

Booker Gliding Club

Newsletter

May 2021

Don't miss
the daily
briefing
0830hrs

Awards evening and party – 17th July



Evening groups – Tuesdays and Fridays

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Chiltern Park – settling in

We're making ourselves at home at Chiltern Park now and getting some great flying in, as well as learning how to mix it with the parachuting at weekends. Flying is available for everyone, and we will resume trial lessons from 20th May. We now have the buggies for retrieving, and a tent as an office, storage and shelter (many thanks to Robin Willgoss for the loan of his 'garage', and to John Hubberstey for providing furniture).



We do have some friends at WAP



It'll keep the rain off better when the roof is on



That looks more comfortable!

In other news, **Leo Sentinella** continues on his progress through the fleet with a conversion to the ASW19. A number of members have achieved their first Chiltern Park solo – **Callum Harris, Andy Duncan, Steve Gaze, John Blake and Richard Martyn**.

And in the powered world, former CFI Mike Collett (now of [Ultimate Aerobatics](#)) has done his first solo in a Hurricane and former cadet Will Hilton (who now flies for Virgin) his first solo in a Harvard.



Mike



Will



Welcome to our newest members

This month we welcome **Paul Bailey** who began gliding in South Africa and was for some years a member at Bicester, **Lee Stimmel** who has relocated from Cambridge GC (Gransden) and **Howard Gethin** who flew gliders as an air cadet some while ago and has been tempted to fly again by the sight of us circling over his house near Chiltern Park.



Members' meeting

The meeting held on 6th May attracted a record attendance as members were keen to hear the latest news on developments at Wycombe Air Park. The report was encouraging in that the council is now taking legal action against the airfield manager to enable our return home. Plans of our proposed new hangar and clubhouse to be built on the northside were also displayed. If you missed the meeting and would like more information, ask a committee member.





Willy Hackett in a Spitfire



Richard on a kitchen chair, aka the Primary



Will Hilton after flying his dad Doug in a Harvard

If I do not have an SPL by 8th December 2021, how can I continue to fly solo?

By flying as student pilot, authorised and supervised by a Flight Instructor (Sailplanes). Once you have completed the SPL syllabus (previous BGA training can be recognised), you can take an assessment of competence with a Flight Examiner (Sailplanes), following which an SPL can be issued. You must also have a LAPL medical certificate.

If I have a LAPL(S), do I need to exchange it for an SPL?

No. A LAPL(S) is deemed to be an SPL with effect from 8 April 2020. When the CAA reissues a licence for administrative reasons or upon application by licence holders, the CAA will replace your LAPL(S) with an SPL.

Once I have an SPL, how do I keep it valid?

The SPL is a lifetime licence, you can exercise the privileges as long as you meet the recency requirements.

What are SPL recency requirements?

The SPL recency requirements are laid out at SFCL.160 in the [SFCL rules](#).

The basic SPL recency requirement is – in the previous 24 months:

- 15 launches
- 5 hours
- two flights with an instructor

There are additional requirements for other SPL privileges.

Once I have FI(S) privileges, how do I keep them valid?

The Flight Instructor rating FI(S) does not lapse, so it does not need to be revalidated or renewed. FI(S) privileges can be exercised as long as the recency requirements have been met.

What are FI(S) recency requirements?

The FI(S) recency requirements are laid out at SFCL.360 in the [SFCL rules](#).

