
GUIDELINES FOR OBTAINING AN APPROVED PACKING CERTIFICATE

Aim

The aim of this system is to allow skydivers to pack main parachutes, abiding by British Skydiving requirements and the training given prior to certification.

Duration

The time taken to qualify for an Approved Packing Certificate is very flexible and will be by arrangement between candidates and coaches, followed by an examination and subsequent qualification for each system that a test has been taken on.

Trainers & Certification Instructors

- Training may be carried out by anyone with the appropriate packing certificate or packing/rigging qualification, authorised by the Chief Instructor (CI).
- Certification for main parachutes and assemblies may only be carried out by **at least** a CSI or AFFI (who also holds the same packing qualification on their own Packing Certificate), or a Parachute Rigger.

Qualifications to obtain an Approved Packing Certificate

- Must be a full British Skydiving Member

Training Syllabus

- Assembly of component parts
 - i) Including correct assembly of the 3-ring release system
 - ii) Including removal and replacement of Links and Slinks onto Main Risers, removing and replacing Steering Toggles
 - iii) Including routing of RSLs, Steven's or Collin's Lanyard
 - iv) Including removal and replacement of Main D Bag, Bridle and Pilot Chute
 - v) For training of Centre Packers:
 - Including conversion from Static Line to Rip Cord to throwaway configurations
- Clear system of lines twists and tangles
- Line sequence checks
 - i) Including Checking the condition of lines
- Packing Demo and Practice

- Inspection Techniques
 - i) Including Checking the condition of the Canopy, D-bag, Bridle and Pilot Chute
 - ii) Including checking the Container and Webbing and replacing Elastic Keepers
 - iii) Including Checking condition of Main and Reserve Closing loops
 - iv) Including replacement of Main Closing Loop
- British Skydiving Operations Manual requirements (Sections 6 & 14 specifically)
- Equipment (container/canopy) compatibility

Training Syllabus for Tandem Systems

Requirements for adding the packing of Tandem Equipment to a Packing Certificate:
Candidates should already hold an Approved Packing Certificate

- Assembly of Component Parts
 - i) Including removal and replacement of Drogue system and Deployment Bag
 - ii) Including removal and replacement of both primary and secondary steering toggles
 - iii) Checking routing of RSL
- Clearing system of line twists and tangles
 - i) Including the importance of periodically untwisting Steering Lines and Drogue centre line
- Packing Demonstration
 - i) Main Canopy including stowing lines
 - ii) Closing Container and routing of bridle
 - iii) Packing and stowing Drogue
- Completion of Paperwork and British Skydiving Operations Manual requirements

Test

- When the candidate is confident in his/her packing ability he/she may ask for a packing test.
- Upon completion of the test, successful candidates will be awarded with an Approved Packing Certificate (Form 111) for the equipment they have been tested on. They will have this signed up on their Approved Packing Certificate.

Limitations of work

- Approved Packing Certificate holders are cleared for all assembly, inspection and packing as noted on their Approved Packing Certificate, Form 111.

General Information

- Sets of British Skydiving Safety Notices and Safety Information Bulletins are available from the British Skydiving HQ, or on the British Skydiving website (these should be kept by all CI's and Riggers). All packing and rigging related documents are listed in Form 238.
- Once the conditions have been complied with and the specific types of parachutes and assemblies have been recorded overleaf on Form 111, the form must be sent to the British Skydiving HQ for recording and endorsement. Once it has been returned, subsequent endorsements to this certificate for additional types do not require to be referred to British Skydiving.

Tandem Equipment

- “Drogue” should be recorded as “Deployment Type”

Canopy Formation (CF) Equipment

The use and packing of CF Equipment must be supervised by a suitably qualified and experienced person. This should include:

- Assembly of component Part
 - i) Retractable bridle fitting
 - ii) Suitable slider (such as spider slider)
 - iii) Cross link connectors
 - iv) Riser blocks and big grab toggles
- Clearing system of line twists and tangles
- Line sequence checks (including checking the condition of the lines)
- Packing demo and practise
 - i) Free packing the canopy into the main tray (with or without a tail pocket)
 - ii) Packing the canopy into a D-bag fitted with a number 8 grommet
 - iii) Packing and routing of retractable bridle
 - iv) packing with a kill cone