



# Balloon Federation Of America

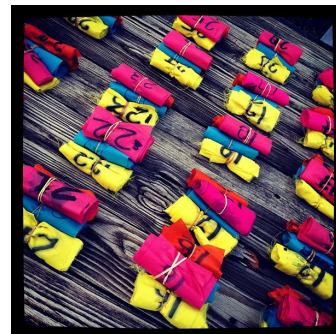
## HACD Newsletter March 3, 2020



### The HACD Needs You!

Are you bored and looking for something new to do? Tired of the same old scenery? Have you ever thought about getting outside of the basket or outside of the chase vehicle? Maybe that time is now!

The HACD is looking at building the future of competitive ballooning. The need is strong, and we are looking to help develop and promote the future of our sport. By flying or crewing you are already used to getting up early and staying up late. So, you already have the first step down pat. The second step is hurry up and wait just like when flying or crewing.



So now that we have that out of the way, let's dig into the wicker and fabric of the whole thing. There are all types of positions at a local, regional, national and or a world hot air balloon event. There are Office Managers (who also multi-task into other positions), Measuring (measurers, team leads, measuring team managers, chief measuring team officer), Target Managers, Logger Officers (download tracks for scoring), Scoring Officers (compile all scores and tracks), Safety Officers, Weather Officers (meteorologist, wind reader, wind reader helpers), De-briefers, Jurors (members, president), Deputy Directors and Event Director (FAA liaison).

That seems like a lot and overwhelming, but every position is important to run a safe and quality event. Some things may not be needed at a small or local event, but it all starts from the ground up. We all have our skill sets and put those together makes a great team.

**For more information please contact Rob Wise, Events Official Liaison,  
at: [wiseres1@roadrunner.com](mailto:wiseres1@roadrunner.com)**

## 2020 US National Hot Air Balloon Championship & International Challenge



All HACD members are invited to participate in the 2020 US National Hot Air Balloon Championship and International Challenge in Scotts Bluff County, Nebraska. The HACD Board of Directors and the event organizer, Old West Balloon Fest, have agreed to add an exciting new element to this year's event. The USA and Canada will be running their country's National Championship simultaneously utilizing one consolidated staff. They will be scored as two separate events. An overall Champion including US, Canadian and other International pilots will be awarded a newly designed International Champion's Cup. US, Canadian and any other International guests are eligible for the International Cup.

A prize fund of \$20,000 is guaranteed plus a \$200 travel stipend to be paid in the form of a gas card bringing the prize fund to a total of \$30,000. Canadian pilots will only be eligible to receive the minimum guaranteed payout of \$150 and a \$200 gas card. The competitive event officially starts with on-site pilot registration and the mandatory General Briefing on Sunday, August 9. The organizer and HACD are offering support for two formal training flights to familiarize all with the use of the FAI logger that will be used in this year's competition - Saturday and Sunday, August 8-9. The last competitive flight is scheduled for Saturday morning followed by a mandatory evening glow that will be the final flight operation of the Championship. The closing ceremony, awards and brunch are scheduled for Sunday morning August 16 allowing all participants to hit the road early for the return home.

**More information and registration materials are available at:**  
**[https://bfa.net/images/Competition/2020\\_US\\_Nationals\\_Pilot\\_Invitation.pdf](https://bfa.net/images/Competition/2020_US_Nationals_Pilot_Invitation.pdf)**

## 2020 Women's US National Championship



All female pilots are invited to participate in the 2020 US Women's National Hot Air Balloon Championship in Brookfield, Missouri. The Balloon Federation of America has licensed the Green Hills Ballooning Inc. as the organizer. The competitive event officially starts with on-site pilot registration and the mandatory General Briefing on Thursday, September 3. The last competitive flight is scheduled for Monday morning September 7. This flight will be followed by the closing ceremonies and a brunch later that same morning.

The organizer is providing a complimentary hotel room for pilots with check in starting Thursday, September 3 and check out Monday, September 7. Pilots wishing to arrive early may do so at their own expense and may reserve space once acceptance has been confirmed and hotel information is provided. Once you have been accepted in the Championship you will be sent an acceptance confirmation along with your hotel contact information. Propane will be available on the mornings of September 1-3 for pilots arriving early and wishing to fly practice flights. Pilots will be charged a flat fee of \$40 for each fill on these dates. Arrive full; leave full.

The Championship is open to female US BFA/HACD member pilots who are in good standing.

**For more information and registration materials, visit:**  
**<https://www.bfa.net/womens-nationals/women-s-nationals-invitation>**

## JR National Championship



The Great Texas Balloon Race will be hosting the first ever US JR National Hot Air Balloon Championship! As many of you know last year was GTBR's first year of their Young Guns program. It was such a success that the event decided to take the event one competitive step further and make it a national championship! The event is almost full, at the time of this message there were only one or two spots available. Registration deadline has been extended to March 15.

