



Topic of the month: December 2023

Winter Flying

As the days are getting colder there are several things to consider when preparing to fly and flying:

Preparation for Flight

- Leave the glider in sunshine to wait until any ice or frost on the wings has thawed.
- Don't try to scrape off frost or ice, as it will quickly refreeze on the wings. Wait until the frost or ice is thawed.
- Keep the canopy and cockpit warm using blankets and / or hot water bottles

Visibility

- A big problem is canopy misting due to cold weather and high humidity.
- Keep the canopy open until everything is ready to get hooked up.
- Wing runner, launch controller, winch driver:
 - make sure there is no delay once the pilot has closed the canopy
- If the canopy starts misting up, abort the launch, open the canopy and wait until it is clear again
- The sun is low during the winter months. This means visibility is reduced when flying straight into the sun and landing in westerly direction in the afternoon



Cold

- Make sure you are warm. Wear warm clothing and gloves
- As you are not moving much during a flight it can be difficult to stay warm on longer flights.
- If you are getting too cold land.

A few bullet points to remember:

- **Let frost or ice on wings and fuselage thaw before flying**
 - **Keep canopy open until hooking up**
 - **Stop the launch if canopy starts to mist up**
 - **Wear warm clothing**

Safe Flying,
Wolf