



Greetings,

It's been a while and we do apologise for that. There's a lot going on behind the scenes (including restyling and relaunching the monthly newsletter) which has kept us very busy. In this month's issue we bring you up to date with the news and from now on you can look forward to our slick, pared down monthly newsletter delivering an easy, fast reading experience in two pages, enabling you to catch up with the news without eating into your scarce time. As always, our website carries detailed, in-depth facts and information so www.lefpa.co.za is where to go if you have a question, or you could contact Corné (details in the sidebar on page 2). *All Fired Up* is LEFPA's channel to share information with members, but it's also your medium to let us know how we are doing and what you'd like to see on these pages. Please drop Corné a line and tell us what you'd like to see discussed. Til next month!

One of the largest FPA's in the country, LEFPA deals with all aspects of fire— detection, prevention, suppression, rehabilitation & awareness

Weather forecasting service for LEFPA members

Did you know that LEFPA provides a weather forecasting service to its members? Data is collected almost real-time from 35 automatic weather stations (18 in the Escarpment, 13 in the Lowveld and 4 in the Onderberg/Nkomati area) and fed through to Vital Weather. These uploads are displayed on Vital Weather's website and thus give an indication of actual weather at all the sites. This data is then also fed to two weather forecasters who generate forecasts for 10:00 and 14:00 each day. The forecasts are averaged and fed back to the website for use by FPA management and its members.

As with all systems there is always room for continuous improvement and the 2015 fire season saw quite a few needs and requests regarding weather reaching LEFPA, which organised a Weather Workshop on the 27th November 2015.

Twenty three delegates attended, giving valuable input regarding system enhancements and problem solving. One of the outcomes was for the son of our weather forecaster, Giel Hugo (father and son are both Giel) to spend a month at LEFPA as an intern. All sites, systems and software were to be checked with a view to improving accuracy of forecasts.

Giel has spent the month of March at LEFPA and been very busy querying and tweaking all the components of the systems as well as the software itself.

It has been a rewarding and win-win experience for all parties and we are confident that most of the challenges will be met and that LEFPA will be able to provide a more accurate and reliable weather service for the 2016 fire season.



Giel Hugo the younger!

Membership Rates 2016 / 2017

As per the special General Meeting held 3rd March 2016, a resolution was passed to increase the membership rates as follows:

Basic Membership

- 1—100 hectares will pay an annual rate of R324.00 excl.
- 101—500 hectares will pay an annual rate of R770.00 excl.
- 501+ hectares will pay an annual rate of R1.54 per title deed hectare excl.
- Basic members will have no access to aerial resources.
- Basic members will have access to the Working on Fire teams. Rates excl variable cost and transport for team assistance.

Aircraft Membership

- Annual basic membership rate of R1.54 per title deed hectare excl.
- Annual aircraft membership rate of R26.40 per title deed hectare excl.

A total of R27.94 annual rate excl per title deed hectare. Aircraft members will contribute a minimum rate of R5735.00 excl for this option.

Aircraft members need to provide insurance details and a bank guarantee to the equivalent of three (3) hours flying cost (equal to R120 000.00).

Activities for the Month—May

- Check all radios.
- Prepare manual traces.
- Attend LEFPA meetings regularly.
- Train your employees in fire management.
- Obtain standby rosters from your neighbours.
- Obtain rules and regulations from LEFPA.
- Check that water points have adequate supplies.
- Burn open areas on rotational burning programmes.
- Implement a daily vehicle checklist to ensure fire readiness.
- Match your fire-fighting resources based on the fire risks identified.
- Prepare roads bordering open areas and firebreaks that will be burned.
- Obtain LEFPA's standard operating procedures related to high FDI periods.
- Slash-burning allowed if weather permits—get a burning permit from LEFPA.
- Implement procedures to ensure the availability and supply of fuel, rations and so on as and when required.
- Implement operational procedures to ensure quick response to provide medical, mechanical, protection and other services.



Contact Us

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Permit Requests

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General Info:

- Basic firefighting training is available to LEFPA members. Interested parties can contact the LEFPA office.
- All membership fees have been invoiced. If you have not yet received your invoice please contact Corné at the LEFPA office.
- FDI weather emails available to LEFPA members, contact Corné for more information.

www.lefpa.co.za

