

Supplement to BGA CFE Presentation

This presentation does NOT form part of the official BGA CFE Presentation

It provides more information on HOW to conduct cloud flying in gliders

Reference – Instrument Flying Course Notes
Dartmoor Gliding Society
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Prior to entering cloud

It is important to be trimmed before going onto instruments, whether wings level or in a thermalling turn

It is vitally important to listen out on 130.4 and make appropriate calls

Flying straight and turning - 1

Scan the instruments, with T/S this means:

- 1) Slip Ball – take action if it is not centred
- 2) Turn Needle – note turn rate
- 3) ASI – note speed and trend

Flying straight and turning - 2

Interpret your scan and make any necessary control inputs as follows:

- Turn rate not correct – make a gentle coordinated correction for 1 or 2 seconds then recentre.
- Speed increasing - ease back on the stick until the trend stops
- Speed decreasing – very gently ease forward until the trend stops

Flying straight and turning - 3

To roll wings level at any stage:

- Apply a coordinated rolling manoeuvre until the the turn needle is just about to become centred then centralise
- If the aircraft was trimmed for turning then be aware that the tendency now will be to lose speed
- Trim changes should be small, if necessary check physical position of trim lever

Correcting larger deviations - 1

If the turn rate is high and speed is increasing rapidly you are in a diving turn – to correct:

- If necessary remove any g force by easing forward on the stick
- Level the wings using the turn needle
- Control the speed by easing back on the stick until the trend stops

Correcting larger deviations - 2

If the turn rate is high and speed is decreasing rapidly you are in a climbing turn – to correct:

- Control the speed by very gently easing forward on the stick until the trend stops
- When the speed is adequate then roll the wings level

Correcting larger deviations - 3

If at any time the speed is approaching Max. Manoeuvring Speed then take the Emergency Recovery Procedure as described in BGA CFE presentation

Turning onto Compass Headings -1

To achieve a change of heading:

1. Calculate the change of head in degrees
2. Divide by 10
3. Execute a rate 1 turn for this number of seconds

Turning onto Compass Headings - 2

To roll out on a heading from a protracted turn:

- Count the number of seconds after passing east (or west) there are no turning errors on these headings

Turning onto Compass Headings - 3

Alternative method (quicker when rolling out from a protracted turn):

Use the track information from a GPS to roll out close to the desired compass heading, and then, if required, make small corrections on the compass.

Navigation

For brief cloud climbs well away from airspace you can use DR to provide your position

More protracted climbs, proximity of airspace, letting down near obstructions or terrain – you need help from a GPS unit.

Furthermore, for any sort of let down through cloud, you must have a (premeditated) plan

When using GPS waypoint information be clear that the unit displays bearing to waypoint