

## Paraglider collapses at low level

The Flying and Safety Committee would like to remind all paraglider pilots about the following important safety information. The issues noted here continue to feature in incidents and have been highlighted as contributory factors in two fatal accidents recently investigated by the BHPA technical team.

The FSC's guidance on paraglider collapses is that if a collapse occurs at 300ft (or less) above the ground and it causes a rapid rotation or a high rate of descent, or if descending through 300ft above the ground in an uncontrollable rotation, the pilot should immediately deploy their emergency parachute without any hesitation.

Many pilots are not aware of the significant height loss that can occur whilst attempting a collapse recovery, or during a mishandled recovery. For those who have not had the experience, this is one of the many valuable lessons that can safely be learned during an SIV or Pilotage course.

For more information about paraglider collapses at low level, refer to the Safety Notice of September 17th 2002, available on the BHPA website through the following link: [www.bhpa.co.uk/pdf/safety\\_notices/sn\\_029.092002.pdf](http://www.bhpa.co.uk/pdf/safety_notices/sn_029.092002.pdf).

Although this Safety Notice is 16 years old, the advice is still relevant, and it emphasises that there are very few new types of accident. We are also highlighting this to bring to the attention of new BHPA paraglider pilots who may not be aware of our existing Safety Notices and the essential messages they carry.



# DON'T FLY TOO CLOSE!