

YOSEMITE HANG GLIDING ASSOCIATION

SITE MANAGEMENT MANUAL

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

(Date Reviewed 2/16/21)

Approved by (Signature):



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YOSEMITE HANG GLIDING ASSOCIATION (YHGA)

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK HANG GLIDING SITE MANUAL

I. INTRODUCTION

Yosemite National Park's Glacier Point is a premier site for hang gliding in Northern California. The site is currently open to advanced rated pilots only. Oversight of hang gliding at this site is provided by the Yosemite Hang Gliding Association, Inc. (YHGA) by authority of a Commercial Use Authorization issued by Yosemite National Park for recreational hang gliding. Throughout this manual, hang gliding is meant to include class 1 and 2 non-powered hang gliders only and specifically excludes class 3 (paragliders) and parachutes used in base jumping activities. The purpose of this Site Manual is to set forth the program developed by YHGA to ensure that:

- 1) Hang gliding fully meets Yosemite's standards for safety,
- 2) Hang gliding is compatible with other uses of the Park, and
- 3) Yosemite National Park remains open for recreational hang gliding.

This manual contains a brief description of the Yosemite Hang Gliding Association and the hang gliding Safety Program. The Safety Program sets forth the policy and detailed procedures developed to ensure the safest hang gliding possible at Glacier Point. The appendices contain all of the procedures, forms, and other documentation used in the execution of this program by pilots, YHGA officers, and members.

II. YOSEMITE HANG GLIDING ASSOCIATION, INC. (YHGA)

The Yosemite Hang Gliding Association (YHGA) was formed in 1990 for the purpose of preserving recreational hang gliding at Glacier Point in Yosemite National Park. YHGA is currently affiliated as a Chapter of the United States Hang Gliding & Paragliding Association (USHPA). Its individual members include leading glider manufacturers, innovators in the development of training practices, leaders in the national organization, including examiners and members of the USHPA Board of Directors.

The primary objective of the YHGA Board of Directors is to maintain the successful practice of recreational hang gliding in Yosemite National Park while ensuring that Park rules and regulations are adhered to, and that all hang gliding activities are conducted in the safest possible manner which promotes a positive image of the sport to other Park visitors.

The Board of Directors consists of volunteer pilots living throughout California. Due to the geographic separation of the board members, the business of the Association is conducted primarily through the mail and over the internet. Meetings are scheduled on an as needed basis. The board communicates with the membership through a newsletter, or email, which is published a minimum of once a year, normally 30 days before the opening of the Yosemite flying season (generally Memorial Day weekend), and within 60 days of the close of the season (generally mid-September).

The YHGA has established a group of volunteer "Site Monitors" who are authorized to oversee recreational hang gliding activities within Yosemite National Park. It is the responsibility of the Site Monitor to check the qualifications of each pilot seeking to fly within the Park and ensure that each pilot is familiar with the site rules and regulations. The Site Monitor is responsible for ensuring that the safety of the site is not compromised by hazardous conditions or failure of equipment utilized at the site. The Site Monitor is responsible for communicating with the Yosemite National Park Service Emergency Communication Center (ECC), also known as Yosemite Dispatch, to ensure that the air space within Yosemite Valley is clear of other flight activity before allowing any hang glider pilot to launch. The Site Monitors conduct routine inspections of the site and notify the Park and the YHGA Board of Directors of any concerns. The Site Monitors also complete accident and incident reports, and submit recommendations for improvements, if applicable. Copies of all accident and incident reports are forwarded to the YHGA Board of Directors and the Park's representative within 3-7 days. All Site Monitors are required to be first-aid and CPR certified.

III. SAFETY PROGRAM

A high level of safety can be achieved only if all YHGA members work actively toward this goal. The Yosemite Hang Gliding Safety Program is intended to minimize the potential for accidents. The Program includes requirements and procedures for pilots, emergency preparedness and response procedures for accidents, and guidelines for reporting and handling violations of the Site Procedures and Safety Requirements. The program includes associated documentation and report forms for use by YHGA members and guidelines for coordinating the program between YHGA Board members and Yosemite National Park. The Program is fully consistent with USHPA Basic Safety Guidelines, Part 100, and Park emergency procedures.

