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NON-BRITISH SKYDIVING TANDEM INSTRUCTOR (TI), CONVERSION COURSE SYLLABUS

This paper is designed to guide the Non-British Skydiving qualified Tandem Instructor (TI) through the British Skydiving TI course.

Below are the British Skydiving Operations Manual and Training Syllabus requirements to becoming a British Skydiving Tandem Instructor.

TANDEM INSTRUCTOR (TI)

Non-British Skydiving rated Tandem Instructors wishing to make Tandem instructional descents at British Skydiving Affiliated PTOs must be 'Full' members of British Skydiving, have a good knowledge of the English language, successfully complete a written examination on the requirements of the British Skydiving Operations Manual, have received a Methods of Instruction, Drop Zone Management and a British Skydiving Incident Procedures lecture, given by at least a British Skydiving Advanced Instructor. Prepared and delivered (to a CI) the relevant 'ground school' for the rating being applied for. Have a written recommendation from a CI prior to attending a British Skydiving Tandem Instructor Conversion Course. Successfully carry out the relevant 'ground school' on the course and be evaluated in air as directed by the Instructor Examiners on the course (at least two descents). They must also fulfil the specific requirements to attend, below:

To become a Tandem Instructor the candidate must successfully complete a Tandem Instructor Conversion Course, organised by the HoST&C or a STO.

Requirements to attend:

- a. Hold a Tandem rating acceptable to the skydiving governing organisation of the country where the rating was obtained.
- b. Have a minimum of 800 jumps and 8 hours of free fall time.
- c. A written recommendation by the candidate's CI.
- d. Hold a current Tandem Skydiving Instructor Medical Certificate (Form 116).
- e. Have completed a minimum of 50 jumps in the previous 12 months
- f. Has read and is fully familiar with the Tandem Equipment Manual applicable to the Tandem Equipment they are to be evaluated on.
- g. Knows how to pack the main parachute of the Tandem Equipment (as per the Manufacturer's Manual) and have a British Skydiving packing certificate endorsed and documented to do so.
- h. Has completed a Non-British Skydiving rated Tandem Instructor Proficiency Card (Form 254h).

Evaluation jumps

Candidates will make a minimum of two evaluation jumps (or more as directed by the Instructor Examiners on the course).

The candidate will only be evaluated on one type of Tandem parachute system.

Qualifications to act as Student Tandem Skydivers on the Course

All evaluation jumps must be with current British Skydiving 'B' Licence Skydivers. They must be briefed on how to respond to Tandem emergencies.

All skydivers acting as Student Tandem Skydivers must wear an altimeter. Secondary handles may also be fitted.

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Course syllabus

During the Course the following aspects will be examined (where possible):

- a. Equipment.
- b. Main Canopy Packing Inspection.
- c. Packing Sequence.
- d. In Aircraft, Exits and Emergency Drills.
- e. Freefall and Drogue Fall.
- f. Main Deployment and Canopy Equipment Checks.
- g. Steering and Landing the Canopy.
- h. Student Briefing and harness fitting.
- i. Equipment Checks.
- j. In Air Emergencies.
- k. Malfunctions and Emergency Drills.

A great deal of Suspended Harness work will take place.

During the Course a minimum of two evaluation jumps (or as directed by the Instructor Examiners on the course) will be made in which all objectives must be achieved.

A written examination will take place towards the end of the Course, covering aspects covered during the Course and on the requirements of the Operations Manual.

Practical assessments of the candidate's 'Tandem' teaching ability will take place.

Discussion periods will take place and an Open Forum may be conducted.

On successful completion of the course two Instructor Examiners will sign the qualification of the candidate. The candidate will then be awarded British Skydiving Tandem Instructor status for the particular type of equipment they were evaluated on.

Conversion to different Tandem System

Following successful completion of a Non-British Skydiving Tandem Instructor Conversion Course, Tandem Instructors wishing to convert to a different type of Tandem System where the primary handles (deployment devices) are situated in a different place to the system they were originally evaluated on, will be required to complete a TI Conversion Course, authorised by the HoST&C or a STO, which will include the following evaluation jumps:

- a. At least 1 jump with a suitable container.
- b. A minimum of 2 jumps with a British Skydiving 'B' Licence skydiver acting as a Student Tandem Skydiver.

N.B. The requirements for those acting as Student Tandem Skydivers are the same as the Qualifications to act as Student Tandem Skydivers on the Course above.

Tandem Instructor Currency

Any TI, who has not made a Tandem jump in the preceding three calendar months, must make one Tandem jump with a British Skydiving 'A' Licence skydiver before taking a Student Tandem Skydiver. The British Skydiving 'A' Licence skydiver must be briefed on how to respond to Tandem emergencies.

Prior to the above jump the TI must practise emergency procedures with the skydiver attached.

All current TIs must have practised Tandem Reserve Drills in a suspended harness within the previous one calendar month. The harness handle configuration must be as per the equipment to be used. It is the responsibility of the TIs to ensure that the reserve drills are observed and signed for in their logbook by a Parachute Training Organisation (PTO) Chief Instructor (CI), or CI nominated TI.

Tandem Instructor Rating Renewal

As per existing British Skydiving Operations Manual requirements, Section 4 (Instructors), Paragraph 5.9 (Tandem Instructor Rating Renewal) and Paragraph 12 (Instructor Rating Renewals).

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