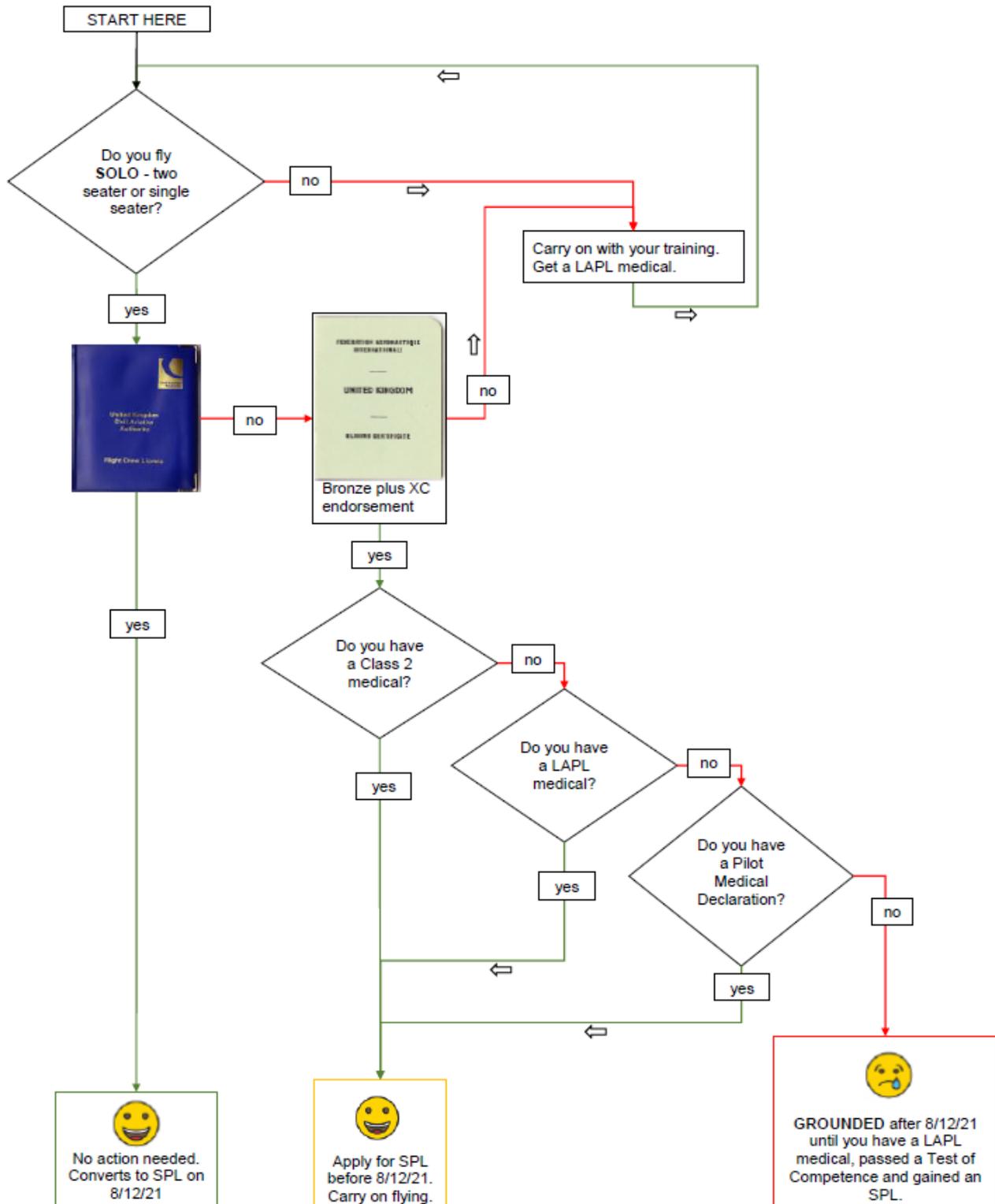
They are:

- 30 hours or 60 launches instructing experience plus a refresher seminar in the previous 36 months
- a proficiency check every 9 years

Where that 30 hours or 60 launches instructing experience is not met, an assessment by a Flight Examiner (Sailplanes) is required. For those converted from a BGA instructor rating, the first 9-year proficiency check requirement is 'timed' from the date of the last BGA instructor 3- or 5-year check (as recorded in the instructor's logbook).



And for those who like snakes and ladders.....



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Aboyne 2021 – wake up to wave



Soaring doesn't stop in September, come to Scotland and discover wave flying.

The expedition is suitable for all levels from beginner to hotshot and is an excellent way of building skills and experience, as well as getting to know other club members.



Aboyne airfield, home to Deeside Gliding Club, has two hard and two grass runways and there are plenty of launch failure and land out options nearby (airfield on wingtip).



The dates are:

- **week 1: 10 – 16 Oct**
- **week 2: 17 – 23 Oct**



Type 'Booker Aboyne' into YouTube for a snapshot of the 2009 expedition.

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James Roland supporting a worthwhile cause



We are a team of four, myself, my daughter and son-in-law, and our village Post Mistress, doing a hike in the Peak District this July in aid of MacMillan. It is a 15-mile route (they said 13 miles, they fibbed) with an elevation gain of 1500ft and a time element to complete. Much as I dislike the 'office sponsorship' thing, many people do have reason to be grateful to MacMillan, very much including myself, and should anyone wish to encourage us, and help MacMillan, my Just Giving page is:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tabandyomp

Truly, no contribution is too small, we and MacMillan are grateful for every penny, although our Post Mistress is doing well mainly by refusing to post mail unless she is sponsored!



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Dates for your diary

2021

- 12th – 16th July: Booker Regionals
- 17th July: Awards evening and end of comp party
- 17th – 18th September *The Elite London – at Booker*



Sometime later this year:

Whispering Wardrobes Vintage Glider Rally and the Easter Egg Cup Aerobatics comp

9th – 24th October: Aboyne expedition

Club Communications

We use WhatsApp groups, as below:

Booker Gliding Club – general club information and notifications including details of online daily briefings

Booker Instructors – information and swap requests for instructors

Booker Expeditions – set up in the run up to each expedition.

If you wish to be included in any of these groups, contact the CFI.

Booker Banter - for general chitchat – contact Jeremy Gilbey

Condor Flyers – for those wanting to join in Condor group sessions – use this link:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GkWgpEfSl0D21wGvc3XCry>

The **Booker GC website** at www.bookergliding.co.uk has a Members Page. This contains the latest Club news snippets and links to previous newsletters, meeting minutes and several useful and informative Club documents. The Members page is accessible to everybody (not just members) but certain documents, such as committee minutes need a user ID and password. To obtain these, go to the members' page and click on the 'email Administrator' link. Don't forget to *include your name and membership number*.

For the latest news about what's happening check out

<http://bookergc.blogspot.com/> and <https://www.facebook.com/bookerglidingclub>

*** All views expressed within the newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Club or committee ***

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome. If you would like to submit an article for a future edition please send it to Jane Moore at jxmoore@gmail.com

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