



# TEACHING SOARING

BY TOM KNAUFF

## Short Field Landing

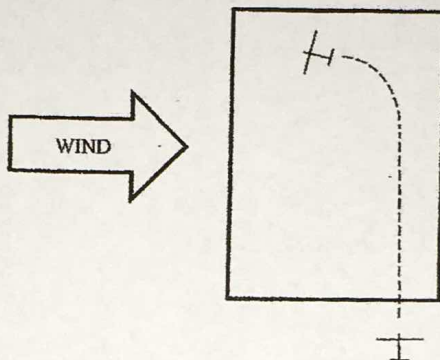
You are about to perform an off-field landing. The field is short and is surrounded by a barbed wire fence.

You are not sure you will be able to land and stop before you hit the fence. Going through a wire fence is like passing through a cheese slicer. The wire can pass through the glider canopy and even the surface of the fuselage, possibly slicing right through your body.

One of the possibilities is to intentionally hit one of the fence posts, rather than passing between the posts. The idea is to knock the post over so the glider may roll over the post and wires.

Another possibility is to plan to perform an intentional ground loop. Assume the field is short, but has enough width to perform an intentional ground loop. The idea is to intentionally land on one edge of the

field while planning to perform an intentional ground loop by forcing one wing onto the ground.



### Water landing

You are getting low over totally unlandable terrain. The only suitable possibility to perform a safe landing is a large lake. Should you plan to land with the landing gear retracted or extended?

Your choices include:

Landing far enough from the shoreline where the water is probably deep enough to not accidentally strike the bottom. (Point A)

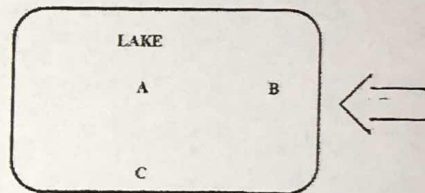
Plan to perform the touchdown into the wind and close to the shoreline. (Point B)

Land close to, and parallel to, the shoreline. (Point C)

### Answer:

Land with the landing gear extended to help avoid accidentally touching down on the water and causing the glider to porpoise, skipping on and off the water, possibly nosing down into the water and striking the bottom.

Land parallel to the shoreline, into the wind. This allows you to get out of the glider and get to the shore with the least trouble. ✈



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