

FLIGHT LINES

GLIDING CLUB OF VICTORIA

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Outlanding checks

Outlanding checks with Kirk in the Dimona. Book through the Office in advance and stay current and ready for the season.



Welcome Mandy Gruber from Team Germany!

Mandy is the first of our Team Germany volunteers to arrive. A welcome BBQ was held on Friday 17th October with 25 members attending to say hello! Great snags and spiced corn from Peter, Masterchef, and thanks to Viv, Louise and Claire for salads and thanks to all those who volunteered to clean up afterwards.

Mandy has already been on the winch with Fabian, arranging her outlanding checks with Kirk and will be in the Duo Discus with Peter Gray flying to Khancoban. Looking forward to some great pics from that adventure! Mandy is also coming up to speed with the Duty Pilot role and what is required and has had the tour of the operation at Benalla. Introduce yourselves to Mandy and make her feel welcome and part of the GCV.

UPCOMING EVENTS

* Saturday Night Meals Begin

November 1, 2025

Join us every Saturday for good food and great company.

* Khancoban Camp

Oct 31 - Nov 4 2025

Contact Mark Goodley directly for information.

* Flying Further course

December 8-12

The focus of this course is to support members to achieve their Glider Pilot Certificate (GPC)

Winch Operations 18 & 19 October

Saturday and Sunday saw winch training activity happening. 14 winch launches on Saturday and 9 winch launches on Sunday.

Lots of activity happening with more people undertaking their first winch launch or ongoing training. Thanks to all the crew who helped run a good operation on the weekend, particularly Peter Demeo who is our sub-contracted winch instructor from team 4. Fantastic turnout and thanks to everyone for the help.

The End for the OLC

Tom Spiesser



The pioneering platform for decentralized cross-country flying, the Online Contest (OLC), will cease operations after more than 25 years of service. The last ranking will be on September 22, 2025. The reason for the shutdown is the failure to find a successor team for founder Reiner Rose.

The Online Contest (OLC), which was founded in 1997, revolutionized competitive gliding. By combining GPS flight recorders with the internet, it created a platform for the daily, decentralized comparison of cross-country flights. This made flight data, routes and speeds transparent to everyone, significantly contributing to raising the performance of pilots across the board.

Prior to this, pilots had to rely on centralized competitions like the German Gliding Championship (DMSt), where the results were often determined only after some delays.

The OLC grew and reached its peak with over 14,000 participants submitting their flights annually, covering millions of kilometers.

Rose and his team developed new formats, including a national league, the "Gliding Bundesliga", which provided clubs with a weekly media presence. For his lifetime achievement, Rose's was awarded the prestigious Lilienthal Medal and the German Federal Cross of Merit. Despite the success, there was also criticism, including issues with rule changes and communication style of the founder.

During 2020, WeGlide, a competitor platform was established, which attracted many pilots with its promise of more transparency and democratic processes. A significant turning point occurred in 2021, when the German Aero Club (DAeC) moved its central gliding competition (DMSt) from the OLC to WeGlide.

According to Rose, even after a search lasting for more than one year no successor team was found, prepared to continue the platform under a not-for-profit incorporated GmbH structure.

A change of leadership which was to ensure the continuation of the OLC was already announced in April 2025 but did not come to fruition. Whether or not the data bank with millions of flights will remain in place is still unclear.

Migrate your own flights from OLC to WeGlide



The above barcode leads to a webpage which easily lets you transfer your OLC flights to WeGlide. For those of you who uploaded your flights on both platforms at various times, the program will not transfer those flights which have previously been uploaded on WeGlide.

Weekend Operations - Oct 25-26

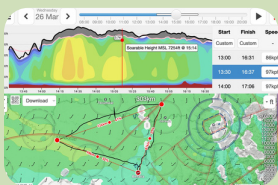
Last weekend at the gliding club, Daniel and Toby each flew over 300 km in fantastic conditions, clear skies, strong thermals, and great energy all around. There was plenty of activity, especially on Saturday, with winch operations in full swing.

Duty pilots: Jeremy Skuse, Peter White

Instructors: Rob Mackenzie, Matt Woodhouse, Graham Adams

AEIs: Paul Dealy, Shawn Driscoll

Tug pilots: Jono McAllie, Rob Porteus, Peter Demeo, Tom Lambert



Please attend the 9am briefing Saturday and Sunday at Club house

This Week in Pictures



A huge success with winch operations last weekend!



Gavin and his son Flynn dropped by Benalla Airport, where Flynn got the chance to go gliding.



BXP is ready for action!



Mark was at Mt Beauty, great spring conditions

Transition from OLC to WeGlide

Tom Spiesser

The following two tables document the transition from OLC to WeGlide over time, both in Australia and globally, documenting perhaps why no successor team can be found to take over the OLC platform. They do not account for pilots who may have uploaded on both platforms; hence the totals are likely to be overstated.

Transition from OLC to WeGlide - Pilots in Australia

Year	Weglide Free Ranking	Champion OLC-Plus	Total	OLC as % of Total
2018	33	578	611	95%
2019	41	578	619	93%
2020	65	530	595	89%
2021	103	459	562	82%
2022	364	293	657	45%
2023	488	216	704	31%
2024	586	198	784	25%
2025	620	120	740	16%

Sources: OLC & WeGlide

Transition from OLC to WeGlide - Pilots Globally

Year	Weglide Free Ranking	Champion OLC-Plus	Total	OLC as % of Total
2018	250	14,913	15,163	98%
2019	1243	14,086	15,329	92%
2020	2148	13,458	15,606	86%
2021	3270	10,856	14,126	77%
2022	8690	9,811	18,501	53%
2023	9872	8,007	17,879	45%
2024	10,978	6,752	17,730	38%
2025	14,014	5,741	19,755	29%

Sources: OLC & WeGlide

Get Involved!

Have something to share? Get in touch with us to contribute to the newsletter newsletter@glidingclub.org.au

