

GCV COVID-19 Protocols

1.0 Version Control

As the COVID-19 virus is a fast evolving situation throughout the globe, this document shall be treated as a living document and will be updated from time to time. Once Printed this document cannot be controlled, for the most up to date version of this document, refer to the Gliding Club of Victoria website www.glidingclub.org.au/covid19

Date	Version	Description of Changes	Approved	Comments
21/7/2020	0.9	Document created based upon LKSC template.	Committee	Thanks to Lake Keepit for the Template.
21/7/2020	1.0	Versioning Updates header.	Comittee	Nil content updates
10/11/2020	1.1		Committee	

1.1 Background

Most activities at the GCV facilities have potential to spread the COVID virus if the circumstances align. As the VIRUS is invisible we need to be constantly vigilant.

As a generalisation COVID 19 is spread via contact and/or through airborne particles.

Contact may be direct with an infected person or via a common touch point they and you may contact.

Airborne particles include expelled droplets, by nose and/or mouth, from an infected person.

Key objectives are to

- Be aware and limit exposure to potential infection pathways,
- Prevent or limit contact with potentially infected surfaces and people,
- To maintain sufficient distance between people to limit the potential airborne infection,
- To limit the spread of expelling of airborne droplets, and
- To continuously sanitise common touch points to remove / kill any COVID 19 virus traces.

1.2 Personal Hygiene

Personal hygiene in terms of COVID 19 has been well publicised and documented.

A good guide is found at the following link.

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert/how-to-protectyourself-and-others-from-coronavirus-covid-19/good-hygiene-for-coronavirus-covid-19>



If you are unsure, please access and read the above document.

1.3 Personal COVID Protection

In addition to avoiding touching your face, mouth, nose, etc, you should wash your hands often, and use hand sanitiser at appropriate points. You should also consider the use of PPE applicable to the situations at GCV. Disposable gloves and face masks can offer additional extra protection in some circumstances.

GCV expects the proper use of these cleaning and sanitising routines, and if applicable additional PPE:

- Before, during and after any flight in a dual seat / dual pilot glider and masks to be worn.
- When launching any glider, dual or single seat, club or private, when ground handling the aircraft, connecting the tow rope, and running the wing.
- When using club vehicles (ute and tractors).

All members and guests at GCV should come to the airport with a personal supply of cleaning products, hand sanitisers, face masks, gloves, and any other items they feel will improve their personal COVID safety.

GCV will supply appropriate cleaning materials for students, instructors, tug pilots, etc using GCV aircraft or vehicles.

1.4 Attendance Register

Everyone (members, guests, students, tug pilots, family, friends, etc) on arrival must complete the attendance register held in the State Gliding Centre (clubrooms). This is to facilitate rapid and complete contact tracing in case of a COVID event at the GCV.

1.5 Cleaning and Sanitising Aircraft

You may feel that cleaning your personal aircraft is not required. That may or may not be true depending on who and when it was last used.

You should consider the outside of every aircraft – others will eventually touch it. Consider these:

- The hanger door – who last opened / closed it before you?
- Helping move an aircraft in and out of the hangers. There are many touch points created as you/they push and pull the aircraft around.
- Fitting and removing tow out gear, ropes, dollies, wing walkers, etc all have some level of touch at unknown places. Who put them on or took them off last?
- Running the wing and connecting the tow rope at launch - who held it last?
- Daily DI – who held what area of the airframe / control surfaces?

Inside the cockpit has a vast area and number of touch points. These include:

- Canopy grips and latches,
- Clear-view window,
- All controls, knobs, and levers (joystick, airbrake handle, trim, tow release, undercarriage lever, flap level, pedal adjustments),
- Seat belt – especially the buckle components and adjustment points,



- All the switches, buttons, knobs, dials, etc, and
- Battery, rigging points.

A good guide to what and how to sanitise the aircraft is found with the GFA's Airworthiness Advice Notice AN 179 – titled "DISINFECTING COCKPITS AND ASSOCIATED AVIATION". This is mandatory reading for aircraft pilots and student pilots. The link to this document is:

http://doc.glidingaustralia.org/index.php?option=com_docman&view=document&alias=2696-gfa-179anissue-2-cockpit-disinfection-2020-05-25&category_slug=an-151-200&Itemid=133&highlight=WzE3OV0=

If you do not have access to this, please ask for a copy at the club flight centre.

Keys points to note are:

- Some chemicals may (will) damage instruments, fittings, or the aircraft fuselage (any plastics),
- Some chemicals are highly flammable as liquids and vapour. Not good to mix with batteries, switches, and oxygen systems. A very lean mixture of air to combustible fluid can be explosive (How much does your canopy cost to replace?), and
- Some chemicals are harmful in confined spaces, such as a closed cockpit while waiting to launch. Self-launch as a concept does not cover a semi-conscious pilots lack of ability.

GCV expects that all club gliders are to be thoroughly cleaned and sanitised before use each day and on switch over of pilot, student, or instructor during the day.

A cleaning and PPE kit will be available for club gliders. GCV will supply materials for students, instructors, tug pilots, etc using GCV aircraft or vehicles.

1.6 Club Ute and Tractors

As with aircraft, cars have many touch points. Door handles, seat belts, controls, switches, button, steering wheel etc. You should sanitise all points before and after using the club vehicles.

1.8 Accommodation

Members are requested to seek guidance from Aeropark Committee regarding status of accommodation.

1.9 Limitations on people in club common areas.

Limitations will be based on size government area rule.

For internal spaces (rooms in SGC, pie cart, Ben Bog 1 and Ben Bog 2), signage will be erected in each space defining the maximum number of people.

Externally, due to the size of the airport, there is no practical limitation but care should be taken as people cluster to ensure standard distances are maintained.