



## FAI Awards for Hang-Gliding and Paragliding 2016 Nomination Form

*(one form per nomination)*

**Name of the Award:**

☒ Hang Gliding Diploma (By-Law 7.10.2)

**Submitted by:**

NAC : United State Hang Gliding & Paragliding Association

Name : Jamie Shelden

Position / Function : Regional Director, CIVL Delegate, CIVL Secretary

Date : December 10, 2016

Signature and stamp : *Jamie Shelden*

**Nomination for:**

Name : Donnita Hall

Birthdate: October 30, 1947

E-mail address : .....

Reasons for nomination (maximum 250 words, English only):

Donnita Hall was, as we understand, the first female HG pilot in the world. She began flying on flat ski kites towed behind waterski boats , then moved into foot launching with her husband of the time Dave Kilborne. She built her own gliders and survived that, no small feat in those days. Many US flying sites were pioneered by Donnita and Dave. Donnita has always been an ambassador for free flight. Not long after moving to San Diego in the 80's, she was instrumental in helping keep Torrey Pines (and world renown and highly visible hang gliding, paragliding and sailplane site) open to flight. Over the following years she welcomed and briefed hundreds of new to Torrey Pines pilots. Her friendly demeanor and emphasis on safety was appreciated by all. Several years ago when the call went out for help from the US Foundation for Freeflight, Donnita stepped up, quickly becoming the Executive Director, where she serves to this day. The Foundation for Freeflight is a US non-profit foundation dedicated to preserving hang gliding and paragliding in the US through, among other things, providing grants to the US National Team allowing pilots to attend Category 1 hang gliding and paragliding events around the world. Over the years, Donnita has provided huge support to the US women's team enabling them to compete in the



women's world championships in Monte Cucco - Italy, Florida - USA, Tegelberg - Germany and Forbes - Australia. Although now retired from active flight her pioneering involvement, support and inspiration continues and she would be a worthy recipient of the CIVL Hang Gliding Diploma.

