

Club Bulletin 175

January/February 2009



Published monthly. Aimed mainly at club contacts/secretaries. Covers administrative topics and news from the Executive Council. General interest items are repeated in Skywings magazine for all members.

BHPA

1: Changes to the BHPA Airworthiness Registration Scheme

The BHPA has operated a scheme whereby owners of uncertified aircraft can have their machine's details entered into a Register so that contact could be maintained with the owners in case an airworthiness problem became known. In the case of SPHG's (Powered Hang Gliders and Powered Paragliders) both the wing and the power unit have needed to be registered.

This Airworthiness Registration scheme has been reviewed and it has been decided that Powered Hang Gliders and Powered Paragliders will in future be treated exactly the same as all other BHPA craft types. As of the 1st January 2009 it will no longer be necessary to register anything other than the wing – and only then if the wing is of an uncertified type. It will no longer be necessary (or possible) to register the power unit. A review of the registration scheme for Powered Hang Gliders and Powered Paragliders revealed no evidence that any benefit to any person had arisen from the registration of the power unit - and this process had involved extra staff time and effort whilst causing frustration and upset for the members.

The January 2009 system therefore uses a single 'APPLICATION FOR INCLUSION ON THE REGISTER OF OWNERS OF UNCERTIFIED WINGS' form which is to be used by the owners of any type of uncertified wing (HG/PG/PG Sub 20m/PA/PPG/PHG). There is also a single uniform fee of £10.

To clarify further: Pilots only need to register their wing if it uncertified (i.e. does not carry a Verification Placard detailing HGMA, BHPA, LTF, DHV, CEN, AFNOR, DULV certification – or has been modified from the build status.) What hangs under the wing, the wing's maintenance condition and the operating conditions (weight limits, activity, etc.) are not the concern of the 'register of owners of uncertified wings' scheme. So if you have a certified wing that is still as it was built (i.e. unmodified) then it is still certified and does not need registering.

As of the 1st January 2009 all details of power units contained on the BHPA register will be deleted. All details of wings will be kept. So those members who have already registered Powered Hang Gliders or Powered Paragliders need do nothing.

For more information contact:
Tony Mitchell, 0116 261 1322, tony-mitchell@bhpa.co.uk

2: Paramotoring Changes

The Pilot Rating Scheme (PRS) with its three rating levels, Club Pilot, Pilot and Advanced Pilot has been running successfully since before the BHPA was formed. The Flying and Safety Committee have decided that the paramotoring discipline is now sufficiently well established for it to be fully integrated into the main PRS. This means that the old SPHG ratings of 'Restricted' and 'Full' will henceforth be termed 'Club Pilot' and 'Pilot'. And to simplify things further these ratings will be issued as 'Paragliding Club Pilot (power)' and 'Paragliding Pilot (power)'. As is the case throughout the PRS, 'Club Pilot' denotes a novice pilot whilst 'Pilot' denotes a fully qualified pilot. (The restrictions previously applicable to those pilots holding the SPHG PPG 'restricted' continue to apply to pilots holding the PG CP (Power) rating.)

Pilots currently holding SPHG PPG ratings will automatically have their ratings updated to the new terminology. The privileges/restrictions are completely unchanged.

As part of this integration the Powered Paragliding Pilot Under Training (Pu/t) pack has been replaced with a new Student Training Record Booklet: Paragliding (Power).

For more information contact:
Tony Mitchell, 0116 261 1322, tony-mitchell@bhpa.co.uk

3: Membership Changes

In order to help members during the current difficult financial climate and to improve admin efficiency, as from 1st April the discount for P+ is being shifted to Direct Debit payers. All members who pay by direct debit will therefore receive an annual reduction of £7 on their membership renewal fee.

Direct Debit is the most cost effective way for the BHPA to collect payments as it substantially reduces our banking and administrative costs, so please encourage your members to sign up to DD. Forms can be downloaded from the BHPA website.

We will also be introducing a new '24 month' membership, available to new members only, at a cost of £145. This gives a saving of £23.

For more information contact:
Jennie Burdett, 0116 261 1322, jennifer-burdett@bhpa.co.uk



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4: Courses 2009

Coach Courses

January 31-01 Feb TVHGC

Richard Bungay 07778 966887
richard@cloudbase.me.uk

February 14-15 Aberdeen HGPGC
Simon Lucas 0797 903 5345
simon-alex@salucas.wanadoo.co.uk

March 7-8 Dales HGPGC
Martin Baxter 01282 841060.
mrbaxter@hotmail.co.uk

Instructor Courses

We now have two instructor courses planned to accommodate the large number of applicants (16!) Dates are March 25th to 27th and March 28th – 30th, at Lilleshall, near Telford. Places are still available.

Powered Paraglider Instructor Course

The BHPA has managed to secure the services and facilities of the team at Airways Airports to run this course, under the guidance of three of the most experienced BHPA Senior Paramotor Instructors -: Chris Dawes, Andrew Rastall and Andy Snell.

This course will take place at the Airways Airports flight park at Darley Moor, Near Ashbourne, Derbyshire, commencing on Saturday 25th April and ending nine days later on Sunday 3rd May. The course fee will be £1199 (Less than the normal cost of a CP course!). Nb. This does not include food and accommodation.

There are a limited number of places available so we will have to fill these on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact Airways Airports on 01335 344 308 at your earliest convenience to arrange payment of the £500 non-refundable deposit. The balance will need to be paid by Friday 17th April at the latest.

Further details and an accommodation list will be available from Airways Airports

The course is intended to equip candidates to the level where they are ready to be examined as a special category of BHPA Senior Instructor. (Individual Instructor examinations will need to be organised after the course, as required.) Please also note that, as previously advised, prerequisites are to attend a BHPA Coach Course, hold a BHPA Paraglider (Power) Pilot rating (previously known as SPHG 'full'), have 100 hours powered paraglider time logged and hold a valid First Aid certificate.

*For more information contact:
Tony Mitchell, 0116 261 1322, tony-mitchell@bhpa.co.uk*

5: Incident Report Forms

The incident report form that has been in use for several years has been extensively revised, and is now more like the European form used by other associations. The document on our web site has been updated.

Old style forms will still be accepted.

*For more information contact:
Tony Mitchell, 0116 261 1322, tony-mitchell@bhpa.co.uk*

6: Bill Liscomb Available For Club Talk

Bill Liscomb, the man behind the Big Blue Sky i DVD covering the early days of US hang gliding (reviewed in February Skywings), will be travelling to the UK in July and will be willing to give a talk to a club in exchange for dinner and perhaps accommodation.

If a club with reasonable access to London airports would like to get in touch with Bill to discuss this, please contact Joe Schofield at skywings@bhpa.co.uk in the first instance.

Big Blue sky details are at www.bigblueskythemovie.com.

*For more information contact:
Joe Schofield, 01379 855 021, skywings@bhpa.co.uk*