



**AERO CLUB OF INDIA (NAC-India)**  
Established: 1927  
(Member: Fédération Aéronautique Internationale, Switzerland-NAC-India)

## **STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP)**

*FOR HANG GLIDING*  
*FAI-ALIGNED | NASG-ALIGNED | DGCA-INTERFACED*

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### **1. Purpose and Regulatory Context**

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) establishes the regulatory, safety, and operational framework for conduct of Hang Gliding activities in India. The SOP is issued by the Aero Club of India (ACI), the National Air Sports Control of India (NAC-India), in alignment with the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) Sporting Code, National Air Sports Guidelines (NASG), and applicable provisions of Indian aviation law.

### **2. Statutory Authority**

This SOP is issued under the authority of:

- Article 246 read with Seventh Schedule, Union List Entry 29 of the Constitution of India
- Bharatiya Vayuyan Adhinyam, 2024
- National Air Sports Guidelines (NASG)
- Designation of ACI as National Air Sports Control of India (NAC-India)
- FAI Sporting Code – Hang Gliding Discipline

### **3. Scope of Application**

This SOP applies to all Hang Gliding activities conducted within Indian territory, including:

- Recreational flying
- Training and instruction
- Commercial operations
- National and international sporting events
- Participation by Indian and foreign pilots
- Demonstrations and Promotional events

## 4. Definitions and Classification

Hang Gliding refers to foot-launched, rigid or flexible wing gliders controlled by pilot weight-shift, without propulsion.

Operations are classified as:

- Recreational
- Training
- Event / Competition
- Demonstration / Promotional

## 5. Roles and Responsibilities

Aero Club of India (ACI – NAC-India):

- Apex authority for authorisation, licensing, and governance of air sports
- Issuance of FAI Sporting Licences
- Event sanction and safety oversight

Operators / Schools / Clubs:

- Compliance with this SOP
- Maintenance of safety and training standards

Pilots / Athletes:

- Compliance with licensing, currency, and safety requirements

State Governments / District Administration:

- Facilitation and local coordination only

DGCA:

- Airspace safety interface where applicable

## 6. Eligibility Requirements

- Minimum age as prescribed by ACI
- Valid medical fitness declaration
- Completion of ACI-recognised Hang Gliding training
- Valid FAI Sporting Licence issued through ACI

## 7. Equipment Standards

- Hang glider certified to EN or equivalent internationally accepted standards
- Mandatory reserve parachute

- Helmet and protective equipment
- Variometer and basic flight instruments
- Equipment inspection and serviceability records

## **8. Infrastructure and Site Requirements**

- Approved launch and landing sites
- Adequate slope, wind conditions, and clearance
- Defined safety and exclusion zones
- Emergency access and rescue capability
- Local administrative facilitation where required

## **9. Operational Procedures**

- Site assessment and weather evaluation
- Pre-flight equipment checks
- Launch, flight, and landing procedures as per training syllabus
- Post-flight inspection and log maintenance

## **10. Safety Management and Incident Reporting**

- Mandatory risk assessment prior to operations
- Emergency response planning
- Reporting of accidents and incidents to ACI
- Cooperation with safety investigation processes

## **11. Event Authorisation**

All Hang Gliding events, demonstrations, and competitions shall require prior authorisation from ACI (NAC-India). International events and participation shall be governed by FAI and ACI protocols.

## **12. Compliance and Enforcement**

Non-compliance with this SOP may result in suspension or withdrawal of authorisation, licences, or event permissions. Serious violations may be escalated to competent authorities as applicable.

## **13. Review and Amendments**

This SOP shall be reviewed periodically by ACI to ensure continued alignment with international standards, national policy, and safety requirements.