

## **Purpose of this Operating Procedure**

1. The purpose of this Operating Procedure is to:
  - a. state the aims of the HPAC/ACVL Tandem Endorsement program; and
  - b. describe the HPAC/ACVL Tandem Endorsement program; and
  - c. specify the requirements to acquire and maintain a Tandem Endorsement.

## **Aims of the Tandem Endorsement Program**

2. Hang gliding and paragliding tandem flights can only be conducted for the purpose of instruction in Canada as specified in Canadian Air Regulation 602.29. The aim of the HPAC/ACVL Tandem Endorsement program is to ensure that instructors conducting instructional tandem flights have some prior experience as pilots in command of tandem flights.  
*Other than as specifically permitted by this SOP, only current HPAC Certified Instructors with a T1 or T2 endorsement are authorized to conduct instructional tandem flights, regardless of whether the Instructor receives financial or other compensation for the flight.*

## **Disclaimer**

3. To promote effective and safe instruction in Canada, the HPAC/ACVL manages a tandem endorsement program which ensures that its certified Instructors have met the qualification requirements set forth below.  
*The HPAC/ACVL has no formal association with schools and instructors, other than to certify that tandem instructors have met qualifications stated herein. The HPAC/ACVL does not specify, regulate or inspect the content and the delivery of tandem endorsement courses. The HPAC/ACVL makes no warranty or representations as to the competence, expertise or aptitude of any HPAC/ACVL-certified tandem instructor, although such qualities are assessed when a tandem endorsement is first applied for or renewed.*
4. The Board of Directors reserves the right to remove the tandem endorsement and instructor certification if a tandem pilot is deemed to place students, the general public, or the sport itself at risk.

## **Types of Tandem Endorsements**

5. There are two tandem endorsements: Tandem 1 (T1) and Tandem 2. (T2).
  - a. A certified instructor can hold one of the two tandem endorsements for hang gliding and one of the two tandem endorsements for paragliding.
  - b. The hang gliding T1 endorsement must also include a foot launch/landing (F) and/or equipment launch/landing (E) stipulation. "Equipment Launch/Landing" refers to the use of landing gear comprising wheels, floats, skis or similar means of launch/landing other than on foot. An instructor holding a hang gliding T1 endorsement is only qualified to conduct tandem flights for which they have the appropriate launch/landing stipulation. An instructor trained in both equipment and foot

launch/landing can hold the T1EF endorsement and be qualified to fly tandems using either means of launch/landing.

- c. The hang gliding T2 endorsement includes both E and F stipulations.

### **Requirement to Obtain a Tandem 1 Endorsement**

6. In order to qualify for a HPAC/ACVL Tandem 1 endorsement, candidates must meet the following requirements in the same activity for which the T1 endorsement is desired:
  - a. hold a current HPAC/ACVL instructor or senior instructor certification;
  - b. hold an HPAC/ACVL Advanced rating (H4/P4) for one year before applying for T1 in the desired activity;
  - c. have a minimum airtime of 200 hours for paragliding or 100 hours for hang gliding and 50 solo flights in the past 12 months in the desired activity (for currency);
  - d. having met the conditions above, successfully complete a Tandem 1 seminar;
  - e. subsequent to completing (d), conduct 5 tandem flights with a rated pilot, supervised by a Tandem 2 instructor;
  - f. receive the recommendation of a Tandem 2 instructor;
  - g. with Tandem 2 Instructor recommendation, conduct an additional 20 tandem flights with a rated pilot, and submit a completed Tandem Training Log to the Tandem 2 Instructor for review and submission to the HPAC office;
  - h. commit to observing the Instructor Code of Conduct;
  - i. commit to observing the Tandem Pre-Flight Safety Protocol.
7. In order to retain a Tandem 1 endorsement, instructors must:
  - a. maintain their Instructor certification;
  - b. log at least 50 flights in the desired activity per year;
  - c. log at least 10 tandem flights per year;
  - d. use a certified tandem glider and reserve parachute with appropriate weight range (plus safety wheels for hang gliders);
  - e. use tandem flight only for instructional purposes;
  - f. observe the Instructor Code of Conduct; and
  - g. observe the Tandem Pre-Flight Safety Protocol

8. Currency Lapse
  - a. if currency lapses for more than three years, the pilot must take T1 course again, and conduct five documented tandem flights under the supervision of a Tandem 2 instructor;
  - b. if currency lapses for less than three years, the pilot must conduct five documented tandem flights under the supervision of a Tandem 2 instructor.

### **Requirement to Obtain a Tandem 2 Endorsement**

9. In order to qualify for a HPAC/ACVL Tandem 2 endorsement for hang gliding or paragliding, instructors must meet the following requirements in the same activity for which the T2 endorsement is desired:
  - a. hold a current HPAC/ACVL Instructor or Senior Instructor certification;
  - b. have held a T1 (hang gliding T1EF) endorsement for at least three years;
  - c. have logged at least 150 tandem flights as pilot-in-command (submit a list of names & dates);
  - d. assist a Tandem 2 instructor in conducting a Tandem 1 seminar;
  - e. have the recommendation of a Tandem 2 instructor;
  - f. write a letter of application to the HPAC/ACVL Board of Directors;
  - g. be approved by the HPAC/ACVL Board of Directors;
  - h. commit to observing the Instructor Code of Conduct;
  - i. commit to observing the Tandem Pre-Flight Safety Protocol.
10. In order to retain a Tandem 2 endorsement, instructors must:
  - a. maintain their Instructor certification;
  - b. log at least 50 flights including 10 tandems annually;
  - c. use a Certified tandem glider and reserve parachute with appropriate weight range (plus safety wheels for hang gliders);
  - d. use tandem flight only for instructional purposes;
  - e. conduct at least one Tandem 1 Seminar every three years with a minimum certification of one Tandem 1 Instructor for the course to count;
  - f. observe the Instructor Code of Conduct;
  - g. observe the Tandem Pre-Flight Safety Protocol.

**Application for Tandem Endorsement**

11. The Tandem 2 Instructor recommending Tandem 1 and Tandem 2 endorsements is responsible for forwarding the recommendation and supporting documentation to the HPAC Office.
12. The BoD will appoint new Tandem 2 endorsements.

**Loss of Tandem Endorsement**

13. An instructor will automatically lose the endorsement when he/she stops meeting the requirements for that endorsement.

**Responsibilities**

14. The BoD is responsible to endorse Tandem 2 pilots.
15. The Executive Director is responsible to endorse Tandem 1 pilots upon the recommendation of a Tandem 2 pilot.
16. Tandem 2 Instructor is responsible to recommend the appointment of Tandem 1 and Tandem 2 pilots.