

Pre Flight Checks

CBSIFT CBE

C **Controls.** Check flight controls (elevators, rudder and ailerons) for full, free and correct movement.

"Elevator is? [up] Elevator is? [down] Rudder is? [L] Rudder is? [R]"
You can usually see the ailerons, if so there is no need to ask helper- look yourself. Check for full and free movement of stick and rudder. Do this check after strapping in - Controls might get obstructed by the straps!

B **Ballast.** Ensure pilot weight(s) (plus ballast, plus parachutes) are within placarded limits, and that any required ballast is fitted and secured, or removed if not required.

Ask rear pilot for their weight and check that front pilot is within the range on the placard.

S **Straps.** Check harness(es) are correctly fastened and adjusted.

Ask rear pilot to check their harness. "Are your straps tight and secure?"

I **Instruments.** Altimeter set at QFE (zeroed) and other instruments and avionics (including barograph, radio, avn systems, GPS and transponder if fitted) set and functioning. Identify Position of ASI in panel. You won't have time on the launch!

"No broken glasses, no bent needles, zeroed and reading sensibly, ASI identified."

F **Flaps.** Check for full travel in both directions and then set for take-off.

e.g. "flaps are not fitted to this aircraft, if they were, I would exercise them and set them for take off." - One day you might fly a glider with flaps !

T **Trim.** Check for full travel in both directions and then set for take-off.

Hold stick centrally with right hand and use left hand to trim
"Trim - full and free movement, set to recovery speed (winch launch) /or tow speed (aerotow)." (During your early training your instructor will advise a recovery speed)

C **Canopy.** Check closed and locked, and push upwards on the frame to check secured.

"Canopy closed and locked, resists upward movement. Canopy O.K. in the back?"

B **Brakes.** Check fully open and even, partially open and even, then closed and locked.

"Brakes fully open, flush and balanced, closed and locked"

E **Eventualities.** Review the options and responsibilities for action in the event of a Non Normal situation on take-off.

During early training, your instructor will deal with eventualities. Listen and learn each flight!

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Keep your eyes open for people or vehicles that may obstruct the launch or gliders in the circuit or approach. If you see anything you don't like, tell your instructor!

Note: Do not allow yourself to become distracted during the checks, ask everyone but your ground helper to go behind the wing of the glider. Concentrate and prepare for your flight!