

Level 1/34 Somerton Rd
Somerton
Victoria 3062 Australia
Ph: 03 93037805
Fax: 03 93037960

The Gliding Federation of Australia Inc.



Operations

Operations Advice Notice

No. 01/08

Pilot authorisation

It is required that all pilots operating within GFA must hold valid pilot qualifications issued and authorised by GFA.

It is sometimes assumed that pilots who hold licenses, or pilot authorisations, issued by other authorities automatically permit the holder to operate at the same level within GFA; however, this is most definitely not the case. The most common incorrect assumption is in respect of PPL holders operating Powered Sailplanes.

The very simple rule is that if the glider is operating with a GFA Maintenance Release it may only be flown by pilots holding GFA pilot authorisations, regardless of any other qualifications and authorisations held.

Clubs should ensure that all members are suitably qualified and authorised to conduct intended operations within GFA. However, ultimate responsibility rests with individual pilots and each pilot must ensure that all operations are conducted within GFA requirements and authorisations.

Touring Powered Sailplane operators in particular should ensure that appropriate GFA pilot authorisations are held and valid for the type of operations conducted. Appropriate authorisations may include Powered Sailplane Endorsement - Cross-Country/Touring and (if applicable) Controlled Airspace and Independent Operator authorisation.

Kevin Olerhead
Chief Technical Officer – Operations
Date 17 December 2008