



Invitation

2021

**CANOWINDRA INTERNATIONAL
BALLOON CHALLENGE**

24th April – 2nd May 2020

www.canowindrachallenge.org.au



31st Jan 2021

Invitation to 2021 Canowindra International Balloon Challenge

Well what a year 2020 was for us all. Covid 19 has had massive impacts to people personally and financially and has had a devastating effect on many sectors of the economy. The events industry in particular has been devastated and it's a long way back for many events with key sponsorships and support harder than ever to secure.

The insecurity around the future impacts of Covid 19 makes it very difficult for events to put any certainty into their planning, especially around public attendance. We have all learned to become better friends with uncertainty and for the organising committee of the Canowindra International Balloon Challenge this is certainly the case.

We are however also very positive group and as such we are delighted to be able to say that we are planning on proceeding with the 2021 event. This decision has not been taken lightly and is with a full awareness that the sands underneath us are shifting every day.

On behalf of the organising committee I am thrilled to be able to invite all balloonists to attend the 2021 Canowindra International Balloon Challenge to be held in Canowindra between the 24th April and 2nd May 2021..

This event is one of the biggest in ballooning events in the country and continues to promote the sport of ballooning in a positive and fun way. Lets face it we can all do with a bit more fun this year.

We are back to a 9 day event this year and have moved the event back a week to accommodate some other events. This means the weather should be nice and cool for some perfect central west flying. We will once again be running a Fiesta and competition fleet with some fun and interesting flights planned for both groups.

We look forward to welcoming you back to this fantastic flying area.

Yours Sincerely

Adam Barrow
Balloon Operations
Canowindra Challenge Incorporated



THE EVENT FORMAT

This year we will be running a competition and a fiesta program with balloons flying together. Competition and Fiesta flights will be held in the morning and afternoon.

The competition will use the Balloonlive logging system for declarations and tracking on all flights. We are hoping the FAI loggers will be available for the events by this time however this is not guaranteed due to manufacturing lead times.

As per previous years we will be operating under a Permit from the CASA and the rules will be based on the current AXMER.

COMPETITION & OFFICIALS TEAM

Position	Name
Directors	Andrew Robertson (NSW) and Adam Barrow (NZL)
Safety Officer	Steve Griffin (QLD)
Meteorologist	Don Whitford (VIC)
Target Team Leads	Ian Benning, Carol Benning, Andrew Phelan

EVENT ORGANISING TEAM:

Position	Name
Event Manager	Canowindra Challenge Incorporated
Chairman	Andrew Pull
Committee	Kim Roberts, Jaymee Crowe, Sarah Cummings, Annette Thomas, Jack Traves, Adam Barrow

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Current ABF PPC Holders (or international equivalent) with greater than 30 hours PIC
- AUD \$2 Million 3rd Party Insurance with participating pilot named
- Entry completed and fee paid: <https://www.123tix.com.au/events>

ENTRY FEE

Competition Pilots: \$150AUD (+Booking fee)

Fiesta Pilots: \$150AUD (+Booking fee)



DOCUMENTATION

You must have all of the documentation below available at the event. We will not require you to send this in to us this year but we will be conducting random checks on during the event.

Proof of current ABF membership

Pilot Log Book showing total hours as PIC and currency

Balloon Log Book showing valid annual inspection

Certificate of Airworthiness

Certificate of Insurance: Minimum of \$2 million AUD with the pilot named

Extra information for International Pilots

If you are flying an Australian aircraft you will need a temporary Australian balloon license. We can help you to obtain this for the event. Please let us know in advance

SCHEDULE

Fiesta flights: Each day of the event

Competition Flights: Monday 26th April AM – Friday 30th April.

TRAINING

Student pilot Solo flights are NOT permitted during this event. This decision is based around participant and visitor safety. If you wish to solo a student please do so outside the flight area of this event.

Instructional student pilot training flights are permitted during this event provided the instructor is registered with the event. The Instructor must remain onboard the aircraft with the student at all times.

REFUELING

Discounted propane will only be available through the Supagas facility at the showgrounds and will be available during the event. We require you to arrive at the event with full tanks and leave with full tanks.

The refueling station will be manned after every flight and after the balloon glow.

There is one commercial propane outlets in Canowindra where you may also purchase propane at your own expense. Currently the price is \$99.9C/L

We will be monitoring fuel use of balloons and anyone attempting to fill up extra tanks not used in the flight, or generally trying to rort the system will be excluded from refueling at this site.

We will have EFTPOS facilities at the refueling site.



NIGHTGLOW

The nightglow is the signature event of the festival. This is very important to the event financially and is the key economic driver from this event throughout the region. We are expecting 3000 to 4000 people at the glow, subject to any covid restrictions.

We will be asking 15 balloons to participate in the glow on the Saturday night. Balloons will be chosen based on colours, sponsorship, and pilot musical co-ordination

LPG for the glow is provided free of charge.

If you have a balloon with a sponsor logo that is not currently supporting the event but you would like to have in the glow, please contact us to see how we can facilitate this.

ACCOMODATION

Pilots and crews are requested to book their own accommodation direct with local providers. Canowindra is a small rural town and has a limited number of accommodation options available. Cowra is 20 minutes away and has plenty of extra accommodation.

COMMUNICATIONS

The only reliable mobile phone coverage is with Telstra 4G so you will need to purchase a Telstra pre-paid SIM card if you are with any other carrier.