V.5.1 April 2024





# Airmanship:

The safe and efficient handling of an aircraft both in the air and on the ground

Answering the questions at the back of this booklet is a compulsory part of your flight training. Your Sling workbook exam MUST be completed and ticked off on our copy of your flight record sheet, PRIOR to you going solo.

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## **IMPORTANT:**

# Please consult the Aircraft Pilot Operating Handbook (POH) or your flight instructor for more information if required, this document is to be used for reference purposes only.

## 1. Aircraft Pre-flight checks

Below is a basic list of areas to check during a pre-flight inspection. **IMPORTANT**: Please refer to the POH for a breakdown of each area which is required to perform a comprehensive inspection.

- **Cabin** make sure the keys have not been left in the ignition and all switches are off. Take any items from the cockpit to use externally like the screw driver, dipstick, fuel tester and keys.
- Ensure your **seat** is in the correct position and locked and not items in the cockpit obstructing controls or rudder pedals
- Check maintenance release to ensure aircraft is legal to fly (see maintenance release section)
- **PITOT cover** ensure pitot cover has been removed before pre flight
- Nose Section and Nose Gear IMPORTANT: Always handle the propeller blade area with the palm of your hand i.e. do not grasp only the blade edge with your fingers. ONLY handle the prop with your Instructor present!
- Right Wing and Main Gear IMPORTANT: Physically verify the fuel level before each flight
- Left Wing IMPORTANT: Physically verify the fuel level before each flight
- Ensure enough fuel for your flight plus adequate reserves as per
- Fuel Check fuel drain points with fuel tester for contamination
- Engine Bay Check for oil leaks and other damage, check brake fluid, coolant and oil levels.
- Airframe Check Check entire airframe in particular control services, look for any damage, loose rivets or screws or corrosion
- View the aircraft from a few metres away at different angles

#### You should then return to the hangar to fill out the preflight whiteboard (see info below)

## 2. How to enter and exit the aircraft correctly

## **Entering:**

- ONLY ONE pilot/instructor or passenger can climb into the aircraft at one time!
- Place your right leg on the step and right hand on the handle and pull yourself up.
- IMPORTANT: Make sure you only step on the marked black areas of the inner wing
- Holding the side of the of the fuselage with your left hand, reach over and place your right hand on the metal T-bar between the seats
- While holding this bar, stand with both legs on the seat
- With your arm supporting your weight, place your legs either side of the control stick and lower yourself into the seat

• Put on your headset and fasten your seatbelt

## Exiting:

- ONLY ONE pilot/instructor or passenger can climb into and out of the aircraft at a time!
- Remove your headset and seat belt
- Holding the side of the fuselage with one hand, place your other hand on the metal T bar between the seats, and move to a squatting position on the seat. Carefully stand on the marked dark grip area of the inner wing. Moving rearwards with one hand on the handle, place one leg on the step and lower yourself slowly to the apron. IMPORTANT: Make sure you only step on the marked black areas of the inner wing

## 3. How to refuel the aircraft (at YCDR) and add oil and coolant

#### **IMPORTANT**:

- Please ask a GoFly staff member for assistance with Fueling as we sometimes change the method
- Please ask a GoFly staff member for assistance with Oil and Coolant or brake fluid
- At the aircraft, please attach the **earthing cable** to the metal exhaust (it may be hot)
- Open the fuel cap on the aircraft and place the nozzle into the hole on the wing, being mindful not to spill any excess fuel (wind back the handle first to eliminate the possibility of excess fuel spilling)
- Remove the fuel nozzle handle from the side of the tank and place into the wing and squeeze
- One person holds the fuel nozzle and the other will turn the handle (away from you) on the fuel tank (roughly 8 litres per 10 turns)
- Once you have finished fueling both wings please wind the handle back toward you to avoid excess spillage
- Wind in the earthing cable

\*\* After refuelling, remember that the fuel will have to settle so please recheck the level again after a few minutes. Perform a fuel **sample test** checking for water and/or foreign bodies/contaminants.

