



To: Assistant County/Area Commissioners (Activities)
County/Area Air Activities Advisers
Regional Activities Advisers (Scotland)
Chief Flying Instructors (Scout Parascending Clubs)

Copy: UK Technical Adviser (Parascending)
UK Technical Adviser (Flying)

Direct line: +44 (0)20 8433 7138
Direct fax: +44 (0)20 8433 7114
email: jess.kelly@scout.org.uk

21 May 2008

Dear Colleague

Re: Parascending Activity Rule Changes

We are writing to advise you of changes to the rules within Policy Organisation and Rules (October 2007 edition) relating to parascending activities. A summary of these changes is provided below and the full detail is on the following page of this letter. These changes are with immediate effect.

Summary: Rule 9.20e has been changed;
Rule 9.20d has been removed; and
Rules 9.20a, 9.20b, 9.20c, 9.20f and 9.20g remain unchanged.

The change to rule 9.20e is following a number of parascending incidents, the latest of which involved Members of The Scout Association, and the British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association reviewing their rules which govern the use of round canopies for parascending.

The outcome of the British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association review concluded that support for 'two up' use of round canopies (this is when two people take part in one flight on a shared round canopy) be withdrawn. In turn this led to the Activities team reviewing the rule.

As a controlled descent flight does not involve free flight and the driver remains in control throughout the flight, rule 9.20d, which created an age restriction of 14 years, has been removed. All free flights would be undertaken in accordance with the British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association/Civil Aviation Authority regulations and restrictions.

It should be stressed that although rule 9.20d has been removed, the maturity and suitability of a young person to take part in a parascending activity should be considered in addition to the practical issues such as equipment suitability.

I would be grateful if you will disseminate this information as widely as relevant, but particularly to Advisers involved with air activities.

Should you have questions relating to this, please do not hesitate to contact us using the details above.

Yours sincerely,

Linda Thelwell
UK Adviser (Activities)

Jess Kelly
Programme and Development Adviser

The Scout Association

Gilwell Park Chingford London E4 7QW

Tel +44 (0)20 8433 7100 Fax +44 (0)20 8433 7103 email scout.association@scout.org.uk www.scouts.org.uk

Patron HM The Queen President HRH The Duke of Kent Founder Robert Baden-Powell OM Chief Scout Peter Duncan

Incorporated by Royal Charter Charity No. 306101



kidsoutdoors
kidsoutdoors.com

Current Rule	New Rule
<p>Rule 9.20: Hang Gliding and Paragliding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Hang gliding, paragliding and parascending training may only be undertaken under the supervision of a person holding a British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association Senior Instructor Licence operating within a BHPA registered school. b. Hang gliders, paragliders and parascending equipment purchased or used by Members must comply with the British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association airworthiness requirements as set down in their Technical Manual. c. Hang gliding, paragliding and parascending must be undertaken only at British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association approved sites. d. Members aged 14 years and over may undertake instruction and solo flights in paragliding and parascending. Members aged 14 years and over may undertake instruction in hang gliding, but must be aged 16 or over in order to undertake solo flights. e. Scouts and Explorer Scouts may undertake dual/tandem flights on hang gliders, paragliders or ascending canopies with a pilot holding the appropriate British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association dual licence. f. When overseas, professional instructors/pilots must hold the relevant national qualification. g. The flying of powered hang gliders and powered paragliders must fully comply with the appropriate rules above. 	<p>Rule 9.20: Hang Gliding and Paragliding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Hang gliding, paragliding and parascending training may only be undertaken under the supervision of a person holding a British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association Senior Instructor Licence operating within a BHPA registered school. b. Hang gliders, paragliders and parascending equipment purchased or used by Members must comply with the British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association airworthiness requirements as set down in their Technical Manual. c. Hang gliding, paragliding and parascending must be undertaken only at British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association approved sites. d. <u>Rule intentionally left blank.</u> e. <u>Members may undertake dual/tandem flights on hang gliders, paragliders or wing ascending canopies [this specifically excludes round canopies]</u> with a pilot holding the appropriate British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association dual licence. f. When overseas, professional instructors/pilots must hold the relevant national qualification. g. The flying of powered hang gliders and powered paragliders must fully comply with the appropriate rules above.