

10/12/09
Dear all

It is during the winter where your currency can be difficult to maintain. Just over the last 4 -6 weeks the opportunities to fly have been very limited. Some of you might not be current enough to fly solo already

The following is minimum guidance only and not a target that just because I have managed I will be current.

Full club members

- Up to Bronze C – maximum of 4 weeks without flying
- Bronze to Silver – maximum of 6 weeks without flying
- Silver and beyond – 8 weeks or 3 landings in 90 days

Where ever possible you need to keep as current as you can.

Poor weather makes it more difficult to keep current, but it also can make the flying more challenging.

- Not just in flying the glider but your judgement and awareness will deteriorate with time
- You need to ask yourself the question. How rusty do I feel?
- How current am I for today's conditions in the glider I am about to fly in.
- Just because I flew a K6 in light conditions 6 weeks ago I might not be ok for flying today my Cirrus in Easterly wave with strong rota!
- For instructors you also need to consider what type of flying you have done. If you have flown but have not had to do any handling you will get rusty.

The DI will also ask the question at the daily briefing and expect an honest answer. If you need support then take a flight with an instructor first. If you do so during then consider using it as an opportunity to do your Annual Flight Review saving you doing it again later in the year (see below)

Winter mid week flying has reduced or even no instructor supervision. It is even more important that you are honest with yourself about your currency.

Remember ask yourself the question: Am I current enough to fly in today's conditions in the type of glider I am about to fly? Any doubt don't fly solo or take a flight with an instructor first.

Annual Flight Review (AFR)

Having considered the renewal options (Annually or the first quarter of each year) I have decided to go with an annual renewal.

As I explained at my recent briefing the advantage of having an AFR in the first quarter of each year was to help protect you against any issues that might creep in as your currency is potentially at its lowest. The additional training in the AFR would support this problem. However having had feedback and considered the options I have gone down the 12 month to date route. It is therefore very important to ensure you keep yourself current (see above). If you do need a currency check why not turn this into an AFR.?

Therefore your next AFR must be done **within 12 months of your last** after which you cannot fly solo until first having had your review.

However to give a little flexibility your AFR must be completed by the end of the review month not necessarily to the day of your last review
I.e. if you did your AFR on 10 May 09 you need to have completed the next check by the end of May 2010

If it is done early (combined with a currency check for instance) the date will reset.
i.e. if you did your original AFR on 10 May 09 and are therefore due another by the end of May 2010, but then had an AFR as a currency check in March 2010 then you will not need to do another AFR until the end of March 2011.

To help I will post a list of names and due dates on the wall opposite the office in the next couple of weeks.

For Country members I will still need your last Annual check date at your home club. If not, an AFR will be required at Talgarth.

There will be a slight change to the syllabus from last year – more details to follow over the next couple of months