

Fellow pilots

Recent developments with the COVID 19 pandemic, particularly in WA, are encouraging. Nevertheless, we must continue to ensure we comply with social distancing rules and travel restrictions. Note that travel to and from the TO/Landing sites may not be regarded as essential travel for exercise, and all travel will need to comply with regional travel restrictions.

For up to date restrictions and information, access the websites below.

- Official information regarding COVID-19 in Western Australia – www.wa.gov.au/covid19
- WA Department of Health information – www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/coronavirus and
- Coronavirus information hotline 1800 020 080

We continue to review the situation regarding our sites, and have in recent days received proposals to open Bunbury (Back Beach) from SW Airsports, Shellys from Albany club, and Quinns from an individual pilot (David Drabble). We assessed all proposals as offering adequate risk management in the current circumstances.

Accordingly, our advice is updated as below;

The following sites remain closed:

- Cottesloe
- Sky Pirates Paramotoring Club: Lark Hill, Pinjar
- Goldfields Dust Devils: Westonia tow paddocks

The following sites have been opened/partially opened under the following conditions:

- Hill Flyers/Cloudbase Paragliding Club – Mt Bakewell
 - Site restricted to pilots resident in the Wheatbelt region, as defined on Main Roads WA Travel Map
 - No access at all through Lou's or contact with Lou
 - Access the site via John's easement
 - Sanitise or wash hands before and after operating any gate
 - Top land or land in paddocks adjacent to Lou's
 - No more than 2 people on launch at any time
 - Maintain social distancing 1.5m
- Albany Hang Gliding Club – Sandpatch, Parry's
 - Launch
 - All pilots must arrive at site individually unless with a family member living in the same residence
 - No more than 2 people to congregate at any time and must keep social distancing 1.5 metres
 - Each pilot must set up individually
 - Each pilot is responsible for carrying their own glider to launch with no help from others (hang Gliders)
 - All pilots are to self-launch without assistance this will guarantee social distancing (If a pilot is unsure about self-launch for any reason that pilot must not fly)
 - Once airborne pilots are to fly away from take off and not hang around the take-off area until ready to land

- If there are more than 2 people at the flying site the first pilots on site have right of way to launch first and so on other pilots or people must stay a minimum 50 meters away from the pilots currently getting ready to fly
 - Landing
 - All people at the site will stay clear of landing area at all times unless in the landing phase
 - A pilot wishing to land will approach the landing area, observe if it is clear to land (make sure there is no one in the landing area) and make sure it is safe to land
 - After landing pilots must immediately remove glider from the landing area as quickly as possible at the same time maintaining social distancing 1.5 metres
 - After landing pilots must not congregate (no more than 2 people) to discuss their flight
 - Hang glider pilots must not group under wings
 - After flying and packing up all pilots are to carry and secure gliders to their vehicle by themselves and depart the site as soon as possible to avoid group gatherings.
- Albany Hang Gliding Club – Shellys

LAUNCH

- All pilots must arrive at site individually unless with a family member living in the same residence
- No more than 2 pilots at any time on the take-off/landing area with a minimum of 1.5 meters social distancing at all times.
- All pilots must carry and use UHF radio to communicate with other pilots at the site, this is to help coordinate flying activities and social distancing. (SAFA the Sport Aviation Federation of Australia have a designated UHF radio channel that would be used, HGFA 1) If there are more than 2 people at the flying site the first pilots on site have right of way to launch first and so on. Other pilots or people in the area must stay a minimum 20 meters away from pilots currently getting ready to fly
- Each pilot must set up individually
- Each pilot is responsible to carry their own glider to launch with no help from others (Hang Gliders)
- All pilots are to self-launch without help from others this will guarantee social distancing (if a pilot is unsure about self-launching for any reason then that pilot must not fly)
- Once airborne all pilots must fly away from the launch when safe to do so and not hang around the take-off area until ready to land.

LANDING

- A pilot wishing to land will approach the landing area, observe if it is clear to land (make sure there is no one in the landing area) and make sure they execute a safe landing. Beach landing is encouraged whenever possible.