A. SITE FEATURES AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT

The Glacier Point site (the only approved launch site within Yosemite National Park) provides advanced rated pilots with a 3,200 ft. vertical cliff launch. The unobstructed launch, a steep sloping granite rock, faces directly towards Vernal and Nevada falls to the east. The large, clear landing area is located approximately one mile northwest of the Glacier Point launch in Leidig Meadow. Although very large, this meadow is surrounded on all sides by 100 ft. to 200 ft. tall trees, and on two sides by a meandering river.

At launch, pilots can expect light breezes of 2-3 mph during the launch window of 8:00AM to 9:00AM. Conditions within the landing area are very light.

The monitor must have a personal cell phone to communicate with Yosemite Dispatch to receive clearance to launch gliders from Glacier Point. There is no requirement for any other equipment. A basic first aid kit is maintained with the Site Monitor control kit.

B. SITE PROCEDURES AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

In order to maximize safety and to retain the Special Use Permit, hang gliding in Yosemite National Park is very closely controlled. This requires pilots be knowledgeable of and adhere to important information pertaining to the Glacier Point site. The Yosemite National Park Site Procedures and Safety Requirements ("Site Procedures") is the document that contains this information. The Site Procedures together with the registration and waiver forms are found in Appendix 2. It includes a site map and describes pilot registration, proficiency requirements, monitor responsibilities, flight safety requirements and accountability, emergency procedures, and penalties for violations. All pilots flying in Yosemite National Park are required to read the Site Procedures and agree to the requirements. All registration forms are kept on permanent file.

The YHGA Board of Directors will undertake an annual review of the Site Manual and Site Procedures and make revisions as needed. The Board of Directors will approve revisions for YHGA and submit the revisions for review by the Yosemite National Park representative. Changes from previous versions will be marked for easy identification.

Hang gliding safety will be compromised if hazardous weather conditions develop, conflicting Park operations commence, or basic procedures are ignored. To guard against such occurrences impacting the execution of safe flights, Site Monitors will receive specialized training by past / current Site Monitors how to manage hang gliding at Glacier Point prior to performing as a Site Monitor.

C. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROCEDURES

Emergency procedures at the site have been developed specifically for hang gliding in Yosemite National Park. These procedures are fully compatible with existing Park emergency procedures. To enable any YHGA member or other user of the site to follow these procedures, all relevant information is provided in the Site Procedures, and included with the Site Monitor's control kit.

Several types of emergencies may arise in connection with hang gliding in Yosemite National Park. These include: 1) glider accident involving injury, 2) glider accident without pilot injury, and 3) non-flying related medical emergency.

In the event of an injury accident or illness requiring medical treatment, the following steps shall be followed:

- 1) If necessary, close launch window and terminate all other flight activities for the day.
- 2) Call Yosemite Dispatch, at 209-379-1992.

- 3) If the victim requires medical treatment, request an emergency medical response through Yosemite Dispatch.
- 4) Give first aid to victim or ensure that victim receives proper care. Basic first-aid equipment is available with the Site Monitor's control kit.
- 5) Notify the Park Ranger(s) and YHGA officer(s) as soon as possible. An accident report should be completed and forwarded to the Commercial Use Authorization Manager and YHGA Board of Directors within three (3) days. A sample Accident Report Form is contained in Appendix 3.

In the event of a non-injury accident, an accident report shall be completed and forwarded to the Office of Special Park Uses Permit Manager and YHGA Board of Directors, within five (5) days.

D. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS

Formal accident investigations will only be required in the event of a "major" injury accident (life threatening, or serious injury), or upon request by the National Park Service. All incidents involving personnel injury, or property damage shall be reported to the Commercial Use Authorization Manager.

E. VIOLATION AND INCIDENT REPORTING

In keeping with the customary practice in hang gliding, YHGA relies primarily on self-regulation by authorized Site Monitors and member pilots to ensure that the Site Procedures are adhered to in Yosemite National Park. The Site Monitors have the primary responsibility to enforce the Site Procedures. Suitable guidelines for handling violations on site are provided in the Site Procedures, including a list of specific violations and penalties. Response to violations will generally involve immediate suspension of the offending pilot by the Site Monitor present. An Incident Report (Appendix 4) shall be filed with the YHGA Board of Directors. As protection for the site, the suspension will remain effective until the matter can be addressed by the Board of Directors. All Site Procedure violations shall be investigated by the Board of Directors and offending pilots dealt with according to the best judgment of the Board Members. Violations will generally result in suspension of Yosemite flying privileges for a specified time. Violation of National Park Service regulations or Commercial Use Authorization may result in criminal charges against the violator. In the event a violation seriously jeopardizes flying in Yosemite National Park, or the welfare of the sport, the YHGA Board of Directors will inform the USHPA and recommend the appropriate action, which may include the revocation of the pilot's rating card.

