

16/05/2020

To All Instructors

Lifting of Restrictions and Dual Training Flights

On Friday 15th May the Department for Transport announced that recreational GA flying is now allowed in England. We can, however, only fly solo or with other members of the same household. In practice this means that dual training flights are not currently possible.

This period, until dual flights with non-household members are allowed, is an opportunity for instructors to address their lack of currency and bring their piloting and instructional skills back up to speed prior to flying with students again. The 'BMAA Briefing Guidance for the conduct of an Instructor Briefing in accordance with ORS4 1378' has some useful pointers in this area.

It has been suggested that some instructors may find themselves under pressure from frustrated students (who were flying solo before the lockdown and are champing at the bit to get flying again) to substitute a briefing for a dual check flight and allow the student to fly solo again.

Hopefully, all instructors will resist any such pressure.

Apart from possible insurance implications and breaching the check flight rule in many flying order books, even a student with a good few solo hours under their belt will, after a two month layoff, have suffered a marked deterioration in both handling skills and judgement.

Let's hope it's not too long before we get the all clear to resume dual flight training.

The Panel of Examiners