

CFI message - February 2010

I am organising two cross country and soaring training (long) weekends. Hopefully they will be easier for you to attend and might 'split' the weather.

The first of which is for Fri 14th to Sun 16th May.

The weekend is open to all.

So far we have the following planned:

- Thanks to Jamie Sage a DG 1000T. For those that don't know, it is the latest in two seat high performance gliders. The T is for turbo (small self sustainer engine) so in theory you are less likely to land out! This is a great opportunity. Most of us have very little opportunity to fly such toys.

- Mike Tomlinson, our cross country coach, will be available for all three days with the K21. A great opportunity to learn from Mike the secrets on how he gets round so quick as he takes you round a task

- John Scott, our navigation coach, will be available with his Grob 109 motor glider (depart from Shobdon) where you fly the task with John as a navigation exercise, even if it is not soarable. Invaluable practice and an excellent opportunity.

- Tasks set each day

- o If possible, two will be set; a shorter one so that those with less experience or lower performance gliders get a chance and one for pundits – perhaps a prize at the end of the weekend to spice things up a bit.

- If the weather is poor (surely not!) then we will organise some informal briefings, perhaps even a competition using the simulator

- o So far we provisionally have Navigation (including a 'virtual' navigation exercise), practical help in using Task Nav and See You software, Field selection and basic airmanship

- In addition we could have a social on the Saturday evening to round things off

For the less experienced

This weekend is as much for you as it is for the pundits.

In addition to the above there will be no trial lessons booked so the instructor cover will be devoted fully to your needs. Emphasis will be on your development, especially around soaring or working towards your bronze etc. I must emphasise the weekend will be open to all so even if you are the most junior pilot there will something for you to learn from.

You could even take the K13 cross country with an instructor if you are feeling brave!

In summary:

- Navigation coaching with John in his Grob 109

- Fly the DG1000T

- Mike Tomlinson cross country coaching with the K21

- 2 x duty instructors for any other training or cross country in a K13

- 2 x tasks set (Junior and pundit)

- Simulator, briefings etc if the weather is duff

· Social on the Saturday evening

Costs

Standard fees for all club kit/launches etc__

DG1000T – 40pence per minute plus 50pence per minute (minimum £3) if you use the engine!

Grob 109 - £25 per hour contribution made direct to John.

The second weekend could be a bit later in the season but on a similar format.

Both weekends are intended for all to train, learn and of course have fun!

I am now ready to take the planning to the next stage. Before i am willing to commit volunteers time to make the first weekend a success, i need to know from you the level of interest, either for the whole or part.

In particular those that are interested in the following (due to their more limited availability):

- Flying the DG1000T
- Flying cross country with Mike in the K21
- Flying a Navigation exercise with John Scott
- Interest in taking part in a mini 'competition' based on the task's set

So can i ask you to get back to me either via the forum, my email or via Liz in the office

Further cross country training opportunities

The K21 with Mike Tomlinson will also be available at Rock Polishers Sat 29th & Sun 30th May; although this is provisional at the moment i'd appreciate knowing if you are interested. Again a great opportunity to experience a bit of racing.

We are also looking at taking the K21 to the Bidford two seater competition again. More details to follow but at the moment this will be the first week in August.

In my opinion this is a great opportunity not to be missed. So pencil those dates into your diary and keep our fingers crossed for the weather!

Look forward to hearing from you.

Cheers

Martin L

CFI