



A pre-manoeuvre check

In general aviation the mnemonic HASELL is used before undertaking any 'extreme' manoeuvre: Height, Area, Safety, Engine, Lookout, Location.

A 2020 mid-air collision between two paragliders occurred shortly after one pilot had exited a spiral manoeuvre. Both pilots landed under their emergency parachutes.

Following the incident, the FSC considered that it would be useful to develop a similar simple pre-manoeuvre check for hang glider and paraglider pilots to ensure they are following best practice before commencing manoeuvres where there might be a rapid height loss and possible disorientation. For example, before undertaking large wingovers, spirals, spins or intentional asymmetric collapses. As a result of the subsequent discussion the FSC developed the following simple check list: **HOPE**.

Height Adequate (even if the manoeuvre doesn't go exactly as expected)

Observation All clear, including below and behind?

Position Well away from the hill and on the right heading (and allowing for drift)

Emergency parachute Present and accessible (practice reaching for it)

All pilots, coaches and instructors should familiarise themselves with this mnemonic. Its use is recommended as a final check immediately before initiating any hazardous or high-energy manoeuvre. The checklist will be included in appropriate BHPA documents.