

BGA LAWS AND RULES

INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS

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1. Introduction

Safe, high quality and standardised flying instruction is a vital part of all BGA gliding club operations. The BGA continually reviews instructor training and performance to ensure that the highest possible safety standards and gliding instruction standards are maintained at all times.

The BGA has three levels of Instructor rating; Basic, Assistant and Full. In addition, the BGA recognises the Part-SFCL FI(S) certificate – see 11 below.

All instructors operating at a BGA club must be approved to do so by the club Chief Flying Instructor (CFI). For CFI endorsement details, see 9.5 below.

Important note. During the period of transition to Part-SFCL, ie until December 2023, instructing at BGA clubs is to be carried out in accordance with the BGA instructor rating requirements described in this document.

2. Becoming an Instructor

An experienced glider pilot who would like to become an instructor should ensure they meet the minimum requirements described below and discuss their suitability with their CFI.

The minimum age to hold a BGA instructor rating is 16.

If the pilot chooses to become a Basic Instructor, a locally delivered course can be arranged by the CFI via their Regional team.

If the pilot chooses to become an Assistant Instructor, the pilot can attend a BGA or locally facilitated instructor course.

Current experience as an Air Cadet A or B category instructor, or current experience as a gliding instructor formally qualified outside the UK, can be recognised towards an individual obtaining a BGA instructor rating. Air Cadets 'A' Category Instructors on conventional gliders hold the qualifying experience required by the BGA may convert to a BGA Assistant Instructor Rating following bespoke training with a BGA instructor coach and completion of an assessment of competence by a Regional Examiner. Other Air Cadet instructors should complete the BGA instructor course.

3. BGA Basic Instructor Course.

Course content and other details are available on the BGA website.

Courses may be run by BGA authorised BI coaches at clubs.

4. BGA Instructor Course

The BGA approved assistant instructor course content, a list of available courses and other details are available on the BGA website.

Courses are run by BGA instructor coaches. Where the required facilities and resources are available including a BGA-approved course programme, instructor training may be delivered at any BGA club.

5. BGA Full Rating

BGA Full Rating privileges are described in 8 below.

BGA Full Rating assessments can be arranged by CFIs via their Regional team.

BGA Full Rating assessment details are available on the BGA website.

All experienced BGA Assistant Rated instructors including those that hold a Part-SFCL FI(S) certificate are encouraged to obtain a BGA Full Rating.

6. Instructor Rating - Responsibility

It is the individual instructor's responsibility to ensure that his or her instructor rating or certificate is valid before carrying out instruction.

7. Rating Validity

BGA Basic, Assistant and Full instructor ratings automatically lapse 12 months after the rating issue date (initial or renewal).

Basic, Assistant and Full instructor ratings may be revalidated by a club CFI up to 90 days before the lapsing date with no loss of validity period.

A record of rating validity card is supplied by the BGA on initial issue of a rating.

Replacements or email confirmation can be obtained from the BGA on request.

Refresher training and any assessments or checks should be recorded and dated in the instructor's logbook.

5-year refresher courses (flying & discussion) are normally carried out by the club CFI.

CFIs may add additional local standardisation checking (for example 3-yearly).

8. Instructor Rating Requirements, Privileges, Revalidation and Renewal

BGA Basic Instructor Rating

Requirements

- Bronze and Cross-Country Endorsements, and
- Minimum of 50 hours pilot in command in sailplanes, and
- Recommendation by CFI, and
- Completion of BGA approved Basic Instructor course, and
- Acceptance test by the CFI

Privileges

May carry out basic instruction. Basic instruction must be supervised by a BGA instructor approved to do so by the CFI of each club where the privileges are exercised. The privileges may only be exercised on a particular launch type where the launch type privileges are held. Additional launch type privileges may be added by a BI coach or the CFI (logbook signature).

Revalidation (required annually)

Recommendation for revalidation to the BGA from the CFI based on:

- a. In the 12 months prior to revalidation, at least 10 hours or 20 launches pilot in command in sailplanes (not TMG), and
- b. An annual check by a CFI, BI Coach or Regional Examiner (logbook signature)

Renewal (where lapsed)

The rating may be renewed by application to the BGA following an appropriate level of refresher training and:

- At least 10 hours or 20 launches pilot in command in sailplanes (not TMG) in the previous 12 months, and
- A check by a CFI, BI Coach or Regional Examiner (logbook signature), and
- Recommendation for renewal by the CFI

BGA Assistant Instructor Rating

Requirements

- Silver badge, and
- Minimum of 75 hours pilot in command in sailplanes, including 100 launches, and
- Recommendation by CFI, and
- Completion of BGA Approved Instructor Course, and
- Assessment by a BGA Regional Examiner, and
- Within 18 months of acceptance by CFI, completion of a BGA instructor course Post Course Review

Privileges

Instruction of students as authorised by the CFI. The privileges may only be exercised on a particular launch type where the launch type instructor privileges are held. Additional launch

type instructing privileges may be added by a BGA Instructor Coach or Regional Examiner (logbook signature).

