



# Balloon Federation Of America



## HACD Newsletter February 1, 2020



### 2019 NEL Top Finishers

The HACD has finalized the 2019 National Eligibility List system for 2019! We appreciate the efforts of all our members who work hard throughout the year to make these events possible as officials, pilots and crew. Thanks to the continued support of a generous donor, we are happy to announce the following award winners for 2019:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>Prize \$</u>
1	Jonathan Wright	Top Pilot	500
7	Joe Heartsill	Top Senior	300
25	William Sterner	Top Rookie	300
19	Christopher Cliver	Top Junior	300
61	Holly Pfeifer	Top Female	300
27	Pat Harwell	Most Improved	300
2	Shawn Raya	Top 21	175
3	Jeremy Rubin	Top 21	175
4	Steve Mitchell	Top 21	175
5	Grant S. Pfeifer	Top 21	175
6	Scott A. Armstrong	Top 21	175
8	Rhett Heartsill	Top 21	175
9	Richard Sabin	Top 21	175
10	Jon R. Shelton	Top 21	175
11	Kirk Bloom	Top 21	175
12	Aaron J. Foelske	Top 21	175
13	Bradley R. Craig	Top 21	175
14	Gary Heavin	Top 21	175
15	James Mitchell	Top 21	175
16	Patrick Cloyd	Top 21	175
17	Todd Isley	Top 21	175

18	Dennis F. Hall	Top 21	175
20	Branden Bloom	Top 21	175
21	Patrick Shawn Nilz	Top 21	175

If you want to view the entire list, it is available [here](#) and then choose 2019 and hit submit. Congratulations on your excellent results in 2019!

## Changes Coming to the US National Championship

The HACD and the event organizer, Old West Balloon Fest, have agreed to add an exciting new element to this year's event. The US and Canada will be running their country's National Championship simultaneously utilizing one consolidated staff. They will be scored as two separate events with an overall Champion awarded a newly designed International Champion's Cup.



A prize fund of \$20,000 is guaranteed plus a \$200 travel stipend to be paid in the form of a gas card bringing the prize fund to a total of \$30,000. Canadian pilots will only be eligible to receive the minimum guaranteed payout of \$150 and a \$200 gas card. The competitive event officially starts with on-site pilot registration and the mandatory General Briefing on Sunday, August 9.

### Other Enhancements Coming

In a major improvement for 2020, the organizer has secured the Hampton Inn and Conference Center as the host hotel for all pilots, crew and event staff. All pilot briefings and associated meetings will take place at the hotel's on-site conference center.

Several learning and skill development opportunities exist throughout the Championship including the following:

- Two full practice flights designed as learning experiences including post flight debriefings with an open forum led by event staff.
- Daily post-flight flight debriefings led by a top competitor. These sessions discuss an analysis of the tasks and the decisions made in the planning and execution phase of the flight.
- A BFA sanctioned safety seminar will be provided throughout the week built around 1 to 1½ hour sessions held at convenient times.
- Adam Magee, Assistant Safety Officer and organizer of the Balloon Training Academy, is developing an on-line training video to fully explain the FAA Waiver for the event. Competitors will have to pass an on-line quiz on Waiver details prior to arriving for the General Briefing.

### Invitations and Application Deadline

Invitations are planned to be available by February 29 and completed applications must be received in the BFA Office on or before April 15, 2020.

### Staff

Our Championship Staff has been confirmed and includes quality, experienced individuals committed to organizing and executing a first-class event. Our Senior Staff includes the following:

Maury Sullivan	Canton, OH	Event Director, FAA liaison
David Troutman	Louisville, KY	Deputy Director
Brad Temeyer	Sioux Falls, SD	Meteorologist <i>(not yet confirmed)</i>
Henry Rosenbaum	Mechanicsville, VA	Safety Officer
Adam Magee	Swisher, IA	Assistant Safety Officer
Mike Gilligan	Richardson, TX	Scoring Officer
Lynn Sullivan	Canton, OH	Administrative Assistant, Assistant Scoring Officer

