



# Newsletter

British Gliding Association

## BGA Newsletter February 2004

**Course Programme 2004.** The programme for BGA courses in 2004 has now been published. This year, following the closure of RAFGSA Bicester, the BGA coaching operation will be based at Husbands Bosworth. The course programme is available from Colin Childs at the BGA office ([colin@gliding.co.uk](mailto:colin@gliding.co.uk)) and can be found on the BGA web site at [www.gliding.co.uk/bgacourses](http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgacourses). Once again, clubs are invited to host Soaring Courses and application should be made to Colin as soon as possible.

**CB SIFT CBE.** The BGA Instructor's Committee has decided that the previously recommended sequence for pre-flight checks should be re-instated. The recommended sequence is now CB SIFT CBE and the final sentence in RP15 (Laws & Rules, 14<sup>th</sup> edition, June 2003) is now change to "It will be noted that this procedure makes **eventualities** the final check before take-off.

**Nationals Entries.** The Nationals entry lists have now been published. You can view them at [www.gliding.co.uk/competitions](http://www.gliding.co.uk/competitions). Places are still available in the 18 metre and open classes and you may apply on-line for either of these (or go to the end of the reserve list for any other national classes) by visiting the BGA web site at [www.gliding.co.uk/nationalsentry](http://www.gliding.co.uk/nationalsentry). Pilots are reminded that they must have an FAI Sporting Licence before flying in a BGA rated competition. FAI Licences applications can also be made online at [www.gliding.co.uk/failicence](http://www.gliding.co.uk/failicence).

**Junior Nationals.** The Junior Nationals will be held at Lasham from 14-22 August. The competition is limited to those whose 26th birthday falls after 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004 and, as usual, the BGA will be subsidising the cost of entry. The entry form is now available online at [www.gliding.co.uk/juniors](http://www.gliding.co.uk/juniors). Those who have flown in the competition before may enter online, and a pdf is available to print for those who haven't. Applications are due in by the 30th April. More information will be available shortly about 2 seater training during the competition.

**2004 Competition Rulebook.** The 2004 Competition Rulebook is now available at [www.gliding.co.uk/competitions](http://www.gliding.co.uk/competitions).

**LS6,7,8 Inspection.** The BGA has received reports of elevator control crank mounting nuts missing. Reports suggest that after removal of tail ballast weight holder, the mounting nuts and washers have not been replaced. The tail ballast weight holder is mounted on the rear face of the fin using the elevator crank mounting studs. Please see BGA Recommended Inspection BGA 039/01/2004 for details – available at [www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/technical/inspections/039-01-2004-issue-1.pdf](http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/technical/inspections/039-01-2004-issue-1.pdf)



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**Grob Twin Astir Flight Limitations.** The LBA has issued Airworthiness Directives 2003-231/2 and D2004-002 revising some the limitations of operations imposed last year and advising terminating action for some aircraft. The BGA has sent details to registered owners. For further information, copies of AD's and associated Service Bulletins please visit the LBA web site [www.lba.de](http://www.lba.de).

**BGA Conference.** The annual BGA Conference and AGM is drawing near. Claire Emson has put together what should be an interesting, entertaining and provocative agenda during which you will have the chance to make your views known on a number of issues that affect us. A full conference agenda is available at [www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/notices/conferenceprogramme.pdf](http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/notices/conferenceprogramme.pdf). Booking details are at [www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/notices/conference.htm](http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/notices/conference.htm). Make a diary date now – 6<sup>th</sup> March, Eastwood Hall, Nottingham.

**National Coach.** Dave Bullock has departed from the post of National Coach with immediate effect. The BGA Coaching operation is in the process of moving from Bicester to Husbands Bosworth and we are grateful to Simon Adlard for agreeing to take charge of operations for the time being.

**BGA Turning Points for NotamPlot.** A file (UserWaypoints.xml) containing the current list of BGA TPs which can be used with NotamPlot v2.0 is available from the BGA web site. At the time of writing, the URL for this is not available, but check the News page of the site ([www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/news.htm](http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/news.htm)) for information and a link. Thanks to Mike Borrowdale for creating the file and to to Ian Fallon, designer of NotamPlot, for his help in explaining some of the finer points of the data format. As always with this type of data, use is entirely at the user's discretion.

**NPPL Revalidation.** The CAA has published an Aeronautical Information Circular (White 92) concerning the revalidation of NPPLs. This can be downloaded from the AIS site at [www.ais.org.uk/aes/pubs/aip/pdf/aic/4W092.PDF](http://www.ais.org.uk/aes/pubs/aip/pdf/aic/4W092.PDF).

**LS7 Winglets.** Phil Lazenby, an LS7 owner, is investigating the possibility of Shirenewton Sailplanes producing winglets for the LS7. Before progressing further, he needs to assess demand. If any LS7 owner or syndicate is interested, please would they contact Phil on 0113 284 2132 or via [lazenby@onetel.net.uk](mailto:lazenby@onetel.net.uk)

**7<sup>th</sup> European Glider Aerobatic Championships 2004.** The Organizers of the 2004 European Glider Aerobatic Championships to be held in Moravska Trebova (Czech Republic) have published their first Information Bulletin which is available at [www.fai.org/press\\_releases/2004/documents/egac2004\\_bulletin\\_1](http://www.fai.org/press_releases/2004/documents/egac2004_bulletin_1). Preliminary entries are now invited.