

## Radio Procedures 101

Setup: Turn radio on early in the keyhole before staging. Confirm on 122.9.

Actively listen. Build situational awareness of traffic.

Flashing frequency is an early sign of a weak ship battery.

Press transmit button briefly to confirm yellow transmit light on radio panel.

Keep boom mic close to lips at all times to ensure others hear you clearly.

Confirm volume knob is set properly.

Ensure mic button is pressed before speaking.

Get a radio check with the tow plane before every launch.

Broadcast calls:

Sent out to everyone to convey your intentions without a response expected unless a conflict.

Examples: "Monroe traffic, glider 2MG staging Runway 3, Monroe".

"Monroe traffic, glider 2MG downwind/base/final Runway 3, Monroe".

Aircraft-specific calls:

Sent to a specific aircraft and a response is needed. If no response the first time, keep trying.

Examples: "23Lima, glider 2MG, radio check".

"Cessna on a straight-in approach to Runway 3, this is glider 2MG downwind Runway 3. No joy".

Proper phraseology: It's important to use proper radio phraseology to minimize confusion.

Example: "Loud and clear" instead of "I hear ya", etc.

Clear communication is critical at a busy airport. Without good radio practices we have built the first link in a possible aircraft accident chain. If new to using the radios in aviation, practice at home or while driving. The fundamental process is really no different than starting a phone call: Hi Fred, this is Jim, then message.