## Oil and Coolant:

#### **IMPORTANT:** Please check with Instructor before filling OIL

- If the oil level is looking low please use the **red container** of oil called SHELL Aerosport Plus 4, located on the shelf in the hanger
- Take the funnel and a cloth for wiping any excess oil
- If the coolant level or brake fluid is low, then please see an Instructor for assistance

## 4. Positioning the aircraft correctly before start up

- Always pull the aircraft out onto the apron away from other aircraft, people and the hangar building
- While pulling the aircraft be careful not to accidentally clip any of the surrounding aircraft
- Make sure that you have a clear run-off area ahead of you should you need it
- Where practical, please position the aircraft into wind for starting

#### **IMPORTANT:** Park brake system differences:

Some Sling aircraft may use Toe Brakes and others use a Handle Brake located next to the throttle. All of the Slings in our fleet have a <u>Park Brake Lever</u> which must be applied before Starting up and Shutting down the aircraft.

**IMPORTANT**: When applying the parking brake lever, please ensure that you have adequate pressure on the handle or toe break to make certain it is sufficiently engaged. Failing to do this could result in the aircraft moving when starting up. If you find that the parking brake is already engaged before engine start up, with safety in mind, please reset it again yourself. **Note:** When doing so, <u>do not disengage the park brake whilst holding pressure on the hand break</u>. Simply just move the park break to OFF from the ON position then repeat the step above to engage the park brake correctly. If this isn't done correctly it can result in a valve failure. Your instructor can demonstrate this to you.

#### 5. How to read the maintenance release (MR) and make sure the flight is legal

One of the most important documents relating to an aircraft is the **maintenance release**. It provides a means for the pilot to assess, before the flight, whether all of the maintenance requirements relating to the aircraft have been complied with. Note that a flight may not commence if, during the proposed flight, any item of maintenance required by the maintenance release would fall due. The completion of the daily inspection must be certified before the first flight by a pilot other than a student pilot or other approved person.

When the daily inspection has been completed, the pilot in command - other than a student pilot - or other approved person must certify for the satisfactory completion of the inspection by signing Part 3 of the maintenance release {CAR 42ZC 4(d)}. CAR43B requires that **at the completion of each day's flying, the pilot in command or other approved person must record on the maintenance release the total flight time for that day.** 

The 3 Parts of the Maintenance Release are described below.

# MAINTENANCE RELEASE PART 1:

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#### MAINTENANCE RELEASE PART 2:

If a defect is found, it must be entered as an endorsement on Part 2 of the maintenance release. The aircraft must not be flown unless the endorsement is signed off by a suitably qualified person {CAAP 43-1 (0) para 5.1}.



MAINTENANCE RELEASE PART 3:

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# 6. Weights for a Sling 2

Engine:	100 hp Rotax (1675, 7788, 8515)
Maximum take-off weight:	600kg
Empty Weight:	380kg
Useful load:	220kg

# 7. Airspeed settings at various stages of flight

Normal Take-off climb:	70 kts	Best Glide Speed:	70 kts
Cruise Speed:	100kts	Final Approach Speed:	70 kts
Stall Speed No Flap:	50kts		

# 8. RPM/Power settings at various stages of flight

Take-Off:	Max Throttle	Descent:	4,000 rpm
Cruise Climb:	5,200 rpm	Approach:	2,800 rpm
Cruise:	5,000 rpm	Downwind:	4,600 rpm

# 9. Operating and 'Never Exceed' limitations for Sling 2

	SPEED	KIAS	REMARKS
VNE	Never Exceed Speed	135	Never exceed this speed in any operation.
Vno	Maximum Structural Cruising Speed	110	Never exceed this speed unless in smooth air, and then only with caution.
VA	Manoeuvering Speed	91	Do not make full or abrupt control movements above this speed as this may cause stress in excess of limit load factor.
Vfe	Maximum Flap Extended Speed	85	Never exceed this speed unless the flaps are fully retracted
Vн	Maximum Speed in Level Flight	116	The aircraft will not exceed this speed at MAUW in level flight, at maximum continuous power.
Vs	Stall Speed (at MAUW)	46	At maximum all up weight in the most forward CG configuration, with flaps fully retracted, engine idling, the aircraft will stall if flown slower than this speed.
Vso	Stall Speed with Flaps	42	With full flap, maximum all up weight, engine idling, the aircraft will stall if flown slower than this speed.

