



Newsletter

British Gliding Association

BGA Newsletter
March 2009

Safety

Red Arrows Display Sites. The first 2009 Aeronautical Information Circular (AIC) detailing areas of temporary restricted airspace to protect Red Arrows displays has been published. The AIC, ref AIC 10/2009 (Mauve 285) can be found at http://www.nats-uk.ead-it.com/aip/current/aic/mauve/EG_Circ_2009_M_010_en.pdf. All pilots should be aware of these temporary restricted areas and ensure that they do not make incursions into them. As a service to pilots, the BGA maintains a database of all current AICs which can be viewed in calendar format at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/airspace/rats.php>

ATSOCAS. The new Air Traffic Services Outside Controlled Airspace (ATSOCAS) come into effect on 12 March. This suite of services forms the UK Flight Information Services (FIS), which (excluding aerodrome services) are the only ATS provided in UK Class F/G airspace. CAP774 gives a full description of the services; this can be downloaded from the CAA web site - <http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/CAP774.pdf>. The CAA has produced an interactive CD guide to the new services. This can be downloaded from the ASI website <http://www.airspacesafety.com> or you can request a copy of the CD from jonathan.nicholson@caa.co.uk.

GASIL. The latest edition of the CAA General Aviation Safety Information Leaflet (GASIL) is available at <http://www.caa.co.uk/gasil>

BGA

2009 Sporting Conference. The programme for the 2009 BGA Sporting Conference on Saturday 7th March has been published and, once again, it really does offer something for everybody. Highlights include the after-dinner address from gliding superstar Uli Schwenk. Uli, a world silver medallist will be talking about his experiences flying gliders throughout the world. British team member Afandi Darlington will be providing insights into sailplane design while Richard Meredith-Hardy, the first man to fly over Mt Everest in a microlight, will describe this and his other outstanding feats. Full details are on the conference web page at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/notices/conference.htm> where you can also book your places for the annual dinner. This really is a must-attend event and it's still not too late to book. We hope that you can be there for one of the highlights of the gliding year.

Nationals Entries. The 2009 Nationals entry lists are now available - see <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/competitions/news.htm>. Regrettably, the 20m Two Seater Championship has been cancelled due to lack of support. Entrants are reminded that they need a current FAI Sporting Licence to compete. It may not be too late to enter a Nationals Championship – online entries can be made at <https://www.gliding.co.uk/bgashop/applications/competitions/step1.php>. If no places are available, you will be placed at the end of the reserve list.

Junior Championships 2009. The Junior Championships take place on 22-30 August 2009 at Dunstable. If your 25 or under at 31/12/2009, you are eligible to enter. Although you must have a silver badge and FAI sporting licence to fly in the competition, you don't need to have them at the time of entry, as long as you complete them before the competition (should you be offered a place). Entries should be in by 30th April. The entry list will be published about 4 weeks later. More details are at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/competitions/news.htm>

BGA Club Policies Pack. Following a consultation process amongst BGA staff, volunteers and contractors, the BGA equity and equal opportunities policy has been reviewed and updated. The new document can be found at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/documents/bgaequaloppolicyjan09.pdf>. The Club Policies Guidance Pack has been updated as a result of this review. The new template document can be found, along with the rest of the pack, at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/clubmanagement/policies.htm>

Development Team Advisors. The BGA is seeking volunteers to join the team of expert advisors attached to the Development Committee, which provides support and advice to clubs, assisting them with their successful management and development. To support the existing team of professionals and volunteers, there is a need for specialist experience and expertise in the following areas: site moving; club strategy development; environmental management; volunteer management; financial management and funding; IT management; building and project management; HR. Individuals recruited to these positions will be asked to develop advisory packs for clubs, to advise individual clubs as needed and to attend occasional committee meetings. If you think you could contribute to any of these voluntary positions, please initially contact the Chairman of the Development Committee, Diana King, via the BGA Office (office@gliding.co.uk) specifying which area interests you and asking for a description of the role.

Communications & Marketing Advisors. The BGA is seeking two new volunteer members of its Communications and Marketing Committee (C&MC). The aim of the C&MC is to provide advice and practical support by developing and implementing communication and marketing strategies for the BGA. These hands-on roles play a key part in the ongoing promotion of gliding as well as looking at all aspects of communication, both internally and externally. Prospective candidates should ideally have a knowledge and passion for the sport, as well as being able to attend approximately six committee meetings each year. If you would like to become involved, and have the time and enthusiasm to help out, we look forward to hearing from you. Applicants for this voluntary role should apply to Claire Emson, Chairman BGA Communications and Marketing Committee via the BGA Office. A short CV outlining relevant experience should accompany the application.

Airworthiness

BGA Chief Engineer/ ARC Signatory Training. Two additional seminars have been arranged at Wolds GC, Pocklington on Saturday 25th April for existing BGA inspectors who wish to upgrade to Chief Engineer/ ARC signatory status. Places are also still available for the seminars at Portmoak on Saturday 29th March. The seminars at Lasham and Parham are now fully booked. For more details and a booking form, see <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/technical/news.htm>

Glider Airworthiness Review Certificate & Airworthiness Support Fee. Please note that the BGA fee for an EASA glider ARC including 12 months airworthiness support by the BGA and access to BGA inspectors is £95. Applications submitted with an incorrect fee are returned unprocessed. Details of all BGA fees are at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/forms/BGAFeesfrom1Oct08revDec08.pdf>

CAA Emergency Airworthiness Directives. The CAA has announced that it will publish Emergency Airworthiness Directives (EADs) on its website from 31st March <http://www.caa.co.uk/eads>. This will replace the traditional post and fax distribution of EADs. Glider owners and operators should note that the BGA will continue to provide a comprehensive information and alerting service for all gliders within the BGA airworthiness system.

Regulatory

NPA 2008-22. EASA has extended the end date for this consultation (which refers to pilot training) until 15th April. The BGA, in partnership with our partners in the EGU, will be responding – please watch the web site for further updates.

Radiotelephony Manual. The UK Radiotelephony Manual (CAP 413) aims to provide pilots and Air Traffic Services personnel with a compendium of clear, concise, standard phraseology and associated guidance for radiotelephony communication in United Kingdom airspace. Edition 18, effective 12 March 2009, incorporates recent changes to UK phraseology and communication procedures and can be found at <http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/CAP413adv.pdf> (2.6Mb)

General

University Sports Club of the Year. The CCPR has announced a new category in their Sports Club of the Year awards – for university sports clubs. The deadline for applications in this category only is 13 March. More details and an application form are at <http://www.ccpr.org.uk/scoty>. As all applications have to be counter-signed by the BGA, these should reach the BGA office no later than 6 March.

IGC Survey. The International Gliding Commission (IGC) Country Development Working Group is conducting a worldwide survey of glider pilots. The survey aims to better understand the issues faced by glider pilots, assess the quality of experience enjoyed by members of our sport and map out the nature of the global soaring community. The results will help the IGC to better define its development strategy, as well as being of interest to the gliding community as a whole. Key to the success of the study is as broad a participation as possible, so we hope that you can find time to complete the survey, which takes about 10-15 minutes, at <http://igc-survey.fai.org/>