



Southern Ontario Glider Group Inc.

Club Flying Site Guidelines: Westover Slope

NOTE: This document may be superseded by later revisions. A link on the Safety page of SOGGI's website (www.soggi.ca) will take you to the current version that is in effect at our flying sites.

1. Preamble

Before you fly with the Southern Ontario Glider Group Inc. (SOGGI), please know that flying sites are difficult to obtain, and even harder to keep. The continued use of our existing flying sites depends upon maintaining good relationships with the Hamilton Conservation Authority and the surrounding residential neighbours of the Westover slope.

2. Applicability of the SOGGI Club Flying Field Guidelines

- 2.1 All SOGGI members flying remotely controlled models (RPA) must comply with all Transport Canada CAR Part IX Regulations and the Model Aeronautics Association of Canada (MAAC) Safety Code – note the MAAC Safety Code covers RPA between 0 and 25kg. Members must be familiar with and adhere to the SOGGI Guidelines as well. Remember that RPAS pilots must have a copy of Transport Canada CAR Part IX Regulations available while at the site, either electronically or in print.
- 2.2 Persons who are not members of SOGGI (e.g. spectators, dog walkers, agents of the landowner etc.) entering a SOGGI flying site may be unaware of hazards posed by model aircraft activity in progress. All model flying is to cease until the presence of non-SOGGI members satisfies all applicable Safety Code and Regulatory guidelines.

3. Proof of Liability Insurance Coverage

- 3.1 Membership in MAAC provides liability insurance coverage to MAAC Members and is often extended to the landowner(s) whose property we use. When flying or learning to fly at SOGGI flying sites, SOGGI Members must carry valid SOGGI and MAAC membership cards. Guests of any nationality who wish to fly at SOGGI must also carry a valid MAAC membership card and abide by Transport Canada Regulations as well as these SOGGI Guidelines.
- 3.2 To fly at SOGGI, the above membership cards must be displayed on demand.

4. Attaining and Retaining Model Aircraft “Pilot” Status

- 4.1 To fly an R/C airplane unsupervised at any SOGGI flying site a member must hold MAAC (R/C fixed wing) Pilot qualification AND be checked out to fly an R/C sailplane by a SOGGI instructor. Members having MAAC Student Pilot qualification are required to be checked out in accordance with MAAC Safety Code in order to obtain MAAC Pilot qualification. It should be noted that absence of MAAC membership for more than 1 calendar year automatically reverts returning members to Student Pilot status.
- 4.2 Regardless of experience level, the general criteria that must be met to attain and retain Pilot status includes:

- The ability to determine that a model aircraft and related equipment are airworthy.

- Demonstration of safe, disciplined, and confident flying skills appropriate to the type of model being flown.
- Displaying familiarity and compliance with applicable Transport Canada Regulations, the SOGGI Guidelines including applicable sections of the MAAC Safety Documents and MAAC Policy and Procedure Documents.
- Having enough knowledge and confidence to enforce the SOGGI Guidelines and MAAC Safety documents, since all accredited pilots are required to do so.

New members should complete a SOGGI Pilot Qualification Record form or provide the information therein. This will determine the extent of checkout required. Members who are new to SOGGI but have held MAAC Pilot qualification at other clubs, are nevertheless responsible for passing a satisfactory check-out flight with a SOGGI Instructor.

5. Hosting Guest Flyers

5.1 Guests may be invited to fly at SOGGI by SOGGI Members, provided that all of the following conditions are met:

- The Guest must be hosted by a named-SOGGI-Member who holds SOGGI “Pilot” status and SOGGI flying privileges.
- The Guest must show proof that he is a current MAAC member in good standing.
- The Guest must know, and abide by all applicable Transport Canada Regulations, relevant sections of the MAAC Safety Code and the SOGGI Flying Field Guidelines.
- The Host must be present on the field at all times when their guest is flying.

5.2 If all of the foregoing conditions are not satisfied, then alternatively the Guest can be hosted by a SOGGI Flight Instructor provided that arrangements are made in advance. Otherwise Guests are not permitted to fly at SOGGI.

6. Requirements to Inform Hamilton Conservation Authority Each Flying Day

6.1 *Informing Hamilton Conservation Authority when using the Westover Slope*

As part of the agreement with Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) we are required to notify them prior to flying at Westover. Execute this procedure prior to leaving home on the actual day you decide to fly at Westover.