**You can read more about the event and find information on how to apply at: <https://bfa.net/hacd-news/hacd-news-2/177778006-news/hacd-news-articles/1789-bfa-junior-nationals-young-guns-2020>**

### **2020 Woman's Worlds ~ Additional Competitors Sought**

The BFA/HACD is seeking 1-2 additional pilots for the 4th FAI Women's World Championship in Naleczow, Poland August 11-15, 2020.

Any USA woman competitor that did not respond to a prior deadline, previously declined or wasn't on the 2020 Women's International Eligibility List is now eligible to participate on a first come, first served basis. Help maximize the number of Team USA participants for the 5th FAI Women's World Championship in Northam, Australia in 2021!

The BFA/HACD must submit three first round nominations in order to receive one second round invitation. First round applications must be received no later than March 15 (local Poland time).

**If interested, please contact Paul Petrehn, the HACD International Manager at [paulpetrehn@gmail.com](mailto:paulpetrehn@gmail.com) or 505.948.0944 ASAP.**

## 2020 Online Seminar Speakers Announced

The BFA Continuing Education Committee has announced the line-up of experienced seminar presenters for the 2020 BFA On-Line Seminar!

Don Day - Weather  
Gordon Schwontkowski - Accident Review  
Mark West - Aeronautical Decision Making  
Bill Zangs - Airspace  
Kim Magee - Flight Planning  
Caleb Melton - First Aid  
Dean Carlton - Crew Training

The sessions will become available after April 25, 2020. Since they are pre-recorded videos, they can be watched at any time. All the BFA seminar videos may be viewed at no extra charge by BFA members. Registration and fees (\$60 for BFA Pilots and \$35 for BFA crew) are only needed if taking the seminar for insurance credit.

**For registration information and other materials, please visit:**  
**<https://www.bfa.net/education-training/online-seminar-2020>**



## 2019 US Nationals Review Update

Following the 2019 Nationals, concerns were brought to the BFA Board. The BFA Board subsequently created an ad-hoc committee to review and follow up on the concerns. The committee worked through issues that arose from last year's Nationals in Scottsbluff and offered the HACD with a list of recommendations for future events. The HACD Board has been determining how best to take those recommendations to improve our future events. Moving forward, we have already modified rules, updated our pilot code of conduct policies and added additional safety personnel to the national's staff.

Please be assured that it is the goal of the HACD Board and the event staff to take these recommendations seriously and work to improve our national championships as we move forward. The ad-hoc review committee input will be applied to the Women's and Juniors championships as well. Watch for more updates and information from the HACD Board soon.

**Any further questions or comments, please contact Chairman Jason Jones: [jnsy588@aol.com](mailto:jnsy588@aol.com)**

## FAI Update

The 2022 World Air Games scheduled to be flown in September 2022 has been canceled. At this time there will be bids accepted for the 2022 World Championship. The deadline for the bid is March 2021.

## New JR Membership Fees

The HACD has put into place a new fee structure for JR members. Anyone under the age of 30 at the start of the calendar year may purchase a JR membership for \$35.00. This membership grants you all the privileges of membership: NEL recognition, competing at state, regional, and national levels, and world team selection. JR's make sure to take advantage of the new payment structure!

## Life Memberships

Life memberships in the HACD are still available! To follow the BFA and other divisions the HACD Board has put into place a permanent life membership option. For \$550.00 you may become a life pilot member to the division. For \$150.00 you may become a life officials' member. Please consider this as you renew your membership this year. Keep in mind of course that your BFA membership must remain valid as well.

## Spirit of Annie Award

The "Spirit of Annie" award, established by the Northeast Ohio Balloon Pilots Association in memory of a very special observer, Annie Pryne, will be awarded whenever an observer, organizer, official or event volunteer most typifies the dedication, hard work and love of ballooning and ballooning people that set Annie apart.

For more information about the history, criteria and nomination process, view the full article [here](#) or for any additional information, contact Paul Suttle: [suttlejp@roadrunner.com](mailto:suttlejp@roadrunner.com)

## We Need Your Input

The HACD Board conducts conference calls when discussion is needed or decisions need to be made. We would like to provide you the opportunity to be a part of these calls. The Board will publish the agenda and the conference call times at least a week prior to the date of the call. Call-ins will be scheduled the first 15 minutes of each conference call. Here is how you can participate:

- Email Jason Jones ([jnsy588@aol.com](mailto:jnsy588@aol.com)) to be placed on the docket of speakers.
- Each speaker will be allowed to talk for 3 minutes.
- The speaker must speak to a topic on the agenda.

At the end of the speaker's 3 minutes we will go to the next speaker. We hope that this opportunity will be one you will take advantage of and that all members feel they have a voice in the HACD. We encourage you to work with your regional representative with concerns you have as well.

## Email Us!

Ideas, questions, comments, anything: [hacd@bfa.net](mailto:hacd@bfa.net)

## HACD Board of Directors

Jeff Ashworth	Gary Britton	Ken Draughn	Drew Egerton	Mike Gilligan	Jason Jones
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