Dottie Humbert	Battle Creek, MI	Logger Manager/TSO
Sheri Berry	Battle Creek, MI	Chief Measuring Officer
Rob Wise	Statesville, NC	Target Manager
Debbie Spaeth	Jackson, WI	Jury President

## JR National Championship Longview, TX June 19-21, 2020



The HACD is excited to announce this year the Great Texas Balloon Race will be hosting the first ever US JR National Hot Air Balloon Championship! As many of you know last year was GTBR's first year of their Young Guns program. This was such a success that the event decided to take the event one competitive step further and make it a national championship! You can read more about the event and find information on how to apply [here](#).

### New JR Membership Fees

The HACD has put into place a new fee structure for JR members. Anyone under the age of 30 at the start of the calendar year may purchase a JR membership for \$35.00. This membership grants you all the privileges of membership: NEL recognition, competing at state, regional, and national levels, and world team selection. So JR's make sure to take advantage of the new payment structure!

### Life Memberships

Life memberships in the HACD are now available! To follow the BFA and other divisions the HACD Board has put into place a permanent life membership option. For \$550.00 you may become a life time pilot member to the division. For \$150.00 you may become a life time officials member. Please consider this as you renew your membership this year. Keep in mind of course that your BFA membership must remain valid as well.

### Spirit of Annie Award

The "Spirit of Annie" award, established by the Northeast Ohio Balloon Pilots Association in memory of a very special observer, Annie Pryne, will be awarded whenever an observer, organizer, official or event volunteer most typifies the dedication, hard work and love of ballooning and ballooning people that set Annie apart.

#### CRITERIA

- To be awarded only when a nominee meets all qualifications, i.e. will not necessarily be awarded on an annual basis.
- To be awarded to an observer, organizer, official or event volunteer who best personifies the spirit of Annie Pryne and her belief in "being the best you can be."
- A nominee will have been an observer, organizer, official or event volunteer for no less than 5 years.
- A nominee will hold a creditable presence in the sport of ballooning, respected by observers, officials, organizers, pilots and crew.

- A nominee will show willingness to share experience and knowledge.
- A nominee will have a positive attitude.
- A nominee will have a commitment to the sport and the improvement of all aspects of competitive ballooning and will be strong enough to speak out when needed.
- Most importantly, the nominee must have the ability to enjoy and interact with people.

For more information about the history, criteria and nomination process, view the full article [here](#) or for any additional information, contact Paul Suttle: [suttlejp@roadrunner.com](mailto:suttlejp@roadrunner.com)

## HACD Board Meeting Minutes

Did you know that the HACD Board's meeting minutes are posted online? All minutes from 2019 have been posted including December's Face-to-face and are available for members to view [here](#) (login required). Thanks especially to Secretary Gary Britton for his hard work in capturing these each month!

## We Need Your Input

The HACD Board conducts conference calls when discussion is needed or decisions need to be made. We would like to provide you the opportunity to be a part of these calls. The Board will publish the agenda and the conference call times at least a week prior to the date of the call. Call-ins will be scheduled the first 15 minutes of each conference call. Here is how you can participate:

- Email Jason Jones ([jnsy588@aol.com](mailto:jnsy588@aol.com)) to be placed on the docket of speakers.
- Each speaker will be allowed to talk for 3 minutes.
- 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 speaker. We hope that this opportunity will be one you will take advantage of and that all members feel they have a voice in the HACD. We encourage you to work with [your regional representative](#) with concerns you have as well.

## Email Us!

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

## HACD Board of Directors

Jeff Ashworth	Gary Britton	Ken Draughn	Drew Egerton	Mike Gilligan	Jason Jones
Al Nels	Patrick Nilz	Maury Sullivan	Ken Walter	Ted Watts	Rob Wise

Balloon Federation of America, PO Box 400, Indianola, IA 50125

SafeUnsubscribe™ [blandevoid@gmail.com](mailto:blandevoid@gmail.com)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [hacd@bfa.net](mailto:hacd@bfa.net) in collaboration with

**Constant Contact** 

Try email marketing for free today!