

# Visitors Safety Brief Wyvern Gliding Club

---



**An Airfield can be a very dangerous place, always ask if you are not sure, listen and act upon anything you are told but above all - always remain alert.**



### **Safety at the Launch Point.**

- Always check the approach (the area of the airfield upwind of the control bus) is clear of gliders coming in to land before crossing the active landing area
- Don't handle the winch cables until you have been shown how to do so safely
- The "not-in-use" winch cables must also be treated as live; therefore, keep clear of them when a launch is in progress
- If you are helping with manoeuvring gliders (ground handling) on the airfield listen to the club member in charge and keep a good lookout for gliders coming into land. However, never be afraid to ask or point out obstacles or objects which could damage the glider or cause injury
- Never walk or drive in front of a glider when it has a cable attached as it may move without warning, this includes the full span of the wings and tailplane
- If a glider at the front of the launch point has its wings held level this generally means it is about to launch, keep well clear
- The winch driver follows signals given by radio and lights on the control point. Whilst the signals are being given you will also hear an audible buzzer as a warning that a launch is about to take place or a cable is about to move
- A similar system is used by 622 VGS who launch alongside WGC, launches never take place together so if WGC is not launching 622 VGS may well be
- Propeller powered gliders (Motor Gliders) also operate from the launch point. Rotating propellers can be difficult to see so always keep well clear when the engine is running. Only approach the aircraft at the pilot's request and then only from behind the wing. Never turn a stationary propeller, the engine may start causing serious injury

### **Keep Safe when Driving or moving round the Airfield.**

- Know where you want to go and how to get there; if in doubt ask
- When driving, keep your speed below a 20mph maximum and keep a good lookout for aircraft, gliders and cables at all times
- Always adhere to any signage; it is designed to stop you moving in areas of potential danger. If you have to cross an active grass runway, stop before you cross and have a good look for approaching aircraft. Gliders can be particularly difficult to see so take your time and be thorough. When you are confident it is clear, cross the runway expeditiously
- The winch cables run between the winch and the launch point. They are almost impossible to see and are extremely hazardous. When moving the cables will easily cut through sheet steel such as that used in a car. Keep clear of them unless supervised by a club member, when driving always keep to the perimeter track and stay alert to what is happening all of the time
- Only park in an approved location at the launch point parking areas, parking behind the control point is purely for safety reasons and those who are running the airfield. Please leave your keys in the ignition in case cars have to be moved in an emergency whilst you are flying