

Practical Fling Skills Test for the issue of a Leisure Pilots Licence (Sailplanes)

This test effectively replaces the Bronze Flying test and cross Country Endorsement.

The following is extracts from EASA NPA17 b

AMC No 1 to FCL.125 and to FCL.235**Contents of the skill test for the issue of a LPL(S) and of an SPL**

1. The applicant should be responsible for the flight planning and should ensure that all equipment and documentation for the execution of the flight are on board.
2. An applicant should indicate to the FE the checks and duties carried out. Checks should be completed in accordance with the flight manual and/or the authorised check list for the sailplane on which the test is being taken.

FLIGHT TEST TOLERANCE

3. The applicant should demonstrate the ability to:
 - operate the sailplane within its limitations;
 - complete all manoeuvres with smoothness and accuracy;
 - exercise good judgment and airmanship;
 - apply aeronautical knowledge; and
 - maintain control of the sailplane at all times in such a manner that the successful outcome of a procedure or manoeuvre is never seriously in doubt.

SECTION 1**PREFLIGHT OPERATIONS AND DEPARTURE**

Use of checklist, airmanship (control of sailplane by external visual reference), lookout, apply in all sections.

- a Preflight sailplane (daily) inspection, documentation and weather brief
- b Verifying in limits mass and balance and performance calculation
- c Sailplane servicing compliance
- d Pre takeoff checks

SECTION 2**LAUNCH METHOD**

Note: At least for one of the three launch methods all the mentioned items are fully exercised during the skill test.

SECTION 2 (A)**WINCH OR CAR LAUNCH**

- a Signals before and during launch, including messages to winch driver
- b Adequate profile of winch launch
- c Launch failures (simulated)
- d Situational awareness

SECTION 2 (B)**AEROTOW LAUNCH**

- a Signals before and during launch, including signals to / communications with towplane pilot for any problems
- b Initial roll, takeoff climb
- c Launch abandonment (simulation only or 'talk through')

- d Correct positioning during straight flight and turns
- e Out of position and recovery
- f Correct release from tow
- g Lookout and airmanship through whole launch phase

SECTION 2 (C)

SELF LAUNCH (powered sailplanes only)

- a ATC liaison – compliance
- b Aerodrome departure procedures
- c Initial roll, takeoff/climb
- d Lookout and airmanship during the whole takeoff
- e Simulated engine failure after take off
- f Engine shut down and stowage

SECTION 3

GENERAL AIRWORK

- a Maintain straight and level flight; attitude and speed control
- b Coordinated medium (30° bank) turns, look out procedures and collision avoidance
- c Turning on to selected headings visually and with use of compass
- d Flight at high angle of attack (critically low airspeed)
- e Clean stall and recovery
- f Spin avoidance and recovery
- g Steep (45° bank) turns, look out procedures and collision avoidance

SECTION 4

CIRCUIT, APPROACH AND LANDING

- a Aerodrome circuit joining procedure
- b Collision avoidance look out procedures
- c Pre landing checks
- d Circuit, approach control, landing
- e Precision landing (simulation of outlanding short field)
- f Cross wind landing if suitable conditions available