Air Sailing Comm Procedures

Dave Swoboda “Vulture”
Frequencies

- NV23 uses MULTICOM freq 122.9
  - Temporary, Seasonal, Emergency
  - or airport with no FSS or UNICOM freq
  - Multiple Users of this Freq
    - Flying Eagle, Spanish Springs, Dayton Valley, Tiger, Herlong, Ravendale, Blue Canyon
    - Silver Springs (Activates Airport Info broadcast)
    - Black Rock City (Burning Man)
    - Lodi: Skydiving, “Jumpers Away”
Frequencies cont'd

- **122.9**
  - Below 7000 MSL within 10 Nm
    - ASG Operations Manual

- **123.3 & 123.5**
  - Aviation Instruction
  - Gliders
  - Hot Air Balloons

- **122.75**
  - Fixed wing Air to Air
Radio Checks

- Establish Positive Communication between Tow Plane and glider
  - DO NOT Respond if you are not called
  - “Red Tow” or “Blue Tow” are not you
  - Good time to transmit billing name to tow pilot

- If you want a Radio Check while prepping:
  - State “Air Sailing, Radio Check”
Ground Signals

- Standard Ground Signals

- 1. CHECK CONTROLS
- 2. OPEN/CLOSE
- 3. TAKE UP SLACK
- 4. HOLD
- 5. PILOT READY, LEVEL WINGS
- 6. BEGIN TAKE-OFF
- 7. BEGIN TAKE-OFF
- 8. STOP ENGINE/RELEASE TOWLINE
- 9. STOP OPERATION
- 10. TOWPLANE READY

- GROUND CREW
- TOW RELEASE
- GLIDER PILOT
- EMERGENCY!
- waggle rudder

ON GROUND
Prior to Launch

- Thumbs up Prior to:
- Mandatory Radio Call
  - Canopy Closed and Locked
  - Spoilers Closed and Locked
  - Slack is Out
  - What type of tow or where to
  - Standby for Rudder, Wagging Rudder
    - Or unable to wag rudder
Release Off Tow

- Glider Shall turn Right
  - Except contests or terrain
- Tow Plane Shall turn Left
  - Unless terrain prohibits, or contest
- Glider Transmits when off tow
  - i.e. “DRV off at 7.3”
NORCAL Approach

- North of RNO: 126.3
- South of RNO: 119.2
- Must contact NORCAL prior to entering RNO Class C
- Discrete codes
- I monitor NORCAL with a handheld
  - For Situational Awareness
Returning to NV23

- Air Sailing Ground is NOT monitored continuously
- Calling for Winds and Runway is Advisory Only
- Fly overhead NV23 to check the wind socks and tetrahedron
- Transmit entering downwind with gear down
- All Traffic is Standard Left Turns
- Self Announce
Self Announce

- Who You are Calling
  - “Air Sailing Traffic”
- Who You are
  - “Glider BM”
- Your Position
  - “Overhead at 6 thousand”
- Your Intentions
  - “Landing 03 Right”
- Repeat Who You are Calling
  - “Air Sailing”
Comm Discipline

- Listen before you transmit
- Think about what you are going to say before speaking
- Speak slowly and clearly
- Keep it brief, clear, and concise
- When in doubt, keep your mouth shut
The Don't

- Don't have conversations on aviation frequencies
- Don't transmit if you aren't involved
  - “You lost him” to the tow plane
- DO NOT transmit “Stuck Mic”
- Inappropriate calls
  - Demand another aircraft's intentions
  - “Coming in for a relight”