

From: Y C Lui

To: "Mark Mohan"

Cc: "Raymond Wong"; "alice pg"

Subject: Paragliding system in mainland China

Date: Monday, April 02, 2012 9:54:00 PM

Hi Mark,

All aero sports in mainland China are governed by the Aero Sports Federation Of China (中国航空

运动协会) or ASFC in abbreviation. Within this organization is the Hang Gliding and Paragliding Committee (悬挂滑翔及滑翔伞委员) which oversees hang gliding and paragliding activities .

The only official document I can find on the regulations for paragliding is this one

http://www.soaring.org.cn/files/2010_01/f5342fb7c8fe60feb6d7ceba8be68eae.doc which can be downloaded from the official web site of ASFC at <http://www.soaring.org.cn>

As the document is quite long, I have only translated the part that I believe to be relevant.

Furthermore, the translation is not done in an exact word-by-word manner but all the essential information should have been captured.

YC

Regulations for the sport of paragliding

(by Aero-sport Management Center, General Administration of Sport of China (体航管) (2000)
no.069 July 12th, 2000)

Introduction

ASFC is commissioned by the General Administration of Sport of China (国家体育总局) to regulate paragliding activities in mainland China. The purpose of this document is to define a regulatory framework to strengthen the management of the sport, promote the development and improvement of paragliding skills and ensure flying safety.

Pilot ratings

All pilots participating in paragliding activities must possess the paragliding sport certificate (滑翔伞运动证书) issued by the ASFC.

There are five skill ratings in the ASFC system :

Level A – low-altitude flying (less than 100 meters)

Level B – high-altitude flying (more than 300 meters)

Level C – ridge soaring

Level D – thermal flying

Level E – cross country flying

(Level A is the lowest rating and level E is the highest.)

The requirements for each rating are as follows :

Level A

1. Age at least 16
2. Physically fit
3. Complete training on the theory part of the syllabus
4. At least 5 days of flying time and 20 flights.

Level B

1. Meet the requirements 1, 2, 3 for level A
2. At least 20 days of flying time and 40 flights.

Level C

1. Meet the requirements 1, 2, 3 for level A
2. Minimum 100 flights and 20 flying hours. Has flown at least 3 different sites with at least 5 flights at each site. There must be at least 3 flights with flight time more than an hour.

Level D

1. Meet the requirements for level A, B and C
2. Minimum 50 flying hours. There must be at least 3 flights with flight time exceeding 2 hours (need be supported by formal competition records)

Level E

1. Meet the requirements for level A, B, C and D
2. There must be at least 3 flights with flying distance exceeding 50 km (need be supported by formal competition records)

Paragliding instructors

There are 3 ratings for instructors :

1. ASFC Junior instructor
2. ASFC Intermediate Instructor
3. ASFC Senior instructor

Application for paragliding instructor ratings

ASFC Junior instructor

1. Completed the training required for the level C rating
2. Completed two terms of paragliding instruction practice
3. Possesses systematic knowledge in paragliding theory
4. Familiar with local flying sites and weather conditions. Able to explain flying skill requirements clearly.
5. Exhibits strong sense of responsibility. Have received training on paragliding instruction and pass the examination

Intermediate Instructor

1. Completed training required for the level E rating
2. Has conducted paragliding training for at least 3 years
3. Possesses full knowledge in paragliding and meteorology. Able to coach effectively
4. Able to explain the essence of flying skills and principle of flying clearly.
5. Able to demonstrate ordinary paragliding maneuvers
6. Exhibits strong sense of responsibility. Have received training on paragliding instruction and pass the examination

Senior Instructor

1. Complete training required for the level E rating
2. Has conducted paragliding training for at least 5 years
3. Possesses full knowledge in paragliding, meteorology and first aid.
4. Able to explain the principle of flying, meteorology and methods of first aid clearly.
5. Able to demonstrate ordinary paragliding maneuvers
6. Exhibits strong sense of responsibility. Have received training on paragliding instruction and pass the examination

Application for paragliding sport certificate (滑翔伞飞行员运动证书)

1. Upon completion of training according to the syllabus and passing the examination, the paragliding club the pilot belongs to will submit application to the local ASFC office for the certificate.
2. The pilot shall fill in the application form for paragliding sport certificate
3. After endorsement by the provincial ASFC office, the application will be forwarded to the national office of ASFC for final approval. For places where the provincial office of ASFC has not yet been established, paragliding clubs may submit the applications directly to the national ASFC office.