APPENDICES

1. YHGA Bylaws
2. YHGA Site Procedures and Safety Requirements
3. YHGA Accident Report Form
4. YHGA Incident Report Form
5. YHGA Application Form

APPENDIX 1 – YHGA BYLAWS

YOSEMITE HANG GLIDING ASSOCIATION, INC. BYLAWS

ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of this Association shall be the Yosemite Hang Gliding Association, Inc. (YHGA).

Section 2. The purpose of the YHGA is to: 1) provide an organization which works with Yosemite National Park to preserve the sport of recreational hang gliding in Yosemite National Park, 2) promote safety, 3) improve the public image of the sport, and 4) to the exchange of information among its members.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. A member of YHGA is an individual who has filed an application for membership with the Treasurer and whose dues are paid or has been accepted as a Site Monitor.

Section 2. A full member will receive the YHGA Newsletter and may vote as provided for in these bylaws.

ARTICLE III - MEETINGS

Section 1. There are no regularly scheduled meetings of the YHGA. All necessary business will be conducted by the Board of Directors or through email as determined necessary by the Board.

ARTICLE IV - EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring that all flight activities conducted within Yosemite National Park are conducted in a manner which does not jeopardize the future of hang gliding in the Park. The Board is ultimately responsible for developing and maintaining Site Procedures which are reviewed by Yosemite National Park. The Board will keep the membership informed of its activities and all actions are subject to review and approval by the YHGA membership. The Board will also perform other duties noted in the bylaws. Within the Board, issues will be decided by a majority vote of all Board Members.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of YHGA consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Flight / Safety Director.

Section 2. The term of office is one year. Elections are held during June (Opening Weekend) of each year. Candidates for office may be nominated or volunteer. All candidates must be YHGA members, and their nominations must be seconded by another YHGA member. The names of candidates elected for office will then be published on the YHGA website. The election will be decided by a simple majority vote of the members present at the meeting.

Section 3. Any officer vacancy shall be filled by majority vote of the members at the earliest possible opportunity.

Section 4. Each officer shall serve without compensation or reward, except as otherwise provided by these bylaws.

Section 5. The duties of the officers are as follows.

President - The President shall have general supervision of the management of all affairs of YHGA. With the approval of the other Board members, the President will sign and execute all contracts in the name of YHGA.

Vice-President - The Vice-President is vested with all the powers of and shall perform the duties of the President in the absence or disability of the President and shall perform such duties as delegated to him by the President.

Secretary - The Secretary shall record and submit the minutes of all Board activities to the membership, be responsible for membership notices and keeping historical records of the club and shall perform other duties as delegated by the President.

Treasurer - The Treasurer shall manage the receipt and deposits of YHGA funds, make disbursements authorized in budgets approved by the Board, prepare all required financial reports, accept applications for membership and keep records of membership applications, expirations, and renewals. The Treasurer will perform other duties as delegated by the President and make reports on YHGA membership and financial status in each issue of the newsletter.

Flight Director / Safety Officer - The Flight Director / Safety Officer is responsible for keeping the membership advised of all matters pertaining to flight safety and flying activities at sites in current use or contemplated for future use by YHGA members. The Flight Director / Safety Officer is responsible for recommending YHGA policy in all matters relating to safety, training, instruction, and reviews all

rules and procedures for site operations undertaken by YHGA. The Flight Director / Safety Officer investigates and reports to members on significant accidents and must be a USHPA Observer or Instructor holding a USHPA pilot proficiency rating of at least Hang IV.

Section 6. Removal from Office. An officer may be removed from office for cause, such as violation of bylaws of YHGA, or for conduct prejudicial to the best interests of YHGA. Such action shall require the affirmative vote of all the other Officers.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

Section 1. Committees may be formed by the President at any time deemed necessary. Committee Chairmen are appointed by the President subject to veto by the Executive Board. The members are appointed to or dropped from the committee by the Committee Chairman with the approval of the President. Committees function as special groups organized to carry out specific activities of YHGA. Committee actions or decisions affecting the YHGA membership shall be submitted to the Board for approval by majority vote. The Executive Board may review committee actions as appropriate.

