

**Operations**  
**ILWG HOT AIR BALLOON FLIGHT MANAGEMENT**

This supplement prescribes the responsibilities of all Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Illinois Wing (ILWG) personnel as applicable to the control and management of ILWG hot air balloon flying programs, aircraft, and aircrews. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requirements referred to in this supplement are minimum standards, and in some instances ILWG has established higher standards than FAA minimums. The objective of this supplement is to encourage safety, promote effective and efficient management, establish standardization, and provide effective supervision for ILWG hot air balloon flying activities. The practices, procedures and standards prescribed in this supplement are mandatory. Suggestions for modification and improvement of the ILWG hot air balloon flight management program should be forwarded through the chain of command to Wing Headquarters, ILWG/DO. Except as noted below, all aspects of CAPR 60-1 apply. This supplement is published IAW CAPR 60-1.

**Removal of Restriction on Lighter-Than-Air Aircraft**  
**Chapter 2**  
**RULES OF OPERATION**

**2-4. Aircraft Requirements. (revised as follows to remove lighter-than-air restriction)**

- a. Ultralight, aerolight, hang glider and similar aircraft, rotorcraft, experimental, primary category, and home-built aircraft are not authorized for use on any CAP flight activity.

**Chapter 1**  
**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**1-3. Definition of Terms (add)**

w. Pre-Solo Qualification Flight. A flight, usually performed at a CAP wing level or higher flight encampment/academy, during which the CAP student pilot demonstrates, to an onboard CAP certificated flight instructor (CFI), that he/she has the ability to fly the aircraft without assistance from the onboard CAP CFI. In the case of Hot Air Balloon Instruction, this may occur with the CAP student pilot alone in the basket under direct instructor supervision and balloon system properly restrained to the ground. Note: This flight does not require an FAA endorsement and does not fulfill FAA requirements for solo flight; however the prerequisite for a pre-solo qualification is completion of all requirements in the appropriate portion of FAR 61.87.

**Chapter 2**  
**GENERAL OPERATING RULES**

**2-1. Basic Rules**

b. **Smoking (Add)** Smoking is prohibited on and within 50 feet of hot air balloons at all times.

l. **Sterile Cockpit Procedures. (Add)** In Balloon flight activities, hot air balloon pilots will limit conversation to only conversation required for orientation and training.

o. **Crosswind Limitation. (Add)** Hot air balloon pilots will exercise good judgment with respect to wind conditions. Extreme caution will be exercised before departing in winds of 10 knots or greater. No orientation or training flights involving CAP Cadets will occur in winds in excess of 8 knots.

**2-2. Operation Limits.**

**k. (New)** Balloon crews will obtain prior permission from landowners and in the case of airports, abide by the rules of any governing authority in accordance to FAA airspace regulations before engaging in hot air balloon setup and departure activities. Hot air balloon aircrews will do everything possible to foster and maintain good relations with landowners, especially when landing.

**l. (New)** ILWG Hot Air Balloon activities may occur when the balloon is securely tethered to the ground, or as part of activities exclusively designated for hot air balloons.

## **2-5 Flight Release (Add)**

**j.** ILWG Hot Air Balloon flight activities may not be conducted as AFAMs.

**k.** ILWG Hot Air Balloon flight activities may only be conducted under mission symbol C16, C17, and C19, and may only be released by an authorized FRO.

## **2-8 (Revised). Pilot Training**

**b.** All CAP members are authorized to use CAP gliders for flight instruction toward any FAA certificate or rating. *Also, all CAP members are authorized to use CAP balloons for flight instruction toward any FAA certificate or rating.*

## **Chapter 3**

### **PILOT QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS**

#### **3-1. CAP Form 5 Flight Checks (Add)**

**f.** ILWG Hot Air Balloon Pilots and Instructor Pilots must complete an initial and a required annual ILWG Form 5b flight check in a hot air balloon with a qualified ILWG Hot Air Balloon Check Pilot using the current FAA Practical Test Standards for the certificate being exercised as a minimum level of proficiency. This flight check must be recorded in the pilot's logbook by the Check Pilot. In the event that only one qualified Hot Air Balloon Check Pilot exists in the Wing, he or she is exempted from this requirement, provided that he or she has conducted at least 3 hot air balloon flights in the preceding 12 months.

#### **3-6 Pilot Aircraft Qualification Requirements.**

##### **c. Balloons (Add).**

- (1) Possess a valid FAA private or commercial certificate with a Lighter Than Air (LTA) category and Hot Air Balloon class rating.
- (2) Have a minimum of 10 hours PIC in hot air balloons.

#### **3-7. Pilot Qualifications (Add).**

**l. Hot Air Balloon Pilot.** The following basic requirements must be met to be qualified as a ILWG Hot Air Balloon Pilot. Certificate and flight experience requirements do not apply to student pilots under the supervision of a ILWG Hot Air Balloon Instructor.

- (1) Be an active ILWG CAP member at least 17 years of age.
- (2) Possess a valid FAA private or commercial certificate, including a Lighter Than Air (LTA) category and Hot Air Balloon class rating.
- (3) Possess a current flightreview IAW FAR 61.56
- (4) Satisfactorily complete a ILWG Form 5b flight check in a hot air balloon with a ILWG Hot Air Balloon Check Pilot within the preceding 12 months.
- (5) Satisfactorily complete an annual CAPF 5 written examination.

**m. Hot Air Balloon Instructor Pilot.** The following requirements must be met to be qualified as a ILWG Hot Air Balloon Instructor Pilot.

- (1) Be an active ILWG Hot Air Balloon Pilot at least 18 years of age.
- (2) Possess a valid FAA commercial certificate, including a Lighter Than Air (LTA) category and Hot Air Balloon class rating, with the appropriate rating authorizing the pilot to act as a balloon instructor.
- (3) Have a minimum of 50 hours total pilot-in-command (PIC) time in hot air balloons.
- (4) Be qualified and current in hot air balloons.
- (5) Be designated in writing as a Hot Air Balloon Instructor Pilot by the current wing commander.

**n. Hot Air Balloon Check Pilot.** The following requirements must be met to be qualified as a ILWG Hot Air Balloon Check Pilot.

- (1) Be an active CAP member at least 21 years of age.
- (2) Possess a valid FAA commercial certificate, including a Lighter Than Air (LTA) category and Hot Air Balloon class rating, with the appropriate rating authorizing the pilot to act as a balloon instructor.
- (3) Have a minimum of 100 hours total pilot-in-command (PIC) time in hot air balloons.
- (4) Be qualified and current in hot air balloons.
- (5) Be designated in writing as a Hot Air Balloon Check Pilot by the current wing commander.

**o. Hot Air Balloon Cadet Orientation Pilot.** The following requirements must be met to be designated as an ILWG Hot Air Balloon Cadet Orientation Pilot.

- (1) Be an active ILWG Hot Air Balloon Pilot at least 21 years of age.
  - (2) Possess a valid FAA private or commercial certificate, including a Lighter Than Air (LTA) category and Hot Air Balloon class rating.
  - (3) Have a minimum of 50 hours total pilot-in-command (PIC) time in hot air balloons.
  - (4) Satisfactorily demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the *Cadet Flight Orientation Program Syllabus* (CAPP 52-7), to the extent that it applies to ballooning, to a ILWG Hot Air Balloon Check Pilot.
  - (5) Be designated in writing by the current wing commander.
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Supersedes all previous Illinois Wing Balloon Supplements to CAPR 60-1  
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