
- Solicit new ideas
- Prioritise according to how the membership see things
- Get the membership aligned on what we do, how & when we do it
- Identify where we need to communicate better
 - If the membership sees things differently, we need to explain & sell the ideas better !

Has this involved any changes in order to improve practices at your club? If so, what?

Much of the committee's activity since the survey has been driven by the survey results.

How did you identify the need for change, if any, and what investigations were carried out?

Through discussion with the majority of active members and the committee to identify perceived main issues, gaps in expectations and approach that could be captured & prioritised by use of a survey.

How long have the ideas been in operation at your club? 2 years

Costs and resources: What financial and other resources were required to implement the proposals?

Survey monkey fees around £50 + 50 chairman manhours

Evaluation: What are the results, to date?

The survey is referred back to for all major decisions – does it align with what the membership said they wanted in the survey ?

Around 50% of the identified actions in the survey have been implemented.

Has future club policy been affected? If so, how?

The survey has driven the club strategy and was the major input to it. We intend to repeat it to confirm satisfaction of the membership with the results and to update the strategy for the coming years.

What recommendations have you to share with other clubs that might benefit from your experience?

- Needs committee buy-in – may not be obtained until after the survey results are known !
- Needs a lot of preparation to capture members' thoughts on issues to be covered in the survey and where there is a need for alignment
 - Get people talking about them on the field beforehand
- Make sure you have a good idea of what the answers will likely be and what to do if they're not what you expect !
- Use leading questions to facilitate decisions on topics that matter
- Powerful tool provided a consensus emerges

Do you know of any other club that has adopted this idea?

Highland and Yorkshire GCs have discussed our approach with a view to carrying out a similar initiative at their clubs.

Please return this form to Alison Randle by emailing it to office@gliding.co.uk