ARTICLE VII – NEWSLETTER

Section 1. The newsletter is published once a year by the Newsletter Editor or the President. The newsletter will contain notification of club activities, financial reports, a schedule of open flying days, a summary of accident/incident reports and any other information deemed important for the continued safe use of Yosemite National Park.

Section 2. Newsletter Editor - The Newsletter Editor is responsible for all activities necessary to publish the YHGA Newsletter twice a year. This includes organizing, composing, printing, and distribution of contributed material for the newsletter which is to be received by contributing members in advance of each publication date. The Newsletter Editor maintains the library of all issues published by the club. The Newsletter Editor is appointed by the President subject to the approval of the Executive Board. The YHGA website may contain all documents associated with items mentioned in Article VII.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

The bylaws may be amended with the approval of two-thirds of the membership at any YHGA meeting. An amendment may be proposed by a majority of the Executive Board or by petition of twenty percent (22%) of the membership. All amendments must be published in full in the newsletter along with a mail-in- ballot which will be used to determine membership acceptance or rejection of the amendment.

APPENDIX 2 – YHGA Site Procedures and Safety Requirements

YHGA SITE PROCEDURES AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

I. INTRODUCTION

The Yosemite Hang Gliding Association (YHGA) is designated by Yosemite National Park, through a Commercial Use Authorization (CUA), to administer all recreational hang gliding activities within Yosemite National Park. The purpose of these procedures is to inform pilots of their responsibilities while flying in Yosemite. This is essential to ensure maximum safety and protect future access to the site for the entire hang gliding community. Throughout this manual, hang gliding is meant to include class 1 and 2 non-powered hang gliders only and specifically excludes class 3 (paragliders) and parachutes used in base jumping activities.

II. SITE DESCRIPTION

Yosemite National Park's Glacier Point is a premier site for hang gliding in Northern California. The site is currently open to advanced (H4 and H5) rated pilots only. The Glacier Point site (the only approved launch site within Yosemite National Park) provides a 3200 ft. vertical cliff launch. The unobstructed launch, a steep sloping granite rock, faces directly towards Vernal and Nevada falls to the east. The large, clear landing area is located approximately one mile northwest of the Glacier Point launch in Leidig Meadow. Although very large, Leidig Meadow is surrounded on all sides by 100 ft. to 200 ft. tall trees and on two sides by a meandering river.

At launch, pilots can expect light breezes of 2-3 mph during the launch window of 8:00AM to 9:00AM. Wind conditions within the landing area are very light.

III. PILOT REGISTRATION

Flying at Glacier Point is limited to those days when an approved Site Monitor is present. A schedule for site monitor availability will be available on the YHGA website.

Pilots wishing to fly from Glacier Point shall make reservations for each day they wish to fly. Reservations are made via the YHGA website, at www.yosemitehg.org. Reservations are accepted on a first-come first-served basis. Reservations will be accepted for the first sixteen (16) pilots only, after which a waiting list will be initiated. Site Monitors will download a reservation list from the web site prior to arriving at Yosemite National Park. Reservations shall not be accepted for the upcoming weekend after 10:00AM the preceding Friday. Pilots who show up at Glacier Point without reservations will only be allowed to fly if there is room in the sixteen pilot group and they are on site in time to safely set up their equipment and sign-in. The site monitor has the final say in deciding if a pilot is allowed to fly.

All pilots, including YHGA members and non-members must read the "Site Procedures

for Pilots" and fill out and sign the registration form prior to initiating any flight. All pilots must be at least 18 years old. The registration materials and forms may be obtained from the YHGA Site Monitor. All registration forms will be kept on permanent file by the YHGA President. For insurance purposes, all pilots must be current members of the United States Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association (USHPA) and must have proof of USHPA membership. Temporary membership / rating forms will not be accepted as proof of membership / rating.

IV. PILOT PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

As noted above, ONLY advanced rated pilots (or above) are permitted to fly in Yosemite National Park.

Tandem: Tandem flights are not permitted within Yosemite National Park.

