

**SOUTH AFRICAN POWER FLYING ASSOCIATION**

**NEWS LETTER**

2026 SEASON ON THE GO  
 UPCOMING EVENTS  
 PTAR 2026  
 SPEED RALLY SEASON 8 2026  
 LICHTENBURG ANR  
 Airweek ANR  
 FAI GAC

# 2026 SEASON ON THE GO!

## AEROCLUB AIRWEEK ANR

We kicked off the year with two ANR's in March to get the fun flowing. The first event was at the Aeroclub Airweek in Middelburg, Mpumalanga, and the second event at Lichtenburg Airfield in the North West. Both events were affected by the recent adverse weather systems moving through the country but were safely and successfully concluded. The Aeroclub Airweek ANR comprised of a single 25Nm route to the northeast of the field with a 0.4Nm corridor. In the build-up to the event, healthy interest was shown and we prepared for 15 entries. Bad weather on Friday forced a lot of Airweek attendees to abandon their flying plans, and drive to the event instead. Flying conditions improved for the Saturday, and the event could go ahead, but with a reduced field. Nonetheless, participants enjoyed the route and the teams representing Sling Aircraft produced notable performances. *Devan van der Westhuisen* and *Bernard Wenhold* won the day in the Sling TSI scoring a total of 15 points, which means that they spent a total of 10 seconds outside the corridor. They were closely followed by *Riaan Denner* and *Chris van Woerel* in the Sling High Wing with 81 points. A special mention goes to *Peet Mostert* taking part in his first SA Power Flying event in his R44 helicopter.



Devan vd Westhuisen and Bernard Wenhold at Aeroclub Airweek  
 Iaan Myburgh  
 SA Power Flying Association

## LICHTENBURG ANR

*Hansie Theart* and his family hosted us on the 14 th of March for an ANR event near Lichtenburg. The original plan was to fly the event from their beautiful farm strip next to the N14, but the wet grass from the rains the previous night, and an unfavourable wind direction necessitated moving the event to the nearby Lichtenburg Airfield. With two new routes hastily prepared, and the programme delayed to facilitate the venue change, the event got underway. Teams completed two routes of approximated 25Nm, taking us to the south west of Lichtenburg town. The first route had a corridor width of 0.4Nm and followed relatively easy landmarks to ease everyone in and get the excitement and competitive juices going.

Penalty	Reason
72	SP Line planned: 11:40:00, actual: 11:39:35
192	FP Line planned: 11:57:15, actual: 11:58:20
0	Take-off Line planned: 11:33:00, actual: 12:01:37

Hansie and Japie Theart' Second Route

The second route ramped up the difficulty level by narrowing the corridor to 0.35Nm with less distinct features to guide us. The father & son team of Hansie and Japie Theart took advantage of their local knowledge and scored 458 and 264. Impressively, on the second route, they stayed within the corridor for the whole route, only scoring penalty points for timing the start and finish. Special thanks go to Len Steyn for organising the event. This was the 3 rd ANR event Len and SA Power Flying have put together in the North West province, with the next one planned for 13 June 2026.



Lichtenburg ANR Participants



Iaan Myburgh  
SA Power Flying Association



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**APRIL 18**  
 Rand Challenge ANR  
 -Rand Airport

**MAY 2**  
 Speed Rally #1 Bona Bona

**16**  
 FUN Rally -AIRSPAN  
 28 - 30  
 PTAR Secunda

For any info contact  
 Iaan Myburgh 082 449 2531  
 David Le Roux 073 338 5200

**PTAR 2026**  
 28-30 May 26  
 FASC  
 Only 40 Entries

Enter @  
[www.sapfa.co.za](http://www.sapfa.co.za)

**PTAR ENTRIES OPEN**

**THE ENTRIES ARE ROLLING IN FOR PTAR 2026, GET YOUR ENTRIES IN !**  
 Grounded by the SACAA  
 12 year rule Reach out to  
 David Le Roux 073 338 5200 for  
 rental options for PTAR 2026

**Don't Miss Out!**  
**AIRSPAN FUN RALLY**  
**16 MAY 26**

Fun Rally to be held at  
**AIRSPAN AIRFIELD**

Prepare for the Zim Rally or  
 join simply for a fun  
 morning out.

