

Passenger Briefing

What to wear and bring:

- Put on whatever you would wear if you go for a walk
 - Comfortable clothes (on a hot summer day shorts and t-shirt are usually sufficient because the canopy works like a green-house; if it's not very hot wear long pants and bring a jacket: depending on the weather conditions we might be able to fly as high as 17,000 feet or more where the outside temperature is likely to be well below freezing in any season)
 - Sneakers or good walking shoes (no heels!)
 - Sun protection (hat; sunscreen; sun glasses) – the canopy is made of plexiglass and does not block UV rays
- Other things you may want to bring on your flight – depending on how long we might be gone (could be 20 minutes or several hours)
 - A water bottle or small water bladder
 - A snack
 - A camera

Pre-flight Briefing:

- What to expect
- What the instruments are, how the controls work, what you can touch and what you should not touch during the flight
- Handling of the glider on the ground – where you can push; how to open/close the canopy; what we will do before and after the flight; how to help with the positive control check
- How to put on and operate a parachute (it's not a legal requirement but most glider pilots and their passengers wear parachutes to be prepared for an emergency)
- How to use the oxygen system (the cabin is not pressurized)
- How to fasten and unfasten the seat belt / shoulder harness
- What to do in case of a serious in-flight emergency (see below)
- Communication during the flight
- What to do if you feel sick

Emergency Bail Out Procedure:

1. Jettison canopy

DG 505: Open the white-red canopy opening handle (on your left) with your right hand. Open the canopy as far as possible. If the canopy is not blown away by the oncoming air, release the open canopy by operating the red emergency release handle (on your right) with your left hand.

ASK 21: Front seat: Move lever with red knob above instrument panel to the left and push canopy upwards. Back seat: Pull back both canopy side locks and push canopy open.

2. Open the seat buckle (turn clockwise).
3. Grab the side walls of the cockpit and push yourself out.
4. Look and find the release handle on the parachute. Grab it with both hands and pull it forcefully all the way to the right. The parachute will open in about two seconds.
5. Steer the open parachute with the steering handles to avoid obstacles (especially power lines!)
6. Landing: Keep feet together and knees lightly bent. Try to face into the wind if possible. Get out of harness quickly to avoid being dragged by wind on the ground. Lay chute visibly on the ground so search and rescue can find you quickly.

Remember: Canopy, Belts, Butt (in that order). Also: never give up – if something did not work on the first attempt, it may work on the 2nd or 3rd...