



ROLE OF THE CLUB SAFETY OFFICER

The Club Safety Officer (CSO) must work to promote an effective safety culture within his or her club. This will depend greatly on the attitude of the club leadership and the ability of the CSO to influence that leadership. An inclusive team approach is essential. The aim should be to develop an atmosphere that includes **all** pilots, who are equally interested in and dedicated to improving safety at all times. To achieve this, the CSO should work closely with the Chief Flying Instructor. Whereas the CFI is responsible for all flying and training activities, the CSO is the watchdog whose prime interest is the safe operation of the club in all ground and flying activities.

The Club Safety Officer is appointed by and responsible to the Club Chairman for overall supervision of the safety aspects of the Club's operations, both in the air and on the ground. His/her general responsibility is to promote flight and ground safety awareness among all Club members and visitors to the Club. Specific responsibilities are:

- a. To advise the Chairman and CFI on all safety matters, and in particular to bring deficiencies to their attention, so that corrective action can be taken.
- b. To review the club's Operations Manual from time to time and to ensure that it is kept up to date in the light of any changes in rules and regulations promulgated by higher authority.
- c. To conduct annual safety reviews, using the BGA's check list and liaising with the Regional Safety Officer (RSO) as necessary
- e. To conduct accident/incident investigations in the prescribed manner, in order to determine circumstances and probable causes, with a view to preventing future accidents rather than ascribing blame to individuals. Where, as in fatal accidents, an external investigator is appointed, the CSO should act as the local liaison officer and assistant.
- f. To publicise, within the club, the appropriate "lessons learnt" as a result of an accident or incident. NB: In the event of a serious or fatal accident great care must be taken to avoid pre-empting the findings of the accident investigation or any other official inquiry that may be in progress.
- g. To seek the assistance and guidance of the RSO and/or the BGA Safety Committee, as necessary, in the discharge of his responsibilities.
- h. To consult with the Chairman and CFI on the need to appoint deputies with specific responsibilities (e.g. ground equipment and visitor safety).
- i. To undertake any other tasks which he/she and/or the Chairman perceive to be necessary in the interests of accident prevention.