Revalidation (ratings lapse after 12 months unless revalidated)

Recommendation for revalidation to the BGA from the CFI based on:

1. A refresher* within 5 years of the date of revalidation (signed entry in the instructor's logbook), and
2. In the 12 months prior to revalidation
 - a. at least 5 hours or 15 launches solo in a sailplane (excluding TMG) and
 - b. at least 10 hours or 20 launches PIC gliding instructing in a sailplane/TMG. Where the requirement at b. has not been achieved, alternatively an assessment of competence by a Regional Examiner (logbook signature) may be carried out.

Or recommendation for revalidation as a BGA assistant rated instructor from the CFI based on holding a valid FI(S) certificate with sailplane instructing privileges.

Renewal:

Ratings may be renewed by application to the BGA following an appropriate level of refresher training and:

1. At least 10 hours or 30 launches pilot in command in sailplanes in the previous 12 months, and
2. Assessment of competence by a BGA Regional Examiner, and
3. Recommendation for renewal by the CFI

BGA Full Instructor Rating

Requirements:

- Silver badge, and
- At least 150 hours pilot in command in sailplanes, and
- Test by BGA Regional Examiner

Privileges:

- Instruction of students at all stages subject to the discretion of the CFI and the instructors experience. The privileges may only be exercised on a particular launch type where the launch type instructor privileges are held. Additional launch type instructing privileges may be added by a BGA Instructor Coach or Regional Examiner (logbook signature).
- Assessing pilots for the issue of the BGA Bronze and Cross-Country Endorsements.

Revalidation (ratings lapse after 12 months unless revalidated)

Recommendation for revalidation to the BGA from the CFI based on:

1. A refresher* within 5 years of the date of revalidation (signed entry in the instructor's logbook), and
2. In the 12 months prior to revalidation
 - a. at least 5 hours or 15 launches solo in a sailplane (excluding TMG) and
 - b. at least 10 hours or 20 launches PIC gliding instructing in a sailplane/TMG. Where the requirement at b. has not been achieved, alternatively an assessment of competence by a Regional Examiner (logbook signature) may be carried out.

Or recommendation for revalidation as a BGA full rated instructor from the CFI based on holding a valid FI(S) certificate with sailplane instructing privileges.

Renewal:

Ratings may be renewed by application to the BGA following an appropriate level of refresher training and:

1. At least 10 hours or 30 launches pilot in command in sailplanes in the previous 12 months, and
2. Assessment of competence by a BGA Regional Examiner, and
3. Recommendation for renewal by the CFI

*A BGA instructor course is equivalent to a 5-year refresher for revalidation and renewal.

9. Additional Instructing Privileges

The BGA instructor rating can include additional privileges, subject to the following requirements.

To provide gliding instruction in an SLMG or TMG, the instructor must hold a BGA Motor Glider Instructor Rating (MGIR).

To provide TMG or SLMG instruction, the instructor must hold a CAA-issued instructor certificate with appropriate privileges, eg CAA FI SLMG or SFCL FI(S) with TMG instructing privileges.

The BGA Motor Glider Instructor Rating Endorsement (BGA MGIR)

Requirements:

Either BGA Full Instructor Rating (gliders) or, for BGA MGIR Stage 1 only, a BGA Assistant Instructor Rating (gliders), and
Appropriate licence for the class of aircraft flown

Privileges:

Where a valid gliding instructor rating is held, instructing gliding exercises in a motor glider, appropriate to the group and stage held.

The endorsement is issued separately on three groups of motor gliders:

1. Group 1 Wooden Motor Gliders
2. Group 2 GRP Motor Gliders
3. Group 3 Retractable Engine Motor Gliders

In addition to the above groups, each group has three separate stages:

1. Stage 1 Glider handling, upper air exercises, circuits, approaches and landings
2. Stage 2 Stage 1 exercises plus map appreciation and glider navigation
3. Stage 3 Stage 1 and 2 exercises plus simulated aerotow rope breaks, field selection and landing simulation and final glide simulation.

The BGA MGIR is issued by assessment with a BGA Regional Examiner who holds a BGA MGIR.