- Check the SOGGI message board (www.soggi.ca) to see if another member has posted to say that Hamilton Conservation Authority has already been notified. If another member has already posted that HCA has been notified, you need to do no more. Go and fly.
- If a message board post has not been made on the day that you decide to fly at Westover, then send an email or make a phone call to the Superintendent at Valens Lake Conservation Area. The content of the email or phone call need be no more than shown in the footnote below¹. The email address and phone number can be obtained

from the SOGGI President or another member of the Executive. We are not publicly disclosing this information to reduce the possibility of misuse.

- Having contacted the HCA, immediately post a message on the SOGGI message board (www.soggi.ca) indicating that you are flying at Westover today and that you have informed Hamilton Conservation Authority. The purpose of this post is to avoid duplicate notifications to Hamilton Conservation Authority for a given day.
 - **DO NOT EMAIL OR PHONE ON AN EARLIER DAY, SINCE CHANGING WEATHER MAY RESULT IN YOU NOT GOING TO FLY ON THE DAY INTENDED.**
- 6.2 Flying at the Westover slope site is limited to altitudes permitted by Transport Canada Regulations and any applicable MAAC Safety Code.
- 6.3 Model flying is only permitted during daylight hours, and only when models are clearly visible.

¹From: MEYSNER. Andy
 Sent: Saturday, October 7, 2017 6:47 AM
 To: Paul Karbusicky
 Subject: Model Flying at Westover Today

Hi Paul, We'll be flying at Westover today. Andy Meysner SOGGI

7. Model types permitted at SOGGI Flying Sites

Note that SOGGI is primarily a "*Climb and Glide*" model Sailplane organization. Only the following model-types are permitted, and only under the conditions as follows. Refer also to Appendix B Schematics of SOGGI Flying sites:

Permitted at the Westover Slope Soaring Site

- Radio-controlled (RC) sailplanes (non-powered, only)

Not Permitted at any SOGGI flying site:

- Models controlled by First-Person-View (FPV) technology
- Models controlled by way-point navigation technology
- Internal combustion engine powered models
- Model Rockets
- Rotary wing models
 - The following exception applies for rotary wing models. A drone with a camera may be used to assist searching for a lost model, after informing a member of the SOGGI Executive that it is planned to do so. Also see section 7.6 regarding etiquette in recovery of lost models on neighbouring property.

7.1 For R/C (Radio-Controlled) Slope Soaring at Westover Flying Site

Refer to Appendix B-1 for applicable Guidelines at Westover.

- 7.1.1 Pilots should where possible land at the top of the slope and signal their intention to other persons within a wide vicinity of the landing target.
- 7.1.2 Slope soaring pilots should be aware that, in the absence of sufficient slope or thermal lift, landing at some point further down the slope may be unavoidable. In these situations both pilots and persons retrieving models should signal their intentions to each other.
- 7.1.3 Flights made on the downwind side of the slope during strong winds, may encounter severe turbulence with consequent loss of control of the aircraft. Flying on the downwind side of the slope at low altitude should be avoided.
- 7.2 Do not litter.
- 7.3 Park only in designated parking areas.
- 7.4 Obey site-specific advisories given in Appendix B.
- 7.5 Treat all strangers and conservation area staff with courtesy. Respect any requests or “suggestions” made by staff or neighbours, and pass this information on to other pilots and SOGGI Executive. Report to the Executive, any negative encounters with conservation area staff or neighbours.
- 7.6 Recovering Lost Models: If a search is required on a neighbouring residential property, introduce yourself and ask permission of the neighbour. Unless you have permission, do not enter pastures containing horses or livestock, or fields protected by an electric fence.
- 7.7 Do not fly in No-Fly Zones.

Appendix B: Schematics of Westover Slope Flying Site

The following Schematics identify no-fly zones that are specific to an individual SOGGI flying site. These are additional to the general no-fly zones identified in applicable Transport Canada Regulations, MAAC Safety Documents and in the preceding paragraphs of the SOGGI Guidelines.

B-1 Schematics for Westover Slope (Hamilton Conservation Authority)

Field Entrance Location: 43° 20' 13.8" N, 80° 05' 11.7" W (On the east side of Westover Road opposite the Church)

Emergency Access Code: 1150 Westover Rd. RR#1 Millgrove, Ont.

The address of the nearest medical emergency facility to Westover is:

Cambridge Memorial Hospital, 700 Coronation Blvd, Cambridge, ON N1R 3G2, 519 621 2330

Advisory: Per our agreement with Hamilton Region Conservation Authority only non-motorized gliders are allowed on what is titled the Westover Drumlin. The Drumlin is for slope soaring not thermal soaring. There is no frequency control board at the site and frequency control is the responsibility of each pilot. No smoking is allowed at the site due to the danger of grass fires in dry weather. ATVs are not permitted. Notify any member of the SOGGI Executive if you observe any untoward activity on the slope by other parties.

