

Recommended content of 5 year refresher for BGA Assistant and Fully rated instructors



Introduction

BGA standards require that a refresher course is carried out every 5 years. This refresher course should include elements of the 3 year standardisation check, and as such the document below incorporates the content of the 3 year standardisation check.

The aim of the 5 year refresher course is to ensure continuing safe, standardised and effective flying and instruction, as well as to introduce new ideas, emphases and possibly new exercises. In addition, the course should refresh the candidates knowledge of forgotten exercises, improve overall standards of instruction and improve general instructing knowledge.

The following structure and content is recommended, but this must be tailored to the individual to attain the aim above.

Delivery

The refresher may be carried out by specifically trained CFIs or Regional Examiners. New CFI's should contact your Senior Regional Examiner to organise training to run these courses.

Composition:

Typically one coach with two students for two days. Flying should typically comprise 2x aerotows and 3x winch launches, depending on the competency of the candidate.

When winching is the only launch method, consideration should be given to visiting a site with aerotow, unless easy soaring is available to ensure adequate coverage of the content mentioned in this document. A motorglider could also be used to consolidate.

Ground briefing recommended check / refresher / content:

- Airspace awareness (local and national)
 - Draw a line on a map. Can the instructor identify the airspace and the rules / altimetry behind each symbol (as a minimum)
- A morning brief (NOTAMS, MET, Airfield layout)
 - Can the instructor sort the wheat from the chaff when briefing relevant NOTAMS?
- A discussion of topical critical safety issues identified by BGA / local initiatives
- Effectively brief for an exercise to be flown (as below)
 - Clarity/appropriateness of briefing and use of explanation aids

Candidates to prepare a pre flight detailed briefing (20/30 min) the following may give some examples from which to choose:

- Stalling
- Spinning
- The approach and landing phases
- Circuit Planning
- Aerotowing (or Winch Launching)
- Launch Failures

Group Discussion (Selection from)

- Circuit Planning
- Stalling & Spinning
- Lookout
- Shallowing Approaches
- Type Conversions
- Launch Emergencies
- Taking over control

Safety Management

- Review of recent accidents & incidents
- Solo Pilot supervision
- Launch-point management
- Handling of Incidents
- Collision risk and Lookout
- Airmanship & accident prevention
- Taking over control

Flight Sortie recommended check / refresher / content:

- Teach the launch methods in use at the club
 - Focus on safety elements – speeds and standard profile for winching
- Teach launch failures
 - Focus on safe speeds and planning
- Teach a selection of the stalling and spinning syllabus
 - Focus on good teaching of prevention
- Teach the principal elements of circuit planning
 - Focus on safe, high final turns and safe, high margin decisions
- Teach the approach and landing phase
 - Focus on recognising/addressing undershoot/overshoot
- Coach to role-play to marginal pass Bronze Badge flying test
 - Aerotow
 - Spin and/or Stall
 - Sideslip
 - Turning
 - Circuit, approach and landing
- On a separate flight student to teach:
 - Zig zag circuit

Requirements

Airmanship

- Lookout
- Flight planning / Use of Height and Time
- Brief & de-brief

- General knowledge of temporary and permanent airspace locally and nationally

Flying

- According to Wx
- Taking over control early
- Speed Control
- Co-ordination
- Clarity of Teaching

In addition to the above:

- Satisfactory completion of the 5-year refresher must be recorded/signed in the instructor's Log Book.
- Don't forget aerotow launch failures. If you are a primarily a wire launch/aerotow site, get them to teach the other launch type.
- If they only did the minimum amount of flying last renewal they should teach all the launch failures to you.
- Ask them what they think they should do and what they want to do. (i.e. include something they need or enjoy)
- Include an opportunity to discuss safe instructing and taking over control in plenty of time.
- Does the instructor know what to do in the event of an accident or emergency? Where is the Club emergency procedure pack?
- Don't forget to ask them what they thought of the refresher session afterwards.

General comments and conclusion

- Assistance is available from SRE's. It is not the intention that an Examiner should run the course, but the SRE or an RE should be available to advise.
- The overall aim is to have an enjoyable and constructive course to renew and/or update instructors with the current BGA and club teaching techniques.
- The refresher course is applicable to all Full and Assistant rated instructors. (BI's remain on annual check flights and are already subject to refresher training at five-year intervals).
- Useful reference material is contained in the BGA's Instructors Manual. For the discussion sessions, BGA Safety Initiative summary presentation.
- **The completed refresher course must be recorded as a pilots logbook entry signed by the course coach**