



The Aero Club of South Africa

Preserving Free Flight

Aero Club Communique # 9 of 2026

Good day to all our Aero Club members and the GA Industry.

Today we bring you varied information for the recreational pilot.

Airweek 2026

Airweek 2026 was a resounding success. If you have not yet read about Airweek 2026, please see last week's Communique number 8 for a full report on all matters Airweek 2026.

We will be holding a debrief soon and then, within a month or so, the planning for 2027 will commence.

12-Year Engine Rule

There is nothing new to add to what was reported last week on Appendix 3 of Part 43, the technical standards that will give relief to owners of aircraft with Lycoming and Continental engines that are older than 12 years. The comment period expired on the 19th of March. The proposed amendments to Part 91 are in the process of being collated with other amendments that will be part of the 35th Amendment to the South African Civil Aviation Regulations.

The 35th amendment will then be sent for approval by the Minister of Transport.

Aviation Accident and Incident Information

At a recent Industry Liaison Forum, we received information about accident and incident statistics. Here is some of the information for the period April to December 2025 that has been compared to the same period in the previous year:

- Air proximity incidents show a decrease.
- The accident rate per estimated hours flown also shows a decrease.
- The number of general and recreational accidents has decreased.

While the information in the three mentioned categories above shows a positive trend and the general and recreational number of accidents decreased there is an area that is a cause for concern. This is that 14 fatal accidents caused 20 fatalities. The 14 fatal accidents are already more for the 9-month period to December 2025 than the 13 fatal accidents in the 12 months from April 2024 to March 2025 and the 4 fatal accidents for the 2023/2024 year.

This is not a good statistic. We will be able to give more information on the possible causes of these accidents in the future.

To assist with safety the SACAA some time ago established the Confidential Aviation Hazard Reporting System (CAHRS). As per the SACAA website the CAHRS is:

“a voluntary, non-punitive, confidential reporting system established by the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA). It provides a channel for the voluntary reporting of aviation occurrences or hazards while protecting the reporter’s identify.”

The use of the CAHRS is steadily increasing and it is believed that this contributes to a reduction in aviation incidents and accidents.

For more information about CAHRS, see the CAA website at:

<https://www.caa.co.za/information-for-the-public/reporting/#cahrs>

The email address that can be used is cahrs@caa.co.za . It is definitely confidential.

Aeronautical Rescue Coordination Centre

While on the subject of safety, please be aware of the services of the ARCC.

Last week we introduced the ARCC. See the ARCC contact information below to report an accident. There is also a poster on the last page of this communique.

ARCC

Aeronautical Rescue
Coordination Centre

SEARCH AND RESCUE

 +27 63 505 4164 or

 +27 63 505 5485

 Report **ANY** Aircraft Accident
Immediately to the ARCC

This includes Paragliders



The 2026 Aero Club membership renewal commenced on the 1st of December.
Please visit the Aero Club website renewal portal at
<https://aeroclub.org.za/membership/> to renew or to register as a new member.

Till next week.

Regards,

Walter Doubell,

Acting Chairman,

Aero club of SA,

walter@aeroclub.org.za

The Aero Club Membership Support Initiative

ATFs and Licences

The Aero Club has created a Member Support Initiative to assist active Aero Club members in their Recreational Licence & ATF application submissions to the CAA at a cost of R 300 per submission, discounts for multiple submissions and referrals.



AeroAssist

<https://www.aeroassist.org.za/>

AeroAssist is a web based system that can be used by members of Aero Club to facilitate Authority to Fly applications with CAA.



The functionality of the system allows for the upload of all required documentation that must be submitted with the application. Aircraft details and applicable documentation will be saved to a master document set for the aircraft and will be available for subsequent applications; making it easier for the user the next time an application is submitted.

Applicants are kept up to date with regards to application progress via their preferred communication method - sms or e-mail. When the Authority to Fly has been issued by CAA, it will be stored in the system and automatically e-mailed to the applicant. As an additional service, we also send a reminder at the appropriate time when an Authority to Fly is due.

For more information contact The Aero Club of South Africa
(011) 082 1100 or salome@aeroclub.org.za

Sections of The Aero Club of South Africa





REPORT AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS & FORCED LANDINGS

TO THE ARCC

AERONAUTICAL RESCUE COORDINATION
CENTRE

+27 63 505 4164 or

+27 63 505 5485

Accident and Incident Investigation

Division +27 60 991 9915

