



OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER
CIVIL AIR PATROL
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALABAMA 36112-6332

24 January 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL REGION AND WING COMMANDERS

FROM: CC

SUBJECT: INTERIM CHANGE LETTER-Implementation of Glider Region Centers of Excellence

1. The Glider Region Centers of Excellence (RCOE) program was established by the NEC and the glider fleet reduced in an effort to more effectively manage the glider program and aggressively promote and provide more glider orientation flights to our cadets.
2. With the establishment of RCOE, Civil Air Patrol's glider program is now region-based. The region commanders have established the location of each of the RCOEs, assigned gliders and appointed RCOE directors. The RCOE director's duty is to assist with the implementation of their RCOE and work with, and on behalf of, the region commander to oversee safe and cost-effective RCOE operations. As a result, all gliders have become region assets.
3. To ensure equity of opportunity, each region has been assigned a funding account for cadet glider orientation rides for each RCOE. Each region commander is responsible for designating the amount of orientation ride funding he/she wants for their RCOEs and is responsible for its distribution. This funding is specifically dedicated to the RCOE for glider orientation rides. Additional funding sources are available to the regions for Teacher, ROTC and JROTC orientation rides.
4. In those areas that are not geographically convenient to the RCOE, Cadet Glider Orientation Ride funding is also available and encouraged for flights provided by Soaring Society of America (SSA) chapters in association with our long-established relationship and Memorandum of Understanding.
5. Where CAP tow planes are not available in sufficient number, use of other commercial tow plane operations, is permitted with prior approval from the National Operations Center and General Counsel (NHQ CAP/GC), as are the use of commercial glider operations where there are no SSA chapters available. There are specific qualifying requirements and restrictions that apply.
6. Available funds are limited. When considering non-CAP operations, it is extremely important to ensure that all associated costs are reasonable.
7. At least one RCOE will be located in each region. RCOE directors will work with host wing commanders or their designees to arrange for the support required to implement and maintain the program and conduct operations.

8. In an effort to maintain cost-effective support and availability, consideration should also be given to assigning tow planes to the RCOE, especially those primarily used for towing. Although a region asset, these tow planes can also be made available to the host wing when not being used in their primary mission.

9. This Interim Change Letter expires on 1 August 2011. Please contact Col Mike Murrell, Senior Advisor for Operations, if you have questions or need additional assistance. Thank you for *your service* to CAP, and for your work to get our cadets in the air – one of their reasons for continuing *their service* to CAP!


AMY S. COURTER
Major General, CAP
Commander

cc:
CAP/CV/CS/EX/EXA/DO/FM/GC/LG/ED/CP/EXM/EXS
CAP Senior Advisors
CAP-USAF/CC/CV/XO
CAP-USAF Liaison Region Commanders
CAP-USAF State Directors