

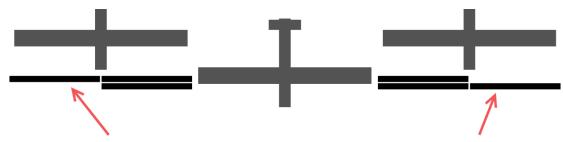
SAFETY NEWSLETTER

Topic of the month: November 2025

Situational Awareness

Since the 1st of August 2025, we have had a total of 3 hangar rash incidents and 4 incidents regarding the use of vehicles. 3 of those incidents resulted in easily avoidable damage to aircraft and 2 were caused by people not taking enough care whilst driving club vehicles.

Ensure hangar doors are open



MOVING EITHER OF THESE DOORS MAY FORCE THE OTHERS CLOSED (CAUSING UNINTENTIONAL DAMAGE TO A GLIDER BEING BROUGHT OUT OR PUT AWAY)

A considerable amount of damage has been caused recently by aircraft being returned to hangars that do not have their doors fully open or that have been inadvertently closed during hangar packing. This kind of damage is easily avoidable by being cautious and careful whilst hangar packing.

You must ensure that both hangar doors are opened until they make contact with the other (closed) door for the neighbouring slot. Care must also be taken when moving equipment in and out of hangars (for example, the Perkoz's long wingtips) to ensure they do not hit the doors or an aircraft.

You must also check before moving a hangar door whether it may unintentionally move another door, which may hit a glider being taken out or put away.

Give way to aircraft whilst airside

As required by the Standardised European Rules of the Air, whilst driving airside, you are responsible for ensuring that you will not obstruct, or cross or converge on the path of, a taking-off or landing aircraft. You must also yield to any powered aircraft that is taxiing or any other vehicle that is towing an aircraft (including a glider).

Keep an especially good lookout when utilising the track that separates the south and centre fields, as you can easily find yourself in the way of an aircraft landing, aerotow combination taking off, or glider landing after a launch failure. When the tug is performing reciprocal approaches, it may pass over the track with its cable running along the ground.



Looking out whilst airside

Care must also be taken when you are walking airside. Especially as it starts to get darker, it can get harder to see people on the ground during final approach. When you must move around the airfield, stick to the edges as much as possible, do not walk around with earphones in, and keep a good lookout.

Happy Soaring
Ollie Killean
Safety Officer