- All people at the site will stay clear of landing area at all times unless in the landing phase.
 - After landing pilots must remove their equipment from the landing area promptly and not congregate to discuss their flight.
 - Hang glider pilots must not group under wings
 - After flying and packing up all pilots are to carry and secure gliders to their vehicles by themselves and depart the site as soon as possible to avoid group gatherings
- Sky Pirates Paramotoring Club – Woodman Point, Yanchep, Lake Walyungup
 - Review the site induction document re TO/Landing and no access zones
 - Gate access and locks - Hand Sanitise or wash hands after accessing and re-locking the gate
 - Maximum of 2 Pilots on Launch area - Social Separation Minimum 1.5m
 - Maximum of 2 pilots on Landing area - Social Separation Minimum 1.5m
 - Launch, climb out towards the coast, operating height minimum 300 feet , maximum 500 feet and track up or down the coast, do not loiter in any one area
 - Land, pack and leave the area post flight - Hand Sanitise or wash hands after accessing and re-locking the gate
 - Keep a flight log and provide contact details if requested by Rangers/Police or Council representatives.
- Goldfields Dust Devils – Lake Perkolilli
 - Site restricted to pilots who are based in the Eastern Goldfields Region of WA and are members of the Goldfields Dust Devils.
 - Do not enter the site if you are suffering fever, cough, shortness of breath or any other cold/flu like symptoms.
 - Maximum of 2 pilots in the launch landing area.
 - Minimum social separation 1.5m.
- SW Airsports Bunbury (Back Beach)
 - A. Only pilots resident in the South West region, (as defined in the Main Roads WA travel map), to use site while regional boundaries are enforced ensuring numbers are kept to a minimum.
 - B. On take-off pilots are to fly SOUTH utilising the isolated beaches between Beach 212/213 (the last carpark south of launch) and Dalyellup. The area between Beach 212/213 (or better still the twin bowls area) and the Dalyellup Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC) shall be the primary flying zone owing to the isolated and scarce public use of beaches in this area.
 - LAUNCH

- 1. All pilots must arrive at site individually unless with a family member living in the same residence
- 2. No more than 2 people to congregate at any time keeping social distancing at 1.5 metres
- 3. Gate only operated under strict sanitary conditions (hand washing/hand sanitizer) with glove wearing a preference
- 4. Each pilot must set up individually
- 5. Each pilot is responsible for carrying their own glider to launch with no help from others
- 6. All pilots are to self-launch without assistance guaranteeing social distancing (Beach launching is encouraged for Paraglider pilots)
- 7. Once airborne pilots are to fly SOUTH (AS PER PRIMARY RULE B) from take-off and not remain around the launch area until ready to land. (Beach landing for paragliders is encouraged)
- 8. If there are more than 2 people at the flying site the first pilots on site have right of way to launch first and so on. Other pilots or people must stay a minimum 20 meters away from pilots currently getting ready to fly
- **LANDING**
- 1. Beach landing is encouraged wherever possible
- 2. All people at the site will stay clear of landing area at all times unless in the landing phase.
- 3. A pilot wishing to land will approach the landing area, observe if it is clear to land (make sure there is no one in the landing area) and making sure it is safe to land. (Paragliders are encouraged to beach land)
- 4. After landing pilots must immediately remove glider from the landing area as quickly as possible at the same time maintaining social distancing 1.5 metres
- 5. After landing pilots must not congregate (no more than 2 people) to discuss their flight
- 6. After flying and packing up all pilots are to carry and secure gliders to their vehicle by themselves and depart the site as soon as possible to avoid group gatherings.

- **Quinns**

- **Launch**

- First pilot intending to fly advises the City of Wanneroo (on 9405 5000 then press 1 twice – A/H 1300 138 393).
- All pilots arrive at site individually (unless with a family member living in the same residence)
- No more than 2 people congregate at any time whilst maintaining a social distancing of 1.5 metres
- Each pilot must set up individually
- Each pilot is responsible for carrying their own glider to launch with no help from others
- All pilots will self-launch without assistance to maintain appropriate social distancing
- Once airborne pilots are to fly away from take-off and not hang around the take-off area until ready to land

- If there are more than 2 people at the flying site the first pilots at the site has right of way to launch first and so on.
 - No hang glider to launch if the wind strength is insufficient to easily top land
- Landing
- All people at the site will stay clear of landing area at all times unless in the landing phase
 - A pilot wishing to land will approach the landing area, observe if it is clear to land (make sure there is no one in the landing area) and make sure it is safe to land
 - After landing pilots must immediately remove glider from the landing area as quickly as possible at the same time maintaining social distancing 1.5 metres
 - Hang gliders be spaced at least 5 metres apart during setup, breakdown or whilst parked
 - After landing pilots must not congregate (no more than 2 people) to discuss their flight
 - Hang glider pilots must not group under wings
 - Paragliding pilots landing on the beach to land south of main groyne if possible, and must use stairways when returning to the top of the ridge
 - After flying and packing up, all pilots are to carry their equipment to their vehicle independently and depart the site as soon as possible to avoid group gatherings.

Please contact your club SSO/SO if you have any queries regarding the above sites.

We will continue to review the situation and will consider proposals for reopening sites currently closed.

Please be mindful of the importance of strict compliance with the temporary procedures put in place for each site. Any reported breaches will probably lead to the sites being closed again, and make it much harder to reopen them.

Yours sincerely

Peter South

President HGPAWA