



CAP Tow Winch & Auto Tow Launch Training Requirements

Implementation Date: 12 Nov 13

Effective 1 Mar 14: only qualified tow equipment operators will launch CAP members and CAP gliders.

1. The following guidance provides standardized instructor and trainee requirements designed to enhance safe and effective operations of critical towing equipment used to support CAP glider flight activities.

- a. CAP Tow Winch Operator (TWO): Member qualified to operate a tow winch to launch CAP gliders and is designated by a wing or higher commander.
- b. CAP Tow Winch Instructor (TWI): Instructor may be a tow winch manufacturer representative, a person trained by a manufacturer representative or a person trained by a current and qualified CAP designated tow winch instructor; who has safely completed a minimum of 30 solo tow winch launches, has been signed off by the tow winch manufacturer representative or CAP designated check examiner, and is designated by a wing or higher commander.
- c. CAP Tow Winch Check Examiner (TWCE): Check Examiner may be a tow winch manufacturer representative, a person trained by a manufacturer representative or CAP designated tow winch instructor; who has safely completed a minimum of 100 solo tow winch launches, has been signed-off by a designated tow winch check examiner, and is designated by a wing or higher commander.
- d. Waivers: Requirements may be waived on a case by case basis when taking delivery of a newly assigned tow winch.
- e. CAP Auto Tow Operator (ATO): Member qualified to operate an auto tow to launch CAP gliders and is designated by a wing or higher commander.
- f. CAP Auto Tow Instructor (ATI): Instructor must be an auto tow operator, trained by a current and qualified designated auto tow instructor; who has completed a minimum of 30 solo glider auto tows, has been signed-off by a designated check examiner, and is designated by a wing or higher commander.
- g. CAP Auto Tow Check Examiner (ATCE): Check Examiner must be an auto tow designated instructor who has completed a minimum of 100 solo auto tows, has been signed off by a designated auto tow check examiner, and is designated by a wing or higher commander.

2. The following minimum training requirements must be met by CAP members in order to perform duties of CAP Tow Winch Operator and CAP Auto Tow Operator:

- a. Trainee must be a CAP senior member.
- b. Trainees must receive face to face ground instruction and a safety briefing, to include an explanation of tow duties, prior to operational training for set up and tow winch/auto tow launch operations. This includes actions on both ends of the tow winch/auto tow line (tow winch/auto tow end and glider end).
- c. Trainees must have, at least, three glider rides involving the system with which they are training.

- d. While seated next to the instructor, trainees must observe a minimum of 10 tow winch/auto tow launches performed by a current and qualified designated instructor, while being instructed on procedures and conduct of the launches.
- e. Training must include both normal and emergency procedures.
- f. Trainees must conduct a minimum of 10 tow winch/auto tow launches in the operator's seat under the supervision of a current and qualified designated instructor.
- g. Trainees and operators will maintain a logbook.
- h. After completion of minimum training requirements and when the instructor is satisfied that the trainee is competent to safely conduct solo tow winch/auto tow launches, the instructor will submit the trainee as "Qualified" in Ops Quals indicating successful completion of tow winch/auto tow launch training, as applicable. Next, the trainee will be available for wing or higher commander designation/appointment in Ops Quals.

Trainee's Name (Last, First MI. / CAPID): _____

I verify that the trainee has successfully completed the above requirements and is competent to perform the duties of tow winch / auto tow (circle one) operator.

Instructor's Name (Last, First MI. / CAPID): _____

I have conducted an evaluation and verify the trainee is competent to safely and effectively perform the duties of tow winch / auto tow (circle one) operator.

Examiner's Name (Last, First MI. / CAPID): _____

Date Examiner submitted trainee's "Qualified" data into Ops Quals: _____

For Instructor / Evaluator Candidates:

I have conducted an evaluation and verify the Instructor / Check Examiner (circle one) candidate is competent to safely and effectively perform the indicated duties pertaining to tow winch / auto tow (circle one) equipment.

Examiner's Name (Last, First MI. / CAPID): _____

Date Examiner submitted candidates "Qualified" data into Ops Quals: _____

Notice: Non-CAP tow winch and auto tow operators must have successfully completed verifiable training from a factory representative or legitimate aviation organization (SSA, aero club, contracted glider tow company, etc.) to be considered qualified to perform tow duties for CAP members or CAP aircraft. The FRO will confirm the qualification of the tow operator prior to glider sortie release.