

Competition and Expedition Preparation

Threat & Error Management

1. This presentation may be 'dry' and 'tedious'.
 - a. Try not to fall asleep
2. You may feel the urge to ask questions
 - a. Please put your hand up and wait on the Microphone
 - b. Please speak loudly and clearly – others may be resting their eye lids!
3. There is no need to take notes
 - a. The presentation will be made available 'on-line' in the very near future.

Competition and Expedition Preparation

With the Exception of 'Oxygen Kit', Expedition preparation is covered in Competition Preparation

Dream



Presented by Ron Smith

Reality



GRID SQUATTING



Aim of this presentation;-

To give an insight into the preparation required for a competition.



Competition Dates

2023 Dates already Published on the BGA or Club Websites

Select a competition where you're likely to achieve something by way of personal goals, taking into account the glider you'll be flying

Complete an Entry Form a.s.a.p. to ensure your place

<https://members.gliding.co.uk/competitions/>

Competition Admin

- ▶ *Annual Leave*
- ▶ *Booked to coincide with your competition of choice*

January 2023							<	>
M	T	W	T	F	S	S		
26	27	28	29	30	31	1		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
30	31	1	2	3	4	5		

- ▶ *Competition Licence*
- ▶ *You must be in possession of an FAI Licence before entering any BGA rated competition – the licence can be obtained in a number of ways as below.*
 - *If this is an initial application, you can apply for one online.*
 - *If you have previously held an FAI Licence but not renewed it recently then please contact BGA office who will regenerate your existing licence number and make it available for renewal within E-Services*
 - *If you held a valid licence last year, then you can renew within E-services by logging in to your account and selecting the “Subscription” tab*
 - *If you enter a National Championship, your FAI licence can be renewed at the same time.*

Competition Licence

Extract from the BGA Competition Handbook

2 PILOT ENTRY- GENERAL

2.1 PILOT LICENCING, ELIGIBILITY & CONDUCT

2.1.1 FAI Competition Licence

All pilots, including hors-concours entries, except two-seater P2s, must hold a valid FAI Competition Licence. Note: these can be obtained through the BGA website at www.gliding.co.uk. Applicants must hold a Silver badge.

Glider

1. *Fly your own Glider (syndicates will need agreement from your partners)*
 - a. *Perhaps individuals 'comp rating' decides who gets first dibs etc*
2. *Borrow / Hire a Glider from an individual or club.*
 - a. *make sure a written agreement is drafted and signed.*
 - b. *Exercise due diligence at take over / hand over.*
1. *Ensure the Annual and ARC are going to be in date during the comp*
2. *Ensure your insurance is valid for the duration of the comp*



Crew

1. *Arrange a Crew commensurate with the glider type flown.*
2. *Your crew is there to look after you. Especially if you land out.*
3. *If you don't have any friends – promise beer.*
4. *.....and a crew meal at some point in the proceedings!*



Accommodation

Where will you stay if competition site is away from Home?

- 1.5 Star Hotel*
- 2. B&B*
- 3. Camper Van*
- 4. Caravan*
- 5. Club bunkhouse*
- 6. Tent*
- 7. Trailer*
- 8. Bivouac*
- 9. Beer Tent*
- 10. Cockpit!*



Tow Vehicle (.....appropriate!)

1. *Legally allowed to tow trailer weight?*
2. *Serviceability*
3. *Check electrics are compatible and work with your trailer*



Trailer

1. *Check electrics are compatible and work with your tow vehicle*
2. *Check serviceability of trailer, inc glider fittings. Allow plenty of time to resolve any issues.*



1. Is it fit for purpose?

Landed out 1944 – Retrieved 2023



Recency

1. *Fly your glider as much as possible prior to the competition*
2. *Fly Condor 2 tasks from the Competition Site to become airfield and airspace familiar*
3. *Use your instruments and charts often to ensure competency*
4. *When was the last time you aerotowed?*



Competition Handbook

Read the Competition Handbook – available to download from the BGA Website - are you familiar enough with the rules to defend your self if there is a protest against your flying?



1:500000 Chart

1. Buy a 1:500000 chart that covers the competition site and task area
2. Study the chart well before you get to the competition
3. Fly tasks from the competition site on Condor 2 and link to a device with software such as XCSoar to familiarise yourself with airspace.



Fly your Glider

- 1. There is no substitute for practice*
- 2. Get to know your instruments intimately.*
- 3. How long does it take you to program a task?*
- 4. Do you know how to change McCready settings in flight....whilst keeping a good lookout?*



Confidence

1. *You'll be flying in close proximity to a large number of gliders – especially before the start line opens*
 1. *Ensure you get plenty of practice prior to the competition*
 2. *How's your thermal technique?*
 3. *How's your Navigation skills?*
 4. *Field Landing currency?*



The week before the comp

1. *De-rig the glider ready to travel – after flying it of course!*
2. *Ensure all necessary equipment is packed in the trailer / car*
 - i. *A/C Batteries and chargers*
 - ii. *Parachutes*
 - iii. *A/C Documentation*
 - iv. *Pilot Documentation*
 - v. *Charts inc cleaning kit, marking kit, measuring kit etc*
 - vi. *Glider Cleaning Kit*
 - vii. *Glider tie down kit*
 - viii. *Water ballast barrels / containers / funnels / pipes / etc*
 - ix. *One man tow-out kit*
 - x. *Tow rope*
 - xi. *Personal comfort kit*
 - xii. *Flying clothing / soaring hat / sunglasses / sunscreen*
 - xiii. *Water bottles / in flight snacks (non perishable)*

Arrival / Booking In

1. Arrival at the Competition Site

- a. Competition registration – all personal and A/C docs*
- b. Set up camp site / sort trailer parking / rig and park glider*
- c. Fly the practice day – check everything is working / present / familiarity with site etc.*
- d. Charge Batteries*
- e. Read local rules*
- f. Check instruments etc ensure correct turning point info for start and finish lines / sectors*

Ready to Compete

1. Day 1 and beyond – well rested – fit to fly?

Crew Jobs

Glider prep – includes DI, Canopy cleaning, Wing Tape, Water Ballast, batteries

Tow out and position glider on grid

Launch Glider when it's time to do so

Ready the trailer – just in case

When glider returns – retrieve from airfield

Clean Glider and secure for the night

Charge Batteries

Pilot Jobs

Attend Briefing / mark task on chart/ program instrumentation (involve the P2 crew)

Personal prep / comfort / positive mental attitude

Plan your flight/ tactics / check list complete

Fly the task

Book In to control with logger evidence

Recency

1. When did you last practice a final glide and competition finish, as per the competition rules?



Recency

Manage the energy!



Recency



2 Seater Comp
Pocklington – Wolds GC
Perkoz c/w instructor
Last week in August
2 places
t.b.c.
Book via Martin