

BHPA Development Schools factsheet.

This factsheet is to provide summary information on BHPA Development Schools and the Development Instructor training programme. The full training requirements will be written in the BHPA Technical Manual in due course.



BHPA School types:

BHPA School – Licensed Instructors provide training to beginners to fly solo to CP level and beyond.

BHPA Air Experience School – Licensed Air Experience Instructors provide flight experience training, usually on dual gliders.

BHPA Development School – Licensed Development Instructors provide continuation and development training to Club Pilot rated BHPA members.

The Development School.

Development Schools are limited to providing continuation training in those aspects of flying related to the expertise of its instructional staff, for example Post CP training to Pilot rating; cross country flying; Advanced Glider Control (“SIV”); competition flight training.

At the head of operations in a Development School is a Chief Flying Instructor. The CFI role is a school appointment and this appointed person must hold a current BHPA Senior Development Instructor or a Senior Instructor licence.

Licences.

Two new BHPA Instructor licences have been created, the “Development Instructor” and the “Senior Development Instructor”. In addition to providing training to CP rated pilots and being eligible to be appointed as a CFI, Senior Development Instructors can be granted a Licence extension which allows them to train Trainee Instructors to become Development Instructors.

Becoming a Development Instructor.

A pilot intending to become a Development Instructor would normally follow a similar path to the existing Instructor. They would gain experience as a Trainee Development Instructor, working with a Senior Development Instructor. Before applying for an Examination, they will be required to complete the BHPA Club Coach, and the Instructor training course and hold a valid first aid certificate.

Note that Development Instructor licences are not a shortcut to full Instructor licences. To extend their training scope to include beginners, a Development licence holder must complete the relevant Training Programme in the Technical Manual as a TI under the supervision of a suitably qualified Senior Instructor and pass an examination to acquire the appropriate Instructor licence.

Becoming a Senior Development Instructor.

Unlike the standard Instructor route, it is possible to apply for a Senior Development Instructor examination without first having logged experience as a licensed Development Instructor. This is by written application to The BHPA Flying and Safety Committee (FSC). Applicants must demonstrate a high level of experience in the field in which they intend to specialise. The FSC will evaluate each

application and take into account evidence of relevant experience such as being a time-served Coach or guide, or demonstrable expertise in a particular field.

All applicants must be Pilot rated with a minimum of 200hrs logged flight experience in the discipline and environment in which the licence is sought. In reality, it is expected that applicants will have far in excess of this minimum logged airtime.

Examination candidates must have completed the BHPA Club Coach, Instructor and Senior Instructor training courses and hold a valid first aid certificate. A minimum of ten days working as a Trainee Instructor in a BHPA school with sub CP level trainees must be logged. This is to ensure that potential Senior Development Instructors have a detailed understanding of the BHPA's ab-initio training syllabus, familiarity with the instructional techniques used in BHPA Schools, and a full appreciation of newly qualified CP rated pilots' limitations of knowledge and experience.

The Senior Development Instructor examination will focus on competency at instruction within the declared specific field, competency in the administration procedures required to run a school, and competency at TI selection and training (if the TI training extension is applied for). Exams conducted outside UK will incur examiner's reasonable travel expenses in addition to the standard exam fee.

Setting up a new Development School.

Development School applications are treated in the same way as applications to register the other two types of BHPA school. When a school application has been approved, the school is entitled to use the "BHPA Registered Development School" logo and will appear in the list of registered schools on the BHPA's website for as long as registration remains valid.

Like the other types of school, potential Development Schools are required to produce an Operations Manual (based on the BHPA template) that defines the area of specialism of the school and its staff. Development Schools pay an annual registration fee (currently £200) and will be subject to school inspections by Technical Staff.