Renewal:

Providing the MGIR requirements (above) remain in place, a BGA MGIR does not expire. Where either of the requirements has lapsed for more than 5 years and either has

subsequently been renewed, the BGA MGIR should be renewed by assessment with a BGA Regional Examiner who holds a BGA MGIR.

BGA Aerobatics Instructor Endorsement

Requirements:

Candidates must hold a BGA Full or Assistant Instructor Rating and must attend and pass an aerobatics course supervised by a BGA Aerobatics Instructor Coach.

Privileges:

Where a valid gliding instructor rating is held, may teach aerobatics and, where specified and authorised by a BGA Aerobatics Examiner, advanced/inverted aerobatic manoeuvres

BGA Basic Instructor Coach Endorsement

Experienced full rated instructors who are interested in training Basic Instructors should discuss the topic with their CFI. The SRE should be contacted to arrange standardisation.

The BGA BIC endorsement will be issued by the BGA on receipt of the completed application form.

Minimum requirements:

- Hold a valid BGA Full Instructor Rating
- Standardisation as a Basic Instructor Coach under the authority of the SRE

Privileges:

To train BGA Basic Instructors, recommend issue, and conduct assessments/check flights for Revalidation or Renewal of a BGA BI rating

BGA Flight Instructor Coach Endorsement

Experienced full rated instructors who are interested in training Assistant Instructors should discuss the topic with their CFI. The BGA FIC endorsement will be issued by the BGA on receipt of the completed application form.

Minimum requirements:

- Hold a valid BGA Full Instructor Rating
- Attend a BGA FIC seminar
- Standardisation as a BGA Flight Instructor Coach by the club CFI under the authority of the SRE

Privileges:

To train BGA Assistant Instructors as specifically set out in the BGA instructor course programme.

10. Chief Flying Instructor or Senior Pilot

BGA CFI Endorsement

This is a mandatory endorsement for the instructor at a club who is responsible for flying standards where any flight training takes place.

Requirements:

- A BGA Full Instructor Rating, and
- At least 150 hours P1 on at least six different types of glider or motor glider, and
- Have two years of instructing experience

The endorsement will be issued, without charge, on receipt by the BGA of evidence of qualification as CFI elect from the Club Chairman, subject to the approval of a Senior Regional Examiner as authorized by the Chairman of the Instructors Committee.

Senior Club Pilot Endorsement

At clubs where the club has formally notified the BGA that no flight training takes place and where no flying takes place by pilots with a lower qualification than a Bronze badge with Cross Country endorsement, it is not necessary to have a CFI but a Senior Pilot should be appointed

Requirements

- At least 150 total hours PIC on at least six types of glider or motor glider, and
- Silver Badge

The endorsement will be issued on receipt by the BGA of evidence of qualification as Senior Pilot elect from the Club Chairman, subject to the approval of the Chairman of the Instructing and Examining Committee.

11. Part-SFCL Flight Instructor (Sailplanes) – FI(S)

To instruct at a BGA club, all BGA instructors including those who hold a Part-SFCL FI(S) certificate must be revalidated by their CFI as a BGA instructor (see 8 above).

Part-SFCL FI(S) revalidation and renewal requirements are described in Part-SFCL and are entirely separate from the requirements laid out in this document.

Important note. During the period of transition to Part-SFCL, instructing at BGA clubs is to be carried out in accordance with the BGA BI, Assistant and Full instructor rating requirements described in this document.

For example, regardless of Part-SFCL qualifications held, the appropriate level of BGA MGIR must be held to carry out field landing training and assessment as described in 9 above.

12. Insurance and BGA Records

The BGA maintains an insurance policy that insures the BGA and its instructors and introductory flight pilots (IFP) against liabilities resulting from their activities that result in third party damage and injury.

The details and confirmation of BGA IFP, or BGA Basic or Assistant or Full Ratings must be submitted annually to the BGA office by the club CFI using the password protected CFI e-services online tool. In the event of the online tool being unavailable, alternative notification should be made as agreed with the BGA office.

13. Communication

Providing the BGA office is annually supplied with instructor details, and has the instructors email address, the BGA office will send instructor revalidation/reminder notices to any instructor and their CFI. In addition, the BGA office will periodically provide relevant information to instructors and their CFI.

14. Instructing following an accident

It is important that any instructor who has an accident is provided with appropriate support and that any related issues are addressed. An instructor who has an accident whilst flying gliders or motor gliders or whilst instructing in gliders or motor gliders is to immediately cease instructing at BGA clubs. Where requested by the CFI of a BGA club, the suspension from instructing is lifted on the authority of the Chairman of the Instructing and Examining Committee.

End.