Advisory Flyer

Unpowered and low-powered aircraft in shared airspace

Sports Aviation Federation of Australia

Purpose

Reference guide for Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) operating in shared Australian airspace.

Aircraft Types*

Hang Gliders (HG)
Paragliders (PG)
Powered Paragliders (PPG)
Weight-shift Microlights (WM)

*see **https://safa.asn.au/why-fly/types-of-gliders/**

Stakeholders

Australian Association for Uncrewed Systems
Model Aeronautical Association of Australia
Sports Aviation Federation of Australia (SAFA)
Recreational Aviation Australia (RAAus)
General Aviation
CASA
Air Services Australia
Gliding Australia
Australian Sport Rotorcraft Association (ASRA)
Emergency Services
Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA)



Operational Profile

Operate OCTA in VFR/VMC under 'see and avoid' rules during daylight hours; generally surface to 10,000 ft AMSL. Hang gliders and paragliders may operate above 12,500 ft AMSL where applicable with oxygen equipment and appropriate endorsements. Coastal operations generally ≤300-500' AMSL.

Slow-moving aircraft (HG/PG/PPG between 18~40Kts airspeed, WM <70kts), operating generally in windspeeds 0-25kts. Coastal operations ca. 12-25kts.

Where Operations Occur

Coastal dunes, beaches, headlands, inland hills, mountain flying sites, farmland and aerodromes. Some sites are located in proximity to built-up or populous areas, including major cities. Non-exhaustive reference in member resource **Australian Site Guide.** Indicated on VNC and VTC charts as



Ultralight Hang Glider

Note: PG and HG are generally all referred to as HG by the AIP and CASA.

Electronic Conspicuity

Many aircraft do not carry ADS-B. Pilots may use FLARM, PureTrack, Skylines, XCTrack, OzRunways, Garmin InReach or Spot tracking devices.[1]

[1] Coastal Pilots often carry the bare minimum – Altimeter and radio, or nothing <300'AMSL

What Can RPAS Operators Do?

SAFA's local clubs and regional associations are keen to assist you in understanding our flight operations and areas, including higher-potential risk areas to ensure deconfliction. Early engagement provides the best understanding of local flying frequencies, launch locations and seasonal activity. Popular flying sites may use duty pilots and have SOPs for contact during operations – these are controlled by local clubs.

Useful Links

SAFA
Australian Site Guide
Regional Associations
Clubs Directory

Sports Aviation Federation of Australia Working Together for a Safer Shared Airspace

For further information contact **office@safa.asn.au** or call 03 9336 7155