

BGA LAWS AND RULES

INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS

Version 2.3

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1. Introduction

Safe, high quality and standardised flying instruction is a vital part of all BGA gliding club operations. The BGA continually reviews instructor training and performance to ensure that the highest possible safety standards and gliding instruction standards are maintained at all times.

The BGA has three levels of Instructor rating; Basic (to carry out trial lessons only), Assistant and Full. In addition, the BGA recognises the Part-FCL FI(S) certificate – see 11 below.

All instructors operating at a BGA club must be approved to do so by the club Chief Flying Instructor (CFI). For CFI endorsement details, see 9.5 below.

Important note. During the period of transition to Part-FCL, ie until 8th April 2018, instructing at BGA clubs is to be carried out in accordance with the BGA BI, Assistant and Full instructor rating requirements described in this document.

2. Becoming an Instructor

An experienced glider pilot who would like to become an instructor should ensure they meet the minimum requirements described below and discuss their suitability with their CFI.

The minimum age to hold a BGA instructor rating is 16.

If the pilot then chooses to become a Basic Instructor, a locally delivered course can be arranged by the CFI via their Regional team.

If the pilot chooses to become an Assistant Instructor, the pilot can apply for a place on one of a number of BGA approved instructor courses held across the UK throughout the year.

Current experience as an Air Cadet A or B category instructor, or current experience as a gliding instructor formally qualified outside the UK, can be recognised towards an individual obtaining a BGA instructor rating. Air Cadets 'A' Category Instructors on conventional gliders who hold the qualifying experience required by the BGA may convert to a BGA Assistant Instructor Rating either by attending a BGA Assistant Instructors' course, or by local training with a Regional Examiner (RE) or a Senior Regional Examiner (SRE), as necessary to reach the required standard. Other categories of Air Cadet instructor must complete the approved BGA course.

3. BGA Basic Instructor Course.

Course content and other details are available on the BGA website.
Courses may be run by BGA authorised BI coaches at clubs.

4. BGA Instructor Course

The BGA approved assistant instructor course content, a list of available courses and other details are available on the BGA website.

Courses are run by a team of Instructor Coaches who are specifically approved to do so by the BGA. Elements of the instructor course may, where stated, be delivered at the candidates club by a BGA Instructor Coach.

5. BGA Full Rating

BGA Full Rating privileges are described in 8 below.

BGA Full Rating assessments can be arranged by CFI's via their Regional team.

BGA Full Rating assessment details are available on the BGA website.

All experienced BGA Assistant Rated instructors including those that hold a Part-FCL FI(S) certificate are encouraged to obtain a BGA Full Rating.

6. Instructor Rating - Responsibility

It is the individual instructor's responsibility to ensure that his or her instructor rating or certificate is valid before carrying out instruction.

7. Rating Validity

BGA Basic, Assistant and Full instructor ratings automatically lapse 12 months after the rating issue date (initial or renewal).

Basic, Assistant and Full instructor ratings may be revalidated by a club CFI up to 90 days before the lapsing date with no loss of validity period.

A lapsed rating may only be renewed by a BGA Examiner.

A record of rating validity card is supplied by the BGA on initial issue of a rating.
Replacements or email confirmation can be obtained from the BGA on request.

Refresher training and any assessments or checks should be recorded and dated in the instructor's logbook.

The BGA revalidation flying experience requirement applies to the 12 months prior to the date on which revalidation occurs.

8. Instructor Rating Requirements, Privileges, Revalidation and Renewal

BGA Basic Instructor Rating

Minimum requirements

- Bronze and Cross Country Endorsements
- Minimum of 50 hours P1 gliding
- Recommendation by CFI
- Completion of BGA approved Basic Instructor course
- Acceptance assessment by CFI

Privileges;

May give basic instruction at CFI's discretion where the instructor has a valid certificate of medical fitness.

Revalidation or renewal

Where a BGA instructor rating is due for revalidation or has lapsed, the club CFI is authorised to revalidate the rating or renew the rating using the CFIs eServices tool, providing that the instructor has completed in the 12 months prior to the date of revalidation or renewal 6 hours or 15 launches as pilot in command of a sailplane (any shortfall of which should be flown solo in a sailplane).

The revalidated or renewed instructor rating may only be used where the instructor has in the past 90 days carried out 3 take-offs and landings flown solo in a sailplane.

BGA Assistant Instructor Rating

Minimum requirements:

- Silver badge
- Minimum of 75 hours P1 on gliders, including 100 launches
- Recommendation by CFI
- Completion of BGA Approved Instructor Course
- Assessment by a BGA RE or FIE
- Within 24 months of acceptance by CFI, completion of a BGA instructor course Post Course Review

Privileges:

Instruction of students as specifically authorised by the CFI where the instructor has a valid certificate of medical fitness.

