



# Balloon Federation Of America

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## HACD Newsletter November 3, 2020

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### Seating of the New HACD Board Members

At the October meeting, new HACD Board members were seated, elections were held for new officers, and managers were appointed:

#### New HACD Board Members

- Jeff Ashworth (SW Region)
- Aaron Foelske (GL Region)
- Joe Zvada (At-Large)
- Paul Petrehn (Nationals Director)

#### HACD Officers

- Chair - Jason Jones
- Vice Chair - Al Nels
- Secretary - Joe Zvada
- Financial Manager - Joe Zvada

#### Appointments to Board

- Event Officials Liaison - Patty Cramer

#### Manager Positions

- Director of Event Development - Gary Britton/Joe Zvada
- NEL Manager - Drew Egerton
- Web Site Manager - Blake Jordan
- Scoring Manager - Mike Gilligan
- Safety Manager - Adam Magee
- Equipment Manager - Ken Draughn
- International Manager - Paul Petrehn
- Rules Manager - Maury Sullivan
- Sanction Manager - Aaron Foelske

Additionally, the HACD Board would like to sincerely thank Maury Sullivan, Gary Britton and Drew Egerton for their time, effort, and energy on the Board.

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### HACD Inks Contract for US Team National Championship

The US Team National Hot Air Balloon Championship will be hosted in Shreveport, Louisiana June 8-13, 2021 by the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission. The formal invitation and application are under construction. "A-Rated" pilots will be the first to receive an application and they will have the opportunity to register a team by December 31, 2020.

In the inaugural year, the Championship is limited to ten 3-member teams and consequently the pilot selection process required a different approach. In a manner similar to the US Nationals, where the selection process is based on NEL performance, a ranking method was developed to rank the "A" pilots based on a point system determined using statistics of World and US National Championships and top 10 NEL rankings. While there are a number of pilots on the A-ranked list that are not currently competing, this list will serve as our starting point.

"A" ranked pilots are those meeting the following criteria:

- Any past National Champion (US, Women's, and Juniors)
- Any World competition podium finisher
- Any pilot finishing in the top ten of the US National Championship two or more times in the last five (2016-2020) years.

A-ranked pilots eligible to register a team for the 2021 US Team National Championship in order of priority are as follows. Duplicate numbers indicate a tie for the position. Registrants must be current BFA and HACD members.

- Heartsill, Joe (1)
- Petrehn, John (2)
- Donner, Nick (3)
- Heartsill, Rhett (4)
- Comstock, Bruce (5)
- Nels, Al (6)
- Petrehn, Paul (6)
- Donner, Chase (8)
- Zvada, Joe (8)
- Baird, Andy (10)
- Cannon, Pat (11)
- Jones, Steve (11)
- Cliver, Bubba (13)
- Pfeifer, Holly (14)
- White, Cheri (14)
- Beazly, Brian (14)
- Glebe, Phil (14)
- Menchhofer, Jeff (14)
- Bartholomew, Rob (14)

The following are the only permitted team compositions:

- A, B, C
- B, B, C
- B, C, C
- A, C, C
- C, C, C

If less than 10 A-ranked pilots register a team, B-ranked pilots will have an opportunity to captain and register a team. "B" ranked pilots are those meeting the following criteria:

- Any pilot having participated in a US Nationals or World Championship two (2) or more times in the past five (5) years (2016-2020) not classified as an "A" and have finished in the top 50 of the NEL two or more times in the past five years.

- Any pilot finishing in the top fifteen (15) of the BFA NEL in three (3) of the last five (5) years.

These lists may change once the 2019 NEL is updated for tasks completed in 2020, however they currently include:

2 or more Nationals or Worlds & top 50 NEL 2 or more times

- Armstrong, Scott
- Baker, Bill
- Bussey, Bill
- Cliver, Chris
- Craig, Brad
- Fenster, Matt
- Foelske, Aaron
- Heavin, Gary
- Isley, Todd
- Jones, Jason
- Liberti, Daniel
- Nels, AJ
- Raya, Shawn
- Rubin, Jeremy
- Sabin, Richard
- Wilkinson, Justin
- Wilkinson, Steve
- Wood, Bruce
- Wright, Jonathan

3 or more top 15 NEL

- None not already A or B

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## 2019/2020 Combined NEL

In July, the HACD formed a committee to review the NEL for the 2020 ballooning season. Due to the postponement of many balloon events this year, it was decided to combine the 2019 and 2020 tasks into a single list to be used for the 2021 National Championships. The new list has been posted on the BFA website (<https://bfa.net/ranking/national-eligibility-ranking>). You can click on the “2019+2020” button to see the updated list. Scores should be listed in order with 2019 being scored before 2020. Please check your scores for accuracy. If you discover a problem, please [contact the NEL Manager](#) (Drew Egerton).

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## We Need Your Input

The HACD Board meets when discussion or decisions are required. You have the opportunity to be a part of these events.

When possible, the agenda will be published at least a week in advance. Call-ins will be scheduled the first 15 minutes of each meeting. Here is how you can participate:

1. Email Jason Jones ([pilot@oldworldballooney.com](mailto:pilot@oldworldballooney.com)) to be placed on the docket of speakers.
2. Each speaker will be allowed to talk for 3 minutes.
3. 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 participant. We hope that this opportunity will be one you will take advantage of and that all members have a voice in the HACD. We encourage you to work with [your regional representative](#) as well.

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### **Newsletter Archive**

Did you know that the HACD Newsletters are being archived on the BFA website? Thanks to our website manager Blake Jordan, you can find all of the 2020 Newsletters at: <https://bfa.net/hacd-home/newsletters>

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### **Email Us!**

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

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