

BGA NAVIGATION TRAINING GUIDANCE

Version 1.3

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Background

The BGA system of navigation training has evolved over many years. This document forms the basis of a formal training scheme for navigation training within the BGA Bronze and Cross Country Endorsements flying syllabus.

Although navigation training should ensure that pilots become skilled in basic map and compass navigation techniques, it is recommended that pilots are additionally trained to use a GPS navigation a device, and that when inexperienced pilots are flying cross country they are equipped with a suitable GPS moving map.

Where the airspace around the planned flight is complicated or not defined by ground features, a moving map becomes more important. Infringements of controlled airspace are dangerous and ultimately result in curtailment of the freedoms to fly that all pilots need and enjoy. Instructors must support cross country flying by inexperienced pilots with this in mind.

Training and Testing Process

- During pre-solo training
 - The student pilot should be taught or guided towards material that teaches rules of the air sufficient to pass the test below.
- Before first solo
 - The candidate must pass a simple oral test. The test must cover simple rules of the air and local airspace issues as set out in this document.
- Before the Bronze Cross-country Endorsement navigation test
 - The candidate must undergo training, both theoretical and practical, in Navigation. This training may involve the use of GPS systems but must involve and emphasise the use of an aeronautical chart.
- For the Navigation section of the BGA cross-country endorsement
 - Pass the full Air Law exam together with a repeated Local Airspace oral test.
 - Undertake the Cross-Country Endorsement test. For details, please refer to the BGA Examining Standards document.

The Pre-Solo Oral Test

Laws and Rules requires that to qualify for the gliding certificate 'an appropriate level of knowledge of rules of the air and local airspace restrictions must be demonstrated to the supervising instructor at the time of the first solo flight'.

The BGA recommends that to meet this requirement that in addition to any pre-solo briefing regarding weather and airmanship precautions, etc, instructors require a locally formatted verbal test of pilots knowledge before the first solo flight to include the following;

- Height above the airfield and/or the surrounding area that the pilot can climb (indicated on the altimeter) before encountering airspace restrictions (reference current ICAO chart, NOTAMs and local LOA's)
- Areas of airspace to avoid horizontally (reference current ICAO chart, NOTAMs and local LOA's)
- Rules of the air pertinent to the solo flight including collision avoidance (reference BGA Laws and Rules)

The Bronze Cross Country Endorsement Navigation Skills Test

The test is detailed in the BGA Examining Standards publication.

Reference

- Laws and Rules 'Gliding Certificate and Endorsements'
- BGA Examining Standards

End.