



SAFETY AND TRAINING COMMITTEE AGENDA

1. Discuss removing rating endorsements by examiners. A rating can only be exercised on a current rating, this is follow-up on agenda item from the winter of 2022:

Motion 42 winter 2022: FB: Passed by Unanimous Consent Move to change the time frame for the examiners rating endorsement in the “Commencement of Privileges” from 30 days to 15 throughout the IRM for all ratings.

Motion: Move to remove examiner rating endorsements in the “Commencement of Privileges” section of the IRM and require all rating holders to have a current rating before exercising any rating privileges.

2. Discuss changing the gear check BSR (2-1.G.1.d.) language. Examiners seem to think that the wording suggests they could be held accountable for any student, not just the student they are jumping with:

An example from the APF rule on student equipment gear checks is simple and covers solo students:

APF rule: Pre-boarding equipment check: An instructor must check each student parachutist's equipment to verify that it is in proper jumping configuration immediately prior to boarding the aircraft.

Michael Watkins also has recommendations from the standardization meetings at PIA

Motion: Move to change SIM section 2-1.G.1. d. to read “Each Instructor or Coach must ensure that all gear used on a student jump has received a complete gear check and is ready to jump before boarding the aircraft.”

3. Discuss adding a new section to the SIM, 6-14 Extreme Relative Work (XRW)

4. Discuss ERC appointment of Neil Wilcox. (Rob Laidlaw’s candidate)

Motion: Move to appoint Neil Wilcox #258608 as an Examiner Rating Course Director.

5. Discuss adding that a student must perform a satisfactory PLF on any student landing as a requirement for an A license. This should be added similarly to the stand-up landing requirement on the A-license progression card.

Motion: Move to add a satisfactory PLF landing requirement to the A license requirements.

6. Discuss changing the camera recommendations from C license to completed 200 jumps. Most everyone enforces the 200-jump requirement rather than a C license and there is no training for the C license that makes that recommendation appropriate. This was brought up as we were developing the camera-training modules.



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Motion: Move to change SIM section 6-8.E.1.c to read “It is recommended the jumper completes 200 jumps before jumping with a camera.”

7. Discuss if tracking suits should be included in the 200-jump recommendations for wingsuits.
Ron Bell: I received an incident report of a jumper with 150 jumps using a tracking suit because he was not allowed to jump in a wingsuit yet. He forgot to attach his leg straps, and gear checks missed it because they were covered. Both the S&TA and DZO suggested that tracking suits should be held to the same standard as wingsuits.
(Brandon Ratcliff may have more on this incident)
8. Discuss changing the renewal requirements for SL and IAD from 10 method-specific and 5 solo student jumps to 5 method-specific and 10 solo student jumps.
From the Standardization Meetings, some instructors are having a hard time keeping their SL or IAD ratings current.
9. Committee to receive an update on the rewrite project of the SIM and IRM.
10. Brief the committee on governance regarding manuals updates.
GM 4-1.3.F.3.
 - 3.d. The Skydiver’s Information Manual is updated annually during the summer board meeting.
 - 4.d. The Instructional Rating Manual is updated annually during the summer board meeting. Starting in 2025, we will be publishing the manuals every year instead of the two-year cycle that is now obsolete. This means, moving forward, the current printed version will always be the most current version; there will be no need to check for change orders because they will be printed yearly. The new versions will be available sometime in December each year for the upcoming year.
11. Discuss the conversion of non-U.S. tandem instructor ratings to a USPA tandem rating.
According to the IRM they do not need a manufacturer's rating?
And
What is the guidance of testing out of the coach rating?

IRM T-1.F.4. For all other persons with no manufacturer rating recognized by USPA but who hold a tandem rating issued by a non-U.S. skydiving federation or aero club:
 - a. Must have logged at least 15 tandem jumps in the previous 12 months.
 - b. Must meet the manufacturer’s currency requirements for the previous 90-day period.
 - c. Earn the USPA Coach rating by attending the complete Coach Course or testing out of the Coach rating.
 - d. Completed items 1, 2, 3, 11, and the starred sections on the USPA Tandem Instructor Rating Course Proficiency Card.



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e. Provide a copy of the foreign aero club tandem rating, USPA Tandem Instructor Rating Course Proficiency Card, medical certificate and the rating fee to USPA Headquarters for processing.

