
Purpose

The Youth/Junior Committee (YJC) exists to ensure the strong future of the sport of soaring and ultimately, the existence of the SSA. We do this by guiding the full cycle of a junior pilot's early soaring career:



There exists a (pending) memorandum of understanding between the SSA and YJC that emphasizes the following:

1. The SSA believes that programs targeting the recruitment, training and development of junior pilots is strategic to the future of the SSA.
2. YJC, an SSA Committee whose mission is to conceive, manage and administer programs to recruit, train, develop basic flying, encourage advanced ratings, cross country, and racing skills of youth/junior (under 26) pilots, wishes to solicit donations through the SSA to support their mission.
3. The YJC, in consultation with the SSA Board of Directors / Executive Committee will develop specific programs and activities targeting its mission. These include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Organizing and underwriting (in whole or part) training camps and contests meeting the SSA sanction requirements.
 - b. Identifying barriers to attracting new juniors and developing current pilots and developing solutions to these problems
 - c. Managing and promoting scholarships and awards targeted at juniors.

Committee structure

The Committee is composed of a broad cross section of soaring backgrounds. The intent is to represent many different perspectives ranging from organizational abilities, racing pilots, finance, club operations to juniors themselves. The main committee will be brought together occasionally for major discussions but because of its size, most effort will be focused into subcommittees: Junior Nationals, Fundraising, Development, Junior Programs, and Grassroots. The committee also has a chair, secretary, and treasurer for organizational purposes.

Junior nationals:

This group is responsible for organizing the annual training camp and contest. It's is generally chaired by the contest CM, staffed with current contest organizers, and a few mentors familiar with contest and coaching processes. The week long event consists of 2 training/practice days to get all contestants familiar with basic racing rules and tactics. The remainder of the week will consist of daily info sessions and flight de-briefs in addition to flying. The juniors are split into a single seat class (for those appropriately qualified) that counts as a regional event and a two-seat class that is designed for developing the racing skills of newer pilots.

Fundraising:

Members of the fundraising subcommittee are knowledgeable of fundraising, financial matters, sponsorship programs, and business practices. They identify potential sponsors and market the Jr. Soaring mission to them to support committee programs.

Development:

A key part of the junior soaring mission is encouraging existing pilots to continue with soaring and develop their skills. This subcommittee develops continuing education (may take the form of new ratings, experiences, skills, etc) ideas/curriculum that can be spread to clubs/commercial operators. Development assists with the curriculum for the yearly Jr. camp/contest and preparing pilots for international team selection.

Grassroots

The Grassroots subcommittee works at the club/chapters level to identify barriers to the advancement of junior soaring in the US and makes recommendations to committee and SSA on how to mitigate them. They also provide feedback on committee activities and advertise them to clubs/chapters.

Existing Youth Programs

A significant part of the youth committee was dedicated to scholarship opportunities for young pilots. The youth programs committee works with the the scholarship managers (or manages the scholarships) to promote applications. It assists with the creation of new scholarships and helps with winner selection.

Memorandum of Understanding between The Soaring Society of America (SSA)

and
The Youth/Junior Committee (YJC) of the SSA

[as adopted by the SSA Board of Directors, month dd, yyyy]

Purpose: To define the mission, rolls and operational rules of the Youth Committee.

1. The Soaring Society of America (SSA) is an entity who's prime and sole national authority representing soaring in the United States flows from its agreement with the National Aeronautical Association (NAA), which is a member of Federation Aviation Internationale (FAI), the international body for sporting aviation interests.
2. The SSA believes that programs targeting the recruitment, training and development of junior pilots is strategic to the future of the SSA.
3. YJC, an SSA Committee whose mission is to conceive, manage and administer programs to recruit, train, develop basic flying, encourage advanced ratings, cross country, and racing skills of youth/junior (under 26) pilots, wishes to solicit donations through the SSA to support their mission.
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 - c. Managing and promoting scholarships and awards targeted at juniors.
5. A memorandum entitled "Operating Agreement Between The Soaring Society of America (SSA) and The Junior Pilot Development Committee (JPDC) of the SSA" (a copy of which is annexed hereto) regarding certain financial arrangements between the SSA and the JPDC shall govern the operational aspects of the JPDC

It is understood that none of the foregoing shall authorize or permit the JPDC to act in contravention to or beyond the authority granted by the SSA by-laws .

**Operating Agreement Between
The Soaring Society of America (SSA)
and
The Youth Committee (YJC) of the SSA**

Segregation and Accounting of YJC Program Funds

- All financial transactions related to the YJC will be accounted for as a separate program (department) within the SSA according the existing Chart of Accounts
- At its discretion, the SSA may or may not choose to establish a separate checking/savings account for the YJC funds
- The YJC will appoint a committee Treasurer acceptable to the SSA ExComm
- YJC financial transactions may be effected by the YJC Treasurer (or YJC Chair in the absence of the Treasurer) or SSA Designated Representative. If not otherwise specified the SSA Designated Representative will be the Chief Operating Officer
- SSA shall provide to the YJC Treasurer monthly itemized statements of all expenses and contributions to YJC whether from external contribution or internal sources (e.g. transfers to/from the US Team, Rules Committee or other source).
- All original invoices for YJC expenditures shall go to SSA. SSA shall send the YJC Treasurer copies of invoices for all charges emanating from SSA office. Invoices must be approved for payment in writing by YJC Treasurer.
- Requests for reimbursement of expenses will be made using the then current SSA expense reimbursement process and approved by the YJC Treasurer.
- All YJC expenses will be paid via the SSA accounts payable process
- The YJC will not obligate itself or the SSA to any expense that would cause the program balance to become negative.