Aerobatics: Aerobatic flying from Glacier Point is not permitted. For the purpose of these Site Procedures, aerobatic flying is defined as any maneuver that exceeds a bank angle of 60 degrees or nose up or down pitch angle of 30 degrees, or spins. Any violation of this rule will result in an immediate suspension of all flying privileges for a minimum period of 30 days and a maximum of 1 year.

Paragliders: Paragliding in Yosemite National Park is not permitted. Any pilot conducting a paraglider flight will be subject to citation by the National Park Service. Additionally, if the pilot is a member of the USHPA, the pilot may face disciplinary action from the USHPA.

V. PILOT SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACCOUNTABILITY

This section summarizes the safety-related responsibilities contained in the Site Procedures for all users of the site.

A) All pilots must:

- 1) Read Procedures for Pilots
- 2) Carry valid proof of USHPA membership
- 3) Comply with all Flying and Site Safety Requirements (paragraph VI).
- 4) Are equipped with personal protective equipment (paragraph VI.A)
- 5) Have and airworthiness glider (paragraph VI.B)
- 6) Perform preflight and takeoff check (paragraph VI.C)

VI. FLYING AND SITE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

All flying within Yosemite National Park will be conducted with safety as the first priority. Aside from obvious direct benefit to pilots, accident prevention is imperative to

prevent loss of the site for hang gliding due to the high public visibility of Yosemite National Park.

A. Personal Protective Equipment - All pilots are required to wear a helmet and fly with a locking type carabiner and a backup hang loop. Pilots must also wear a parachute with safeties installed to prevent accidental deployments. It is further recommended that all pilots wear protective clothing covering arms and legs, enclosed footwear, gloves, and eyeglass retainers.

B. Glider Airworthiness - Gliders must be maintained in satisfactory airworthy condition in full accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. Periodic inspection and maintenance are the responsibility of the pilot. If, in the judgment of a YHGA monitor, YHGA officer, or any YHGA member pilot, a glider is deemed unsafe (i.e., does not meet current safety standards), then that member has the responsibility and authority to immediately ground that glider from flying at Yosemite.

C. Required Operating Procedures:

- 1) Preflight Check - Following glider assembly, the pilot will conduct a thorough preflight check in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. Site Monitors will perform all preflights.
- 2) All launches must be witnessed and assisted by the on duty Site Monitor and must occur at the designated launch area just East of the Glacier Point information shack.
- 3) Takeoff Check - Prior to each takeoff, the pilot will follow standard check of harness hook-in, assure clear airspace before beginning the takeoff run, and allow sufficient clearance from launch to assure positive control of the glider before entering and securing the flight harness.
- 4) All landings within the park are restricted to the designated landing area (Leidig Meadow) except for emergency landings dictated by obvious safety considerations. Any Emergency landing will be reported to the NPS.
- 5) Immediately after landing, pilots must check for other approaching gliders and move their own glider as necessary to clear the touchdown point for the approaching glider.
- 6) Pilots are prohibited from using the site for testing experimental gliders, unnecessary parachute deployments, or any hazardous operations.
- 7) Pilots are responsible for adhering to all applicable Federal Air Regulations (FARs).

D. Unsafe Weather Conditions. The Site Monitor, or any YHGA officer may, on the basis of adverse flying conditions, close the site to all flying for the duration of the adverse conditions.

E. Quantity of Flights Allowed. A maximum of sixteen (16) flights per day will be allowed from Glacier Point. This does not include the site monitor if he/she chooses to fly (ie., 17 flights will be allowed if the site monitor is flying). However, the Site Monitor will remain responsible for ensuring that ALL launches are completed by 9:00 am. and that all pilots are on the ground by 10:30 am. Reservations will not be taken for more than sixteen pilots. A waiting list will be initiated when all sixteen reserved spots are taken.

F. Spectators, Smoking:

- 1) Spectators - For their own safety, spectators are prohibited within twenty feet of the launch area. It is the Site Monitor's responsibility to maintain control of all spectators.
- 2) Spectators - Pilots are encouraged to remember that spectators are also Park visitors and they have just as much right to enjoy the Park's natural wonders as do the visiting hang glider pilots. Please be courteous.
- 3) Smoking - Due to extreme fire hazard in the summer and to simplify controlling this hazard, smoking is not permitted at any time in the launch and landing areas.

