The University of Montana

PUBLIC SAFETY PROCEDURE

Procedure Number: **OPS – 002**
Procedure: **Missoula Hang-glider Association (MHGA)**
References: USHGA Information Handbook; 100 & 104 of USHGA Publication, FAR Part 91.17, 91.18, 101
Approved By: Kenneth A. Willett Director, Office of Public Safety

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EXPLANATION

The Student Union Board, now ASUM, recognized the Missoula Hang-Glider Association (MHGA) in November of 1974. On April 24, 1975, President Richard C. Bowers approved the recommendation of the University Conduct Committee, which pertained to hang-gliding activities on The University of Montana campus. These policies and procedures address the current status of the President's original approval and include all amendments to date.

PROCEDURE

All pilots utilizing University property on Mount Sentinel will be either members of, or have received the permission of, the MHGA and be current members of the United States Hang-Gliding Association and thus possess $500,000.00 bodily injury and property damage liability insurance. Only approved USHGA gliders will be utilized. All pilots will wear safety helmets. A qualified member of MHGA must accompany any guest pilot.

All pilots utilizing Mount Sentinel will comply with the bylaws of the United States Hang-Gliding Association. All pilots utilizing Mount Sentinel will possess either a USHGA Hang Three or Hang Four rating. A USHGA Hang Two rated pilot may utilize Mount Sentinel with the permission of an official USHGA observer who will oversee and be responsible for the flight.

The MHGA will maintain an agreeable tenant responsibility for use and travel across all properties, both public and private, as it relates to their use of Mount Sentinel. MHGA will provide written proof of this requirement to the University.

The MHGA shall provide an up-to-date listing of all club officers and club advisors, including their local address and telephone numbers, to the Office of Public Safety. The MHGA will appoint a Unit Safety Officer. This individual will be directly responsible to the Public Safety Director for coordination of flight activities, demonstration flights and accident investigation.

The Office of Public Safety shall be responsible for the enforcement action taken on any complaint or violation lodged by the MHGA, the public, or other campus departments/offices against any person(s) who willfully refuses to obey MHGA or The University of Montana policies on hang-gliding.

Because of the recurring nature of the activities involved and the unique aspects of administration of the policy, the responsibility for administration and approval of such activities has been delegated to the Public Safety Director.

The MHGA must maintain recognition by Associated Students of The University of Montana.

All pilots will maintain at least 1000 feet altitude above ground level when flying over The University of Montana property (main campus), which is approximately the level of the fire lane on Mount Sentinel.

Because of possible abrupt changes in meteorological conditions during a flight, the MHGA has identified the River bowl as an "Emergency Landing Zone". If an emergency landing is necessary, a complete written report must be filed with the MHGA and the Office of Public Safety as soon after the incident as possible. In addition to possible legal action by the University, the club may also impose a fine or penalty if such landing is deemed not necessary.

The primary landing area for flights from Mount Sentinel is the University of Montana Golf Course. The use of these facilities will be negotiated with the Golf Course Manager every April. The basic rules for use of the Golf Course are:

1. The landing area is just Southwest of the driving range.
2. The takedown area is located at the North end of the landing area.
3. All gliders will be removed from the takedown area as quickly as possible to minimize inconvenience to golfers.
4. All pilots and associates will conduct themselves in a socially acceptable manner and respect the rights of golfers and spectators, as the use of these facilities is a privilege and not a right.
5. No training will be conducted from the lower slopes of mount Sentinel.

Flights originating from Mount Sentinel will not be directed in a true Westerly direction, thus bringing them directly over the buildings of the University property, but rather in a Southerly, Southwest direction, which will carry the glider along the base of the mountain.

The maximum rating by the USHGA is now "Hang Four" which signifies the highest expertise level of proficiency. Therefore, any hang-glider participating in a demonstration onto University grounds must have at least a "Hang Three" rating. Such demonstrations must be requested and approved by the Office of Public Safety Director. Demonstration flights will not include maneuvers, which would in any way endanger the spectators.

Continuation of University approval shall remain contingent upon adherence to the terms and conditions prescribed and contained herein.