



Issued: 19 April 2021

COVID-19 – Flying Display Season 2021

This Safety Notice contains recommendations regarding operational safety.

Recipients must ensure that this Notice is copied to all members of their staff who need to take appropriate action or who may have an interest in the information (including any 'in-house' or contracted maintenance organisations and relevant outside contractors).

Applicability:	
Aerodromes:	Not primarily affected
Air Traffic:	Not primarily affected
Airspace:	Not primarily affected
Airworthiness:	Not primarily affected
Flight Operations:	All Display Pilots, Display Authorisation Evaluators and Flying Display Directors
Licensed/Unlicensed Personnel:	All Display Pilots, Display Authorisation Evaluators and Flying Display Directors

1 Introduction

Following ongoing updates to the [Department for Transport Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) General Aviation Guidance](#), it is anticipated that display flying activity will be able to recommence later in 2021. With the protracted period of reduced aviation opportunities caused by the pandemic, it is essential that before any such display flying is performed pilots and organisers familiarize themselves fully with all aspects of display operations and achieve an acceptable level of flying currency and safety. This Safety Notice (SN) provides details of the minimum currency levels the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) expects Display Pilots to achieve, prior to their first display flying activity in Display Season 2021 (DS 21). Following SN 2020/008 (COVID-19 – Flying Season 2020 - withdrawn 20 November 2020), no further Display Authorisation (DA) or Flying Display Director (FDD) extensions will be applied for DS 21.

2 Scope

2.1 Display Authorisations

In accordance with CAP 1724, DAs may be issued to Display Pilots by the CAA GA Unit following an evaluation and recommendation by a CAA-appointed DA Evaluator (DAE). Initial issue DAs are valid for a period of 6 months. A minimum of two 6-month evaluations and a period of 12 months must have elapsed from the date of initial issue before a DA can be issued for 13 months. Following this initial DA period, DAs have a validity of 13 calendar months. This requirement remains extant for DS 21.

2.2 Flying Display Currency

Existing aircraft currency requirements for 'Permit-to-Fly' ex-military aircraft, as detailed in CAP 632, and display pilot currency requirements, as detailed in CAP 1724, remain extant. In addition, the following minimum pilot currency requirements are expected to be achieved before the first Flying Display or Private Flying Display in DS 21:

Display Pilot minimum currency requirements preceding the first Flying Display or Private Flying Display in DS 21	
Display Aircraft	Within 30 days of date of display
All Display Aircraft	3 complete display routines flown or practised in DA category

Display Pilot minimum aerobatic currency requirements preceding the first Flying Display or Private Flying Display in DS 21	
Aerobatic Skill Level	Within 30 days of date of display
All Aerobatic Skill Levels	3 complete display routines flown or practised in DA category

2.2.1 Display Pilots should **declare**, at Para 2d of [SRG 1327: Pilots Certified Declaration for Submission to the Flying Display Director](#), details of the minimum currency flights as expected in this SN, along with the list of associated manoeuvres for the proposed display. If the SRG 1327 applies to a second or subsequent Flying Display in DS 21, the pilot should **also declare** the date and location of all previous Flying Displays in DS 21.

2.3. Flying Display Director

2.3.1 The validity and currency requirements detailed in CAP 403 Appendix C remain extant. However, given the limited FDD activity during Display Season 2020, it is strongly recommended that FDDs seek the assistance of another experienced FDD, who will be present on the day of the event, for support. It is further recommended that FDDs make use of a Flying Control Committee (FCC) at smaller Flying Displays where an FCC would otherwise not be mandated. The additional support, experience and associated networking provided by an FCC will greatly assist FDDs as they make a return to directing Flying Displays during DS 21.

2.3.2 FDDs should ensure that the expected minimum **currency requirements** of this SN are declared by the Display Pilot in SRG 1327 before they are considered for participation in the planned Flying Display.

2.4 Airborne Flying Display Director

As detailed in CAP 403 Edition 18, Display Pilots who wish to carry out Flying Displays without a FDD on the ground are to be Airborne Flying Display Director (AFDD) accredited.

2.5 Other requirements

All other requirements contained within CAP 403 and CAP 1724 remain extant and FDDs are reminded of the Article 86 and Private Flying Display Application timescales detailed in CAP 403 Chapter 3.

3 **Flying Display Symposium**

- 3.1 It is anticipated that an on-line Flying Display Symposium will be held on 24 May 2021, further details will be published by late-April 2021.

4 **Queries**

- 4.1 Any queries as a result of this SN should be directed to the Air Display Regulation Manager through GA@caa.co.uk

5 **Cancellation**

- 5.1 This Safety Notice shall remain in force until **31 October 2021**.