



Date: 10 September 2021

Signal Hill Paragliding Site Rules

This letter confirms that the Signal Hill Site Rules below has been approved by the Glen Club Committee after due consultation and approval from the Glen Club Observer Committee.

Clayton Vermeulen

Club L&SO

Catherine Wijnberg

Club Chairperson

Drew Kennedy

Club Vice Chairperson

Michele Lodi-Fe

Club Treasurer



Site Rules Signal Hill

By adhering to the Site Rules below, you will be making Signal Hill a safer place for all to enjoy.
Thanks for your help and support.

Take off is South West (bench) to North West facing and is in the Table Mountain National Park.

Signal Hill (350M ASL) Location: GPS: +- S33°55.07' E18°024.15'

Wind Direction: North West, West North West and West, West South west, (South and South East in 'wind shadow' conditions)

Signal Hill is mostly flown in a 'wind shadow' from Table Mountain during the summer months. It has its own micro climate especially during the summer months from October to April. The prevailing winds in the peninsula can be South or South East but present itself as a North West or West North West breeze on take-off. This 'wind shadow' deteriorates during the course of the day and eventually breaks down causing the prevailing South or South East wind to become strong at launch and landing in a short period of time. It is extremely important to know the signs of this 'wind shadow' breaking down. The first sign is normally clouds being pushed over the 12 Apostles and the wind line out to sea becoming smaller and closer.

Check the available wind talkers to get an overall picture of what is happening in the peninsula to understand if you are flying in a 'wind shadow' or a prevailing North West or West North West breeze.

SAHPA Sports rated pilots are required to have a comprehensive briefing before their first flight off at Signal Hill by an experienced sports pilot or instructor.

Suggested is to fly on radio until such time as such pilot is competent at judging conditions at the site. Pilots new to Signal hill should always consult with experienced pilots on conditions and question flying at Signal hill if no experienced pilots are present.

It can be thermic and also have soaring conditions. Due to the complex local weather systems at Signal Hill, it is only suited for experienced pilots. The conditions can change from light easy to strong dangerous conditions quickly. Extreme caution is advised when flying Signal Hill at all times.

No ab initio solo student training.

No basic license pilots even under supervision

Permits Required

Site Grading: SAHPA Sports License or IPPI5. Foreign pilots must fly under supervision of a local SAHPA Sports Rated Pilot / Instructor.

SAHPA temporary membership for foreign visiting pilots is compulsory.

www.sahpa.co.za

All pilots flying in the Table Mountain National Park are required to apply annually for a TMNP My Activity Permit (Level 2 – Hang-gliding and paragliding). These are issued at the SANParks offices in Tokai.

Landing

Landing at Sea Point Promenade

Fly out over Sea Point and land on the grassy promenade in front of the Winchester Mansions hotel. If you are caught in a Southerly, you may land on the fields near the stadium, however be aware of strong rotor.

NO tandems are permitted to top land anywhere at Signal Hill or Lions Head except in the event that there is an emergency or conditions on landing become dangerous. An incident report will still be mandatory.

Solo pilots may top land only in the designated area if it is safe to do so.

ANY SLOPE LANDING IS AN INCIDENT AND MUST BE REPORTED

This site is maintained and controlled by The Glen Paragliding Club 0214381512

READ CAREFULLY BEFORE TAKING OFF

BEWARE OF THE FOLLOWING

(Check for true wind speed and direction on available wind talkers)

www.iweather.co.za and www.rasp.org.za for more information

Land only on designated area which is the promenade in Sea Point

Extreme caution if there are white caps on the sea

Best is to fly out over Sea Point , with enough height to glide over Sea Point and land on the grassy promenade in front of the Winchester Mansions hotel. Failing this, safely land on any fields at, or around the stadium. Note the bowling greens on the western boulevard, another accessible emergency landing field. Be aware of strong rotor at all times. As part of your briefing, familiarise yourself with how much height is sufficient to safely make it over the buildings of Sea Point. Note that slope landings should only be practiced in case of an emergency landing. This may be necessary if you experience massive sink after take-off and you are not sure to cross over the buildings of Sea Point. Do not risk crossing over the buildings if you are not high enough to do so. Expect strong wind-gradient during North-West conditions especially on pre frontal days, where the wind also increases rapidly. If you get caught out in strong wind, and you get blown over the back there are no landing options.

Avoid flying in hot, gusty Berg wind (North-East) conditions, or soon after the wind has swung from North-East to North-West (be wary of gusty North-West winds). The Berg air does not dissipate immediately.

In the 'wind shadow' southerly and south easterly wind, beware of strong wind on landing even if at launch the wind is light or nil. Winds compresses and accelerates around from Lions Head to the promenade.

Approach landing from up wind direction.

Many experienced pilots have been caught out at this site. It can look deceptively easy, do not be fooled into flying here if you do not have the required licence, knowledge and experience.

For further assistance please contact:

The Glen Paragliding Club 0214381512

Site Code of Conduct:

Signal Hill is part of the Table Mountain National Park and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It consists of the last surviving patch of critically-endangered Peninsula Shale Renosterveld vegetation. Please do not damage or destroy vegetation.

No smoking on the launch area

Pilots must get ready and clip in before walking onto the mat launch area.

Signal Hill has a high traffic of tandem operations so please keep a look out and give them space to launch safely.

Please park your vehicles in the designated parking area, traffic police do give out fines for those who park illegally

Avoid people when landing at the promenade in Sea Point. If the landing area is "busy" with people, choose a more suitable landing area and/or shout out clearly and repeatedly to prevent any personal or third party injury or damage to property.

Please take note of and abide by the regulations stated on the site sign board.

This site is situated in a National Park. Should the privilege of access to the flying site be abused, the site may be temporarily or permanently closed without prior notice.

Respect will be shown to the property. If at any time it is deemed that the property has been abused, then the privilege of using the site will be withdrawn.

This is a public site so please be a good ambassador for the sport.

All pilots using this site must abide by the Manual of Operations from SAHPA.

TFI Flights (Tandem Flight Instructors)

All TFI pilots need to be in possession of a valid SACA Grade C Paragliding license and are signed up to a registered SAHPA Paragliding School that carries a valid SANPARKS Permit to Operate from Signal Hill and Lions Head according to the SAHPA protocols.

The maximum recommended wind speed on take-off and landing will be 35km/h.

A 3 system will be used when it is deemed by any TFI pilot registered with SAHPA Paragliding that carries a valid SANPARKS Permit to Operate calls for a vote to reach consensus if it is safe to launch and land. The majority vote will stand. This vote can be redone in the event the conditions change and it becomes safe to launch or land. In the event a 3 is voted on, the launch will close and any pilots who disregard this vote can face suspension from flying from Signal Hill if it is deemed appropriate by the Glen Paragliding Clubs LSO or the Glen Club Committee.

The 3 System is as follows:

1 being flyable

2 Caution to be shown

3 Launch and Landing Closed

The Glen Paragliding Club committee has the right to close any site that the Glen Paragliding Club has custodianship of if it deems it to be unsafe to launch or land from.

Every TFI pilot operating from any Glen Paragliding Club site will be a fully paid up member of the Glen Paragliding Club. Failure to pay yearly fees could lead to suspension of flying privileges from any Glen Paragliding site till the fees are paid in full.