VII. MONITOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The following represents the detailed responsibilities of Site Monitors who have overall control and responsibility for all aspects of flight operations:

- 1) The Site Monitor will arrive at the Glacier Point launch area no later than 7:00 am. No flights will be permitted without a Site Monitor present.
- 2) The Site Monitor will check the credentials of all pilots to ensure:
 - a) That each pilot is in possession of an advanced rating (only plasticized cards will be accepted from U.S. pilots. Foreign pilots are allowed to fly with a recognized foreign rating and a temporary USHPA membership).
 - b) That each pilot has read the Site Procedures and
 - c) That each pilot has a current application to fly on file.
 - d) Any commercial filming requires a Special Use Permit from the NPS. Do not allow **ANY** photography if it appears to pose a safety concern.
- 3) YHGA membership.
 - a) A YHGA membership is required to fly at the site
 - b) Any pilot wishing to become a member of the YHGA will pay the Club \$20.00 which will entitle that pilot to a seasonal membership in the YHGA.

- c) Site Monitor shall forward the Daily Flight Log sheets covering their period of responsibility along with check for all funds collected to the President using the forms in the Site Monitor's supply kit. All checks shall be made payable to "YHGA". The Site Monitor shall keep any cash received and forward a personal check in the amount of the cash received along with the daily flight log.
- 4) The Site Monitor has the responsibility to perform a preflight inspection on each glider to ensure its airworthiness. Additionally, the Site Monitor shall ensure that each pilot is using all the mandatory equipment (backup hang loop, parachute w/safeties, etc.)
- 5) The Site Monitor shall advise all pilots of local weather conditions, launch considerations, landing zone location, emergency reporting procedures and any other information that is necessary for a safe flight. It is recommended the Site Monitor check the valley from the northern point (railing) to ensure the valley is not fogged in.
- 6) The Site Monitor has the final say in determining whether flight operations will be allowed or disallowed due to weather condition, pilot condition, condition of flight equipment, or Park operations, which may present a conflict with flight operations.
- 7) Gaining flight clearance from Yosemite Park Dispatch:
 - a) The Site Monitor shall contact the Yosemite Dispatch at approximately 8:00 AM to request flight clearance, at **209-379-1992**. All communications must be brief and to the point. Make sure you know what you are going to say before you say it.

- b) The communication should be similar to the following:

YOSEMITE DISPATCH, THIS IS THE GLACIER POINT HANG GLIDING MONITOR.

WE HAVE _____ GLIDERS REQUESTING PERMISSION TO LAUNCH BEGINNING IN APPROXIMATELY _____ MINUTES. ARE WE CLEAR TO LAUNCH?

If clearance is received, the proper response should be:

COPY, GLIDERS CLEAR TO LAUNCH. THANK YOU.

- c) If no clearance is received, it is important for the Monitor to determine if

clearance will be received in time to launch some or all of the gliders. All communications must be brief and concise. Responses to Yosemite Dispatch transmissions should begin with: **COPY, then repeat the dispatcher's statement**, of no clearance for launch, indicating receipt of the transmission.

- d) Assuming no objection is received, flight operations can be initiated. If objections are received, the Monitor should determine their impact on operations and act accordingly.
- e) The Site Monitor shall remain at launch until the last launch is completed. Once the last pilot has landed, the Site Monitor shall inform Yosemite Dispatch that flight operations are finished for the day.
- f) If connection is scratchy or broken and you are unable to hear a clear transmission, request that Yosemite Dispatch repeat their transmission.

YOSEMITE, UNABLE TO COPY, PLEASE REPEAT

- g) **If no contact is made with Yosemite Dispatch, NO LAUNCHES ARE ALLOWED until official clearance is received.**
- 8) The Site Monitor is responsible for crowd control at launch and will instruct the first pilot to launch to assume crowd control duties in the landing area to ensure spectators are not in a dangerous position with incoming hang gliders.
- 9) The Site Monitor must report accidents to the Park Dispatch as follows:
 - NO INJURY-NO RESCUE REQUIRED:** Call via cell phone, at **209-379-1992**. If necessary, a ranger will respond as soon as possible to take an NPS incident report. A written report of the incident may be mailed to the Commercial Use Office at P.O. Box 700, El Portal, CA 95318, or emailed to Yose_CUA@nps.gov.
 - INJURIES/RESCUE REQUIRED:** Call 9-1-1 with location and extent of injuries and have a person with knowledge of the accident remain with the cell phone for contact purposes.
- 10) The Site Monitor will ensure that all launches are complete by 9:00AM and that Yosemite Dispatch is notified upon completion of the last landing.
- 11) The Site Monitor is responsible for ensuring that the following items are complete before self-launching:
 - a) That the Site Monitor supply kit is returned to its storage area.
 - b) Any accidents / incidents must be reported on the appropriate accident /