MARKING	KIAS	SIGNIFICANCE
White Arc	42-85	Flap Operating Range (lower limit is $V_{SO}$ at maximum weight, and upper limit is the maximum speed ( $V_{FE}$ )

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		permissible with flaps deployed).
Green Arc	46-110	Normal Operating Range (lower limit is <b>V</b> s at maximum weight, most forward CG with flaps retracted, engine idling; upper limit is maximum structural speed <b>V</b> NO).
Yellow Arc	110-135	Manoeuvres must be conducted with caution and only in smooth air.
Red Line	135	Maximum speed for all operations.

# 10. The differences between a carburettor and a fuel-injected engine

**Carburettor Engine:** The fuel/air mixture **meets in the carburettor** and then goes to each cylinder through the air intakes.

Fuel-Injected Engine: The fuel and air do not mix until they reach the cylinder.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The **backup electric fuel pump** on the carburettor engine should be **ON** for takeoff and landing and in the circuit area. It should be switched **OFF** once above 1000 feet.



# Emergency Management actions for a Carburettor Sling aircraft:

**IMPORTANT**: In the event of an engine fire, switch off Magnetos <u>after</u> the fuel in the carburettors is consumed and the engine has shut down. Estimated time to empty the carburettors after the fuel selector valve is closed is 30 seconds.

Please consult your POH for the aircraft that you are flying and/or discuss with an Instructor.

The main difference regarding the **induction system are as follows**:

- Sling 7788 is a carbureted aircraft and uses a starter key to select Magnetos Off, Left, Right, Both and Start.
- Sling 1675 and 8515 are also carbureted aircraft but they use switches for the Left and Right Magnetos. There is a separate starter key.

Our carburetted Slings (7788, 1675 & 8515) have only one switch for the Fuel Pump. The fuel pump on the Carby engine is a back up electric pump and is selected to ON for take off and landing in case the main mechanical pump fails during this critical phase of flight. The back up electric pump can be turned off once at the top of climb. However, once off, it can be used as a back up pump should the main mechanical pump fail.

# 11. When to change fuel tanks and other Information

- The Sling aircraft have two (2) x 75 litre fuel tanks. Inside the cockpit there is a **fuel selector valve** with the positions left or right or off. The OFF is only to be used for emergencies.
- When **changing the fuel tank** in the air please make sure you change it during a non-critical **phase of flight**, and have the fuel pump turned to **ON**.
- During your flight, whether it is a local flight in the training area or a Cross Country exercise, it is good practice to change the fuel tanks every 30 minutes.
- As per CASR Part 91, both left and right fuel tanks should be independently tested **before every flight** on the ground as part of your pre-takeoff checks.

# 12. How to fill out the pre-takeoff safety board

**Please ask an Instructor to demonstrate completing the board. IMPORTANT:** This must be completed before every flight by the student, **with supervision from the Instructor**. Once you have passed your flight test, this can be completed by the PIC (Pilot in Command) for that flight. You can find the phone numbers for the GoFly Chief Flying Instructor and the RAAus Duty Officer on the safety board.

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On the image below, you will notice that you need to complete 6 of the 10 sections

1. Name of Pilot/Passenger (PAX)	2. Date/Time	3. Weight of Pilot/Pax/Fuel/Bag
4. MTOW - Max takeoff weight (600kg)	5. Flight Plan inc emergency contact	6. SAR Time

**Note 1:** Below is an example of how to calculate if we are <u>at or below</u> **Max takeoff weight** (MTOW). Add the 397 kg (Empty Weight) to the weight of Pilot1/Pilot 2/Fuel/Bag: *e.g.* 397 + Pilot 1 (75) + Pilot 2 (80) + Fuel in kilograms (47) + Luggage (0) = 599 kg (The MTOW is 600 kg so we are okay to fly)

**Note 2:** To convert **fuel in litres to kgs**, simply multiply the amount of litres by 0.72 (*e.g. as per the example above, 65 litres x 0.72 = 47 kgs of fuel*)

**Weather** - Kindly discuss with your instructor. You may also want to look at the weather information being displayed on the main screen in the hangar. This shows the local TAF for Sunshine Coast Airport.