12. Discuss changing the Designated Evaluator requirements for a DE that is also an Examiner in another method.

IRM 1-4.C.3. Designated Evaluator

a. A Designated Evaluator (method-specific) may conduct a qualifying evaluation jump with a rating holder who cannot meet the annual rating renewal requirements or whose rating has expired for less than one year.

b. With the permission of the course examiner, a Designated Evaluator may assist a candidate in finishing the course evaluations without direct supervision of an examiner for:

(1) Ground evaluations once the candidate has completed at least 50% of ground evaluations for that course.

(2) air evaluations once the candidate has completed at least 50% of the air evaluations for that course.

(ADD)

(3) If the Designated Evaluator is an Examiner (must have taught five rating courses in the method they are an examiner) in another discipline they may complete all evaluations.

Motion: Move to add IRM 1-4.C.3.b.(3) If the Designated Evaluator is an Examiner (must have taught five rating courses in the method they are an examiner) in another discipline, they may complete all evaluations.

13. Discuss adding a BSR proposed by Randy Connell (USPA 111204, D-19133, S&TA)

Motion: Move to add SIM section 2-1.G.1.e. All student skydives must be made from an exit altitude of 18,000 feet MSL or below.

Rationale/Commentary: There is no sound reason for any student skydive to occur above 18000MSL. The additional freefall time does not significantly increase the quality or quantity of instruction, while simultaneously radically increasing the complexity of the skydive and therefore, the risk to the student. Simply put, high altitude skydives should be restricted to licensed skydivers who have taken on the additional training (per the SIM and PIA TB 263) to successfully and safely complete the skydive.

The author is open to discussion on the exact altitude (15k vs. 18k, AGL vs. MSL, etc.), but it should be noted that 18k MSL was chosen so as not to restrict DZ's with high field elevations.

14. Review and approve the appointment of Neil Wilcox as an Examiner Rating Course Director and forward it to the full board for approval.



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15. Discuss a recommendation submitted by Brandon Ratcliff.
I would like to add to all the A-License Proficiency Cards and make it a mandatory sign off that the instructor reviewed the SIM with the student before the proficiency card is submitted.
16. Discuss adding to the landing area requirements. Some form of crowd control. Due to the following correspondence indicating not adding some form of crowd control may cause a significant increase in your insurance rates.
“From: Karen Moore - Kimmel Insurance
Hi Stephanie-
Attached is a claim we just received from May 20, 2023.
Curiosity question: Is there any kind of distance requirement for photographers and other spectators at the drop zones to prevent these kinds of incidents? It seems we have had a fair share of claims relating to either bodily injury or property damage of photographers within the past year and this video shows there are several spectators and photographers right along the water and grass edge where the jumpers are coming in to land.. perhaps restrictions similar to those for demo jumps is something to be considered if there isn’t one already in place.”
Note- the woman suffered a concussion, brain bleed and fracture of the T1 vertebrae.
17. Discuss amending the IRM to include changes due to digital verifications made in the OCM.
Motion: Move to change IRM E-1.H.1.d. to read “Jump Evaluations required for the rating must be recorded in the OCM or recorded on the Evaluation Jump Verification Form listing the evaluation jump dates, location and supervising examiner”

Motion: Move to change IRM E-1.H.1.e. to read “Ground Evaluations required for the rating must be recorded in the OCM or recorded on the Ground Evaluation Form listing the ground evaluation dates, location and supervising examiner”
18. Discussion of BSR for individual jumpers to follow the landing pattern proscribed by DZ management.
19. Discuss moving the live water training from the B- to the A-license requirements.
20. Discuss using the Certificate of Physical and Metal fitness for Skydiving as a medical option for the medical requirement for the tandem rating.
21. Discuss changing the landing area requirements away from a circular area to square footage to reduce the need for BSR waivers for landing areas as requested by the FAA.
See Michal Knight for more information.



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Waivers

22. Discuss a waiver to issue a restricted B license to Tatiana Finlayson #150190, who suffers from Cerebral Palsy limiting her physical capabilities. Tania has tandem jump #50 scheduled for Friday, July 7th, 2023.

Motion: Move to waive SIM 3-1.E.B License, parts c, d and e to allow Tatiana Finlayson #150190 to obtain a restricted B license for tandem jumping only.

23. Discuss a medical waiver for Kazuyuki Oyama #114559.

24. Discuss a medical Waiver for Josh Mavica #347610.

25. Discuss a waiver for Alyssa Manthey USPA #382719 to become a USPA licensed skydiver at age 16.

Motion: Move to waive SIM Section 2-1.D.1 to allow Alyssa Manthey (age 16), USPA #382719, to skydive and obtain her USPA licenses

26. Discuss a waiver for Sammy Vassilev to waive SIM section 2-1.G.9