Revalidation or renewal

Where a BGA instructor rating is due for revalidation or has lapsed, the club CFI is authorised to revalidate the rating or renew the rating using the CFIs eServices tool, providing that the instructor has completed in the 12 months prior to the date of revalidation or renewal 6 hours or 15 launches as pilot in command of a sailplane (any shortfall of which should be flown solo in a sailplane).

The revalidated or renewed instructor rating may only be used where the instructor has in the past 90 days carried out 3 take-offs and landings flown solo in a sailplane.

- BGA Full Instructor Rating

Minimum requirements:

- Silver badge
- At least 150 hours P1 on gliders
- Full rating assessment by a BGA RE or FIE

Privileges:

Instruction of students at all stages subject to the discretion of the CFI where the instructor has a valid certificate of medical fitness (BGA Medical Requirements), and Assessing pilots for the issue of the BGA Bronze and Cross Country Endorsements.

Revalidation or renewal

Where a BGA instructor rating is due for revalidation or has lapsed, the club CFI is authorised to revalidate the rating or renew the rating using the CFIs eServices tool, providing that the instructor has completed in the 12 months prior to the date of revalidation or renewal 6 hours or 15 launches as pilot in command of a sailplane (any shortfall of which should be flown solo in a sailplane).

The revalidated or renewed instructor rating may only be used where the instructor has in the past 90 days carried out 3 take-offs and landings flown solo in a sailplane.

9. Additional Instructing Privileges

The BGA instructor rating can include additional privileges, subject to the following requirements.

Before giving gliding instruction in a self-launching motor glider, an instructor must hold a Motor Glider Instructor Rating. There are currently two entirely separate Motor Glider Instructor Ratings, the BGA MGIR and the CAA FI (SLMG). These two ratings are both gained and renewed separately.

The BGA Motor Glider Instructor Rating Endorsement (BGA MGIR)

Requirements:

Either BGA Full Instructor Rating (gliders) or, for BGA MGIR Stage 1 only, a BGA Assistant Instructor Rating (gliders), and
Appropriate licence for the class of aircraft flown

Privileges:

Where a valid gliding instructor rating is held, instructing gliding exercises in a motor glider, appropriate to the group and stage held and where the instructor has a valid certificate of medical fitness.

The endorsement is issued separately on three groups of motor gliders:

1. Group 1 Wooden Motor Gliders
2. Group 2 GRP Motor Gliders
3. Group 3 Retractable Engine Motor Gliders

In addition to the above groups, each group has three separate stages:-

1. Stage 1 Glider handling, upper air exercises, circuits, approaches and landings
2. Stage 2 Stage 1 exercises plus map appreciation and glider navigation
3. Stage 3 Stage 1 and 2 exercises plus simulated aerotow rope breaks, field selection and landing simulation and final glide simulation.

The BGA MGIR is issued by assessment with a BGA Regional Examiner or BGA FIE who holds a BGA MGIR.

Renewal:

Providing the MGIR requirements (above) remain in place, a BGA MGIR does not expire.

Where either of the requirements has lapsed for more than 5 years and either has subsequently been renewed, the BGA MGIR should be renewed by assessment with a BGA Regional Examiner or BGA FIE who holds a BGA MGIR.

Note: The BGA MGIR is entirely separate to the CAA FI (SLMG).

The CAA FI (SLMG)

Requirements:

- Current BGA Full Instructor Rating
- Appropriate licence for the class of aircraft flown
- Completion of bespoke training and assessment conducted by BGA Examiner with a CAA FIE rating

Note: Candidates who do not hold the BGA Full Gliding Instructor Rating must attend a CAA approved Flying Instructor course run by a CAA approved flying training organisation.

Privileges:

Instruction in SLMG aircraft under the auspices of the BGA. Note – only those instructors who additionally hold a valid BGA Full Instructor rating or BGA Flight Examiner authorisation may carry out any qualifying checks or assessments for gliding qualifications and/or ratings, for example Bronze field landings.

Renewal:

The CAA FI (SLMG) is revalidated biennially by assessment with either a CAA FIE(SLMG) or a BGA Panel Examiner or EASA Part-FCL equivalent.

A BGA Panel Examiner is defined by the BGA as a BGA SRE or RE who also holds a CAA Examiner Authorisation and the FI (SLMG) rating. Use CAA Instructor Form 3 (SRG1135). Reference CAP 804 Section 5 Part H.

