



## Annual Sigma Tandem Hand Camera (Handcam) Safety Checklist

- **I do not intend to use Handcam** (If my use of Handcam changes, I will submit this document, fully filled out by email to sheryl@uptvector.com before I begin to use Handcam on tandem jumps.)
  - 1) Int. \_\_\_\_\_  
**(If number one (1) was initialed and you do not intend to use a handcam, proceed to the bottom for signature)**
- I have read and will comply with the Minimum Requirements for performing Handcam tandem jumps (page 2).
  - 2) Int. \_\_\_\_\_
- I am a current Sigma tandem instructor. (If NO, get recurrent on Sigma tandem FIRST).
  - 3) Int. \_\_\_\_\_
- I have successfully demonstrated emergency procedures on the ground (or in a hanging harness) wearing the Handcam set up that I am using while attached to a simulated student.
  - 4) Int. \_\_\_\_\_
- I am aware that conducting systems handle checks is **REQUIRED** on every tandem skydive that I make, including any tandem skydiving wearing a Handcam set up.
  - The system check consists of:
    - Visually Inspect Drogue inflation after drogue set over right shoulder.
    - Physically touch the left main drogue release.
    - Physically touch the right main drogue release.
    - Physically touch and observe the cutaway handle.
    - Physically touch and observe the reserve handle.
    - Physically touch and observe the RSL.
  - 5) Int. \_\_\_\_\_
- I am aware that failure to conduct system handles checks in this order, on Sigma tandem jumps is grounds for immediate tandem rating suspension and/or revocation.
  - 6) Int. \_\_\_\_\_
- I am aware that placing my Handcam arm in a position that a tandem student can grab it creates an increased potential risk of student interference.
  - 7) Int. \_\_\_\_\_
- I have reviewed, and I am current on student interference Emergency Procedures.
  - 8) Int. \_\_\_\_\_
- I will not use any extendable pole mechanism on my head or hand camera set up.
  - 9) Int. \_\_\_\_\_
- I will complete my emergency procedures, to include activation of the reserve handle on every EP scenario, regardless of whether I am wearing a Handcam assembly or not.
  - The attempt to film emergency procedures with left arm extended, instead of using left arm to perform emergency procedures, has led to multiple out of sequence EP scenarios.
  - 10) Int. \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name** \_\_\_\_\_ confirm if using Handcam (circle one) YES / NO

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**(This form is only valid for 12 months from the signature date on form)**

# The Minimum Requirement to Perform Handcam Tandem Jumps

Due to the potential for distraction and the added complexity during hookup and exit, the minimum recommendations for Sigma instructors who wish to use a handcam setup are:

- If it's the first time using a handcam, an absolute minimum of 200 post probation tandem skydives or has attended an approved handcam training program by an examiner. Questions regarding approved programs should be referred to the current UPT Tandem Program Director
- Sigma Tandem currency (the first jump back after a seasonal layoff should NOT be a Handcam jump.)
- The TI should demonstrate emergency procedures with the Handcam with a simulated student attached and full gear on the ground, or in a hanging harness.
- Before taking a student using Handcam, the instructor should make 2 jumps with a currently rated Tandem Instructor to feel how it affects flying and to be comfortable with the operation of the camera.
- Complete the Annual Sigma Handcam Safety Checklist form

**These requirements are the absolute minimum, the instructor should make as many practices jumps as needed to build a safe level of proficiency.**

## ***The necessary mindset for performing Handcam tandems:***

Any instructor performing handcam video on a tandem should realize that they are a **tandem instructor first**, and a videographer a "distant" second. The video should be the very last priority on the tandem skydive.

**“A bad video of a good skydive is preferable to a good video of a bad skydive.”**

From in-aircraft hookup procedures, through the exit, the freefall and the parachute ride, full attention should be given to the tandem skydive and the video should only be interwoven into established procedures.

The instructor should also remember that it is the student's video. They want to see themselves in it, not the instructor goofing around and grandstanding for the entire freefall.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

(This form must be filled out and signed whether you plan to use a hand cam or not for all renewals)