



## BFGC Ground Training Initiative

The club is to introduce a scheme to teach new members best practice when carrying out the various ground activities needed to keep our gliders flying (of course with the exception of winching and daily inspections that have their own training schemes).

Its main features are-

1. A group of volunteers to do the instructing.
2. For most activities it will consist of an initial introduction using a short Power point presentation, followed by what, for want of a better term, I have called a field briefing. This will involve one of the volunteers, out on the field, showing a new member how to put the presentation into practice.
3. No new member should undertake any activity unsupervised until they have sufficient knowledge and confidence to carry it out safely and effectively.
4. That this is so will be recorded. This is mainly for the administration of the process, but can also be regarded as a mutual recognition that a member is able, and willing, to carry out a specific task.
5. Some of the simpler tasks will only involve a field briefing. The Power point presentations have three functions. 1. The first stage in conveying the necessary information. 2. A way in which the club can ensure that everyone is receiving more-or-less the same information. 3. Because new members will have copies of them on their new member's CD they can be used, in their own time, to reinforce or review the material.
6. No one will sit down to have all the presentations inflicted on them in one session. They will progress through the topics over a number of weeks, the rate of progress depending upon various factors, but particularly on how they gain in confidence. The same volunteer is unlikely to take a particular new member through all the topics.
7. New members will be encouraged to seek further information or support at any stage, if they think it necessary.
8. New members will be informed of the scheme once the information gets into the new members' packs (a few weeks). However, until then, or after, when making conversation with a new member please ensure they are aware of the scheme, and if necessary ask them if they would like to be introduced to one of the volunteers. A list of these is on the notice board in the DP van.
9. Now that this link is on our website, please have a look at what the club regards as best practice so that what is taught is the same as what is actually done by the majority, although there will be times when some variation might be necessary

Talks with new members have invariably shown that they would welcome a scheme like this. It is not so much different than our present ad hoc approach, except it is more organised and the material is standardised. Nothing is written in stone, and we will modify it if experience show this to be necessary. Please assist by bringing new members into contact with a volunteer whenever you think it necessary.

Thanks

Trevor Tutthill