Note: For both the BGA MGIR and the CAA FI (SLMG) to remain valid, the instructor must maintain a current medical certificate as required by the relevant regulations.

BGA Aerobatics Instructor Endorsement

Requirements:

Candidates must hold a BGA Full or Assistant Instructor Rating and must attend and pass an aerobatics course supervised by a BGA Aerobatics Instructor Coach.

Privileges:

Where a valid gliding instructor rating is held, may teach aerobatics and, where specified and authorised by a BGA Aerobatics Examiner, advanced/inverted aerobatic manoeuvres

BGA Basic Instructor Coach Endorsement

Experienced full rated instructors who are interested in training Basic Instructors should discuss the topic with their CFI. The SRE should be contacted to arrange standardisation.

The BGA BIC endorsement will be issued by the BGA on receipt of the completed application form.

Minimum requirements:

- Hold a valid BGA Full Instructor Rating
- Standardisation as a Basic Instructor Coach under the authority of the SRE

Privileges:

To train BGA Basic Instructors, recommend issue, and conduct assessments/check flights for Revalidation or Renewal of a BGA BI rating

BGA Flight Instructor Coach Endorsement

Experienced full rated instructors who are interested in training Assistant Instructors should discuss the topic with their CFI. The BGA FIC endorsement will be issued by the BGA on receipt of the completed application form.

Minimum requirements:

- Hold a valid BGA Full Instructor Rating
- Attend a BGA FIC seminar
- Standardisation as a BGA Flight Instructor Coach by the club CFI under the authority of the SRE

Privileges:

To train BGA Assistant Instructors as specifically set out in the BGA instructor course programme.

10. Chief Flying Instructor or Senior Pilot

BGA CFI Endorsement

This is a mandatory endorsement for the instructor at a club who is responsible for flying standards where any flight training takes place.

Requirements:

- A BGA Full Instructor Rating, and
- At least 150 hours P1 on at least six different types of glider or motor glider, and
- Have two years of instructing experience

The endorsement will be issued, without charge, on receipt by the BGA of evidence of qualification as CFI elect from the Club Chairman, subject to the approval of a Senior Regional Examiner as authorized by the Chairman of the Instructors Committee.

Senior Club Pilot Endorsement

At clubs where the club has formally notified the BGA that no flight training takes place and where no flying takes place by pilots with a lower qualification than a Bronze badge with Cross Country endorsement, it is not necessary to have a CFI but a Senior Pilot should be appointed

Requirements

- At least 150 total hours PIC on at least six types of glider or motor glider, and
- Silver Badge

The endorsement will be issued on receipt by the BGA of evidence of qualification as Senior Pilot elect from the Club Chairman, subject to the approval of the Chairman of the Instructors Committee.

11. Part-SFCL Flight Instructor (Sailplanes) – FI(S)

To instruct at a BGA club, all BGA instructors including those who hold a Part-SFCL FI(S) certificate must be revalidated by their CFI as a BGA instructor as described at 8 above.

Part-SFCL FI(S) revalidation and renewal requirements are described in Part-SFCL and are entirely separate from the requirements laid out in this document.

Important note. During the period of transition to Part-SFCL, instructing at BGA clubs is to be carried out in accordance with the BGA BI, Assistant and Full instructor rating requirements described in this document.

For example, regardless of Part-SFCL qualifications held, the appropriate level of BGA MGIR must be held to carry out field landing training and assessment as described in 9 above.

12. Insurance and BGA Records

The BGA maintains an insurance policy that insures the BGA and its instructors and introductory flight pilots (IFP) against liabilities resulting from their activities that result in third party damage and injury.

The details and confirmation of BGA IFP, or BGA Basic or Assistant or Full Rating, or valid FI(S) certificate, must be submitted annually to the BGA office by the club CFI. The password protected CFI online tool should be used by CFI's. In the event of the online tool being unavailable, alternative notification should be made as agreed with the BGA office.

13. Communication

Providing the BGA office is annually supplied with instructor details, and has the instructors email address, the BGA office will send instructor revalidation/reminder notices to any instructor and their CFI. In addition, the BGA office will periodically provide relevant information to instructors and their CFI.

14. Suspension of Instructor Rating following an accident

It is important that any instructor who has an accident is provided with appropriate support and that any related issues are addressed. An instructor who has an accident whilst flying gliders or motor gliders or whilst instructing in gliders or motor gliders is immediately suspended from instructing at BGA clubs. The suspension is lifted on the authority of the Chairman of the Instructors Committee and only if requested by the CFI of a BGA club.

End.