Breakfast sponsored by  
**Cirrus**

[www.cirrusaircraft.com/za/](http://www.cirrusaircraft.com/za/)

**OUR SUPPORT**

**SAPFA**  
 SOUTH AFRICAN POWER FLYING ASSOCIATION  
[www.sapfa.co.za](http://www.sapfa.co.za)

## Annual Meeting of the FAI General Aviation Commission (GAC)

The FAI General Aviation Commission (GAC) is responsible for overseeing international air sport competitions and developing the rules for Rally, Precision and ANR competitions and GA Records. This year Switzerland hosted the annual Plenary Meeting of the FAI General Aviation Commission (GAC). The meeting took place in Luzern on 26–27 February 2026. South Africa has actively participated in the work of this Commission since its inception. We missed the diplomatic presence of Hans Schewel following his retirement as President last year. It is believed that he represented South Africa at every GAC meeting since 1999, and his long service was widely appreciated. When planning my travel, I chose to avoid the Middle East and instead flew via Istanbul to Zurich — a decision that proved wise in hindsight. The GAC Bureau has been meeting monthly via Zoom throughout the year, so much of the preparation for the annual meeting had already been completed before the plenary session.

**Rally Subcommittee**  
 The Rally Subcommittee reviewed the most recent World Rally Flying Championship held in Ferrara, Italy. Several minor rule changes were agreed upon. These mainly addressed the quality of training routes, and the definition of "envelope time" was extended to include taxi time.

**General Rules document**  
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**FAI Athletes Working Group.**  
 The FAI has proposed an Athletes Working Group to give a direct voice to our Athletes. The GAC is to propose one of its athletes to the working group.

### Calendar of World Championship Events

- 2026**
  - 26th FAI World Precision Flying Championship – Toruń, Poland  
 Competition: Tue 9 Aug – Sat 8 Aug 2026  
 Competition: Sun 9 Aug – Fri 14 Aug 2026
- 2027**
  - 4th FAI WANR Championship – Zwickau, Germany  
 Training: 23 Aug – 29 Aug 2027  
 Competition: 30 Aug – 4 Sep 2027
- 2028**
  - 25th FAI World Rally Flying Championship – Greece  
 Training: Mon 15 May – Fri 19 May 2028  
 Competition: Sat 20 May – Fri 26 May 2028



**Long Range Rally Events**

- Rallye Toulouse – Tarfaya  
 14 May 2026
- Rallye Toulouse – Saint-Louis  
 19 September 2026

For further information, please contact:  
 Frank Eckard [frank.eckard@mweb.co.za](mailto:frank.eckard@mweb.co.za)



Frank Eckard

**SA Power Flying Insights Masterclass**

There will be a webinar on  
**7 April,**  
 Click this link to register

[www.docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScZZTzn9Cf\\_hD33AFZ3b5Hjyv9p3mxEHJ4PoNikwsSFeCQ/viewform](https://www.docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScZZTzn9Cf_hD33AFZ3b5Hjyv9p3mxEHJ4PoNikwsSFeCQ/viewform)

## IMPORTANT LINKS

- SOUTH AFRICAN POWER FLYING WEBSITE**  
[www.sapfa.co.za](http://www.sapfa.co.za)
- Speed Rally Entry Form**  
[www.sapfa.co.za/home/speed-rally/](http://www.sapfa.co.za/home/speed-rally/)
- Rally & ANR Entries**  
[www.sapfa.co.za/competition-entry-form/](http://www.sapfa.co.za/competition-entry-form/)
- SA Power Flying Insights Masterclass 7 April**  
[www.docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScZZTzn9Cf\\_hD33AFZ3b5Hjyv9p3mxEHJ4PoNikwsSFeCQ/viewform](https://www.docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScZZTzn9Cf_hD33AFZ3b5Hjyv9p3mxEHJ4PoNikwsSFeCQ/viewform)
- PTAR ENTRY FORM**  
[www.sapfa.co.za/competition-entry-form-ptar/](http://www.sapfa.co.za/competition-entry-form-ptar/)
- PTAR FACEBOOK**  
[www.facebook.com/groups/455558857880389](https://www.facebook.com/groups/455558857880389)
- SA Power Flying (SAPFA) INSTAGRAM**  
[www.instagram.com/sapfa.co.za/reels/?d=1%3Futm\\_source%3Dig\\_embed](https://www.instagram.com/sapfa.co.za/reels/?d=1%3Futm_source%3Dig_embed)

**BONA BONA**  
 FLATIRON  
 GAME LODGE

**5th 2026 ANNUAL FLY IN**

**OUR SUPPORT**

Contact us to find out about our available marketing opportunities and support our events  
[tarrynorford@gmail.com](mailto:tarrynorford@gmail.com)