incident form and any injury accidents must be reported to the Park Dispatcher.

- c) Any irregularities should be documented on the back of the Daily Flight Log.

13) Monitors → **HOOK IN!!!**

VIII. VIOLATIONS

National Park Rangers have authority to issue citations or make arrests for violations of Park regulations including but not limited to parking, speeding, or any violations of the terms of the Commercial Use Authorization conditions. Each approved Site Monitor is responsible for ensuring the YHGA Site Procedures are followed. Pilots who violate these procedures will have their flying privileges at Yosemite National Park suspended or revoked. YHGA penalties for violations are effective immediately and will be reviewed by the YHGA Board of Directors for further action if required. The following violations will result in suspension. Subsequent violations will carry higher penalties, up to and including permanent suspension. YHGA Site Monitors and/or member pilots must file an Incident Report with the Board of Directors for violations of Site Procedures or park rules. Incident Report forms are available in the launch area lockbox. Pilots are encouraged to submit an Incident Report for any other circumstances they feel constitute a threat to safe use of the site.

Specific site restrictions and representative penalties are described as follows. -

- A. A pilot who knowingly flies or knowingly allows another pilot to fly without current USHPA membership, the appropriate proficiency rating, or while on suspension from a previous violation, will be suspended for a minimum of 30 days.
- B. A pilot who performs aerobatics will have his/her normal flying privileges suspended for a minimum 30 days.
- C. Any pilot who flies in an obviously unsafe manner will have his/her flying privileges at Yosemite National Park, at least temporarily, if not permanently, revoked. This includes any aerobatics, in-flight maneuvers, or any other flying activity considered to be obviously unsafe according to the common sense and reasonable judgement of pilots of average experience. All penalties will be imposed without regard to the circumstances constituting such activity, whether related to inadequate skill level, lack of pilot judgement, operating with defective or unsafe equipment, endangering the safety of spectators or other pilots, flying in unsafe weather conditions, or any other factor. A penalty beginning from the time of infraction will extend for a 60-day period pending further action by the YHGA Board of Directors.
- D. Paragliders are not permitted to land or takeoff within Yosemite National Park. Any such occurrence will result in the pilot having his/her privileges permanently revoked at Yosemite National Park, and the person(s) will be referred to the Park

Rangers for further action.

IX. EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

In case of an injury accident or illness requiring medical treatment, the following steps should be followed:

- 1) Give first aid to victim. First-aid equipment is available in the launch area lockbox.
- 2) Call Yosemite Dispatch by dialing 9-1-1 to request emergency medical or a search and rescue response. Emergency telephones are located by the concession building.
- 3
- 4) An accident report (Accident Report Form, available in the launch area lockbox) should be transmitted to the YHGA Board of Directors and the Office of Special Park Uses Permit Manager within 24 hours but no later than 72 hours following an accident.
- 5) A Park Ranger should be requested to investigate the incident and the YHGA officers should be notified as soon as possible. An on-site accident investigation will be initiated as soon as practicable by the site monitor if necessary, including inspection of the location, the glider/equipment, and collection of other pertinent information regarding wind/weather conditions, damage, injuries, etc. Eyewitness names, phone numbers, and statements should be obtained from qualified individuals if possible. YHGA Accident Report forms for this purpose are available in the launch area lockbox.

In the absence of injury or illness requiring medical treatment, such as vehicle accident or fire, Park Rangers shall be notified. In case of fire, contact Yosemite Dispatch, at [209-379-1992](tel:209-379-1992).

X. PROCEDURE CHANGES AND INFORMATION

The Yosemite National Park Hang Gliding Site Procedures are revised and updated annually as required by the YHGA Board of Directors subject to review by the Superintendent of Yosemite National Park.