



# SAFETY ADVISORY

Issued by Angus Pinkerton - Chairman of the Flying & Safety Committee, December 2024

*All pilots should read, digest, and take action on the contents of this advisory notice and keep it for future reference until it is superseded or withdrawn by the FSC Chairman. This notice will remain available on the BHPA website.*

## DEALING WITH INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS

Pilots sometimes have mishaps resulting in injury (i.e. accidents). At such times it is important for all pilots on site to act sensibly and calmly to ensure the best possible outcome for the injured person. Other incidents also occur from time to time. An incident is an occurrence associated with the operation of an aircraft in which safety has, or could have, been compromised, though no injury actually occurred. In both cases it is important that the required steps are taken to notify the correct authorities so that the appropriate level of investigation can be carried out to help prevent future occurrences.

This Safety Advisory is to provide links to BHPA information resources for its members involved in an accident or incident:

**General advice to pilots:** [Dealing with incidents and accidents](#)

**Further resources for licence holders:** BHPA Technical Manual (see Incident Management, Section 1; Chapter 5; Item 2). Link to [Documents page](#) of BHPA website containing current Technical Manual.

### Additional information:

Information you pass to the emergency call handler will assist the Emergency Services in building a comprehensive report to ensure a major incident is dealt with as effectively as possible. They may use the "METHANE" acronym to establish essential information. Be prepared to answer these questions:

- Major Incident?
- Exact location of the incident.
- Type of incident.
- Hazards (what hazards or potential hazards can be identified).
- Access (what are the best routes for access and egress to and from the scene?).
- Number of casualties (how many casualties are there, and what condition are they in?).
- Emergency services present and/or required.

For the medics that arrive on scene, being able to provide them with the following information at handover is useful (often referred to by the mnemonic "ATMIST"):

- Age (of patient along with gender and first name).
- Time (how long has it been since the impact, give the time the impact happened).
- Mechanism (what exactly happened, feet first, head first, with speed, did they bounce or roll or slide).
- Injuries (list the sore bits from top to toe).
- Signs (heart rate, breathing rate, whether you can feel a strong pulse or not, skin tone, level of alertness and how any of that has changed if at all).
- Treatments (what they have had so far - splints, bandages, dressings, reassurance, thermal wraps, medicine and details of last food / fluid).