4. An examination and administration fee will be levied on the applicant.
5. Consecutive upgrading of pilot rating cannot be made within 180 days (except for pilots who successfully enter into the first six places in national competitions) Application for paragliding instructor certificate (滑翔伞飞行教练员证书)
 1. The applicant must possess all the qualifications required for paragliding instructor and fill in the application form for paragliding instructor certificate
 2. The ASFC accepts applications during the period from March 1st to April 30th of each year.
 3. If the application is accepted after preliminary screening, the ASFC will arrange training for the applicant and license will be granted only if the applicant passes the examination.

Paragliding clubs

To set up a paragliding club, the organizer must fulfill the following requirements :

1. Establish for the club a constitution which must conform to the laws of China.
2. Has access to flying sites for developing paragliding activities. Air space to be used for conducting paragliding activities must be approved by the local aviation authority.
3. Possesses suitable paragliding equipment conforming to relevant requirements stipulated in this document.
4. Has at least one qualified paragliding instructor available. Has means for funding all necessary expenditures of the club

Any person satisfying the above-mentioned requirements may submit application to the local ASFC office directly. For places where the local office of ASFC has not yet been established, the application can be submitted to the local office of General Administration of Sport. After the application is approved, registration should be made with the local home affair or commerce and industry departments.

The organizer is required to submit the following documents to the provincial ASFC office or the local office of General Administration of Sport :

1. Application document duly signed by the organizer
2. The constitution organization chart and list of office bearers of the club
3. Name and address of the club
4. Resume of the paragliding instructors of the club and their paragliding instructor certificates issued by ASFC.
5. Summary on the financial status and plan of the club The authority will complete the processing of the application within 30 days and inform the applicant the result in writing. The results will also be reported to ASFC for record. Established paragliding clubs not satisfying the requirements stipulated in this document must re-apply to ASFC.

Obligation of paragliding clubs :

1. Develop the sport of paragliding and make sure that the law, policy and flying regulations of China are fully adhered to in the process.
2. Organize paragliding training for club members. Continuously improve the management and administration of the club and enhance the skills of member pilots.
3. Actively participate in training and competition events organized by ASFC and endeavor to achieve good results.
4. Strengthen the education of member pilots on aviation laws and demands members to adhere to associated rules in conducting paragliding activities
5. Organize training on flying safety for club members . **Promote the “safety first” philosophy.** Report serious incidents to the authority within 24 hours of occurrence.

Approval for flying

Flight plans must be submitted to and approved by the local aviation authority before conducting paragliding activities.

Flight plans should provide information on time to launch, flying zone, altitude, maneuvers to be conducted, name of the instructor, number of participating pilots, model of flying equipment and

other details required by the aviation authority Flying activities must be conducted according to approved flight plans. Unauthorized changes to flight plans are not permitted. If changes are required due to special circumstances, consent by the authority granting the approval must be sought.

Management of paragliding equipment

Not translated. This part is mainly about regulations for the development, production and sales of paragliding equipment in mainland China.

Safety requirements

All paragliding activities must be organized and conducted according to plans. Organizer must acquire detailed understanding on the change of weather conditions of the day and be able to determine whether the condition is suitable for launching.

Flying in unfavorable conditions such as inside clouds, fog and rains is strictly prohibited.

Unauthorized flying and change of flight plan is also not permitted.

Without authorization, paragliders may not fly over restricted flying zones, military facilities, custom facilities, borders areas, cities, densely populated areas and large water areas.

Pilots should use paragliding equipment suitable for their body weight and carry radio communication equipment.

When flying, pilots must wear helmet, light and sturdy flying shoes, protective flying suits and be equipped with navigation gear such as altimeters.

Pilots must purchase insurance policies covering their own loss and third-party liabilities in case of accidents.

Pilots must strictly follow planned courses for launching and landing, comply with air traffic rules, pay attention to the locations and distance of other nearby paragliders while turning and circling.

When entering thermals, pilots must turn in the same direction as the other paragliders which are already inside the thermal and maintain sufficient separation with other paragliders at all time.

Awards and penalties

Not translated. This part is mainly about what actions will be taken against those who have violated the rules stipulated in this document.

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