**Check the IMSAFE poster** near the SAR Flight Board (Illness, Medication, Stress, Alcohol, Fatigue, Emotion or Eating). Discuss with your instructor

#### Checking if your RAA membership is current can be completed by doing one of the following:

- 1. Check your reminder emails and texts from RAA
- 2. Check your name in Flight Schedule Pro profile (we insert your membership expiry date next to your surname)
- 3. Check your RAA card via the RAAus App on your phone
- 4. If you are still unsure, ask the GoFly receptionist or your instructor to check on our instructor portal

# 13. Electronic Flight Instrument System (EFIS) and what each item means

This is a Garmin G3x Touch which we have installed in Sling 7788 & 1675. Ask an Instructor to demonstrate the EFIS in your aircraft as Sling 8515 has a slightly different screen.



# 14. How to use the Transponder

• Sling 7788 and 1675 – The transponder is located at the top left of the Garmin EFIS display. The VFR squawk code 1200 will be displayed automatically. If not, you simply tap on the transponder field and type '1200' then press 'enter'. You can also change the mode to ALT or GND within that menu. Use ALT for take-off and GND when back on the ground.

- Sling 8515 The transponder for these aircraft is located centrally near the switches and should also display 1200. If not, there is a knob on the right hand side for selecting the required code. The knob on the left allows you to select ALT or GND.
- If asked by Air Traffic Control to **change frequency**, turn the knob to 'standby' and change the frequency code to the one that Air Traffic Control or Air Services requests then select 'ALT'. If they then ask you to 'squawk ident' (to notify them of your identity) you should hit the 'ident' button once. Please see your Instructor for more detail if required. Transponder codes: 1200 is the standard VFR code in Australia. 7500 is the Hijacking code, 7600 is the radio failure code and 7700 is the Emergency code (in the event of engine failure).

# **15. Turning the propeller**

In order to obtain a correct oil level reading as well as making sure that the oil is sufficiently lubricating the engine please do the following:

- Follow this process when the engine is cold or if the aircraft has not flown for a while. If the engine is still very warm then this action may be ignored
- **IMPORTANT**: Make sure the key is removed and all of the switches are in OFF positions.
- Apply the park break.
- Remove the oil cap
- Stand to the right side of the prop (starboard side), slightly to its rear with yourself <u>facing</u> <u>forward</u>. With your LEFT arm stretched out, hold the prop with your left hand with your palm facing the aircraft. (ask your instructor to demonstrate)
- Pull the prop down towards the ground (clockwise) and take care not to stand too close whilst doing so
- Continue this process until you hear a gurgle sound
- **IMPORTANT**: Do not turn the propeller counterclockwise as it can damage the gears. <u>The</u> propeller should only be turned clockwise (from the view of sitting in the cockpit)
- Check the oil level is at least half way between the min/max marker (flat part of the stick)
- If you need to top up the oil, please remember to update this on the Maintenance Release (ask your instructor)

# 16. Quiz

Either print this answer sheet at home or ask an instructor for one at the office. Kindly answer the questions below using the information provided in this booklet and then give it to an instructor upon completion and ask them to mark it and add your score into your flight record sheet in our Flight Schedule Pro syllabus.

- 1. Where can you find the phone number of the RAA Duty Officer?
- 2. Where do you attach the earthling cable when fuelling?
- 3. How do you convert fuel litres into kilos?
- 4. What does MTOW stand for?
- 5. How is your Take Off Weight calculated?
- 6. Name two ways of checking if your RAA membership is current?
  - (i)
  - (ii)
- 7. What does the acronym IMSAFE mean?
  - I
  - Μ
  - S

  - А
  - F
  - Е
- 8. Which direction does the propeller get turned in?

9. Is the fuel pump turned to ON or OFF for Landing?

10. Whose responsibility is it to complete the safety board and when should it be completed?

11. What is the correct power setting used whilst flying downwind?

12. Before starting the engine you find that the parking brake is already engaged. What action should you take, with safety in mind?

13. What VFR Squawk code should be displayed on the transponder?

14. On your transponder, when should you select ALT?

15. If you suffered an engine failure, and you had time to enter a code, what code should be selected on your transponder?

Completion Date:
Student name:
RAAus Member No:
Marker/Instructor's Name:
Marker/ Instructor's Signature:
Questionnaire result:

Please print and complete the answer sheets and pass them to your Instructor for marking. Your result will be added to your flight training record. You can either refer to the Sling workbook online or print your own copy of the workbook.