

Briefing for Unintentional Water Landings

(Dry & Wet combined training)

RULES

- Skydiver's Information Manual Section 5-1 F and Section 6-5
- Get endorsement in logbook as proof of this briefing
- Can make intentional water landings within 60 days
- Counts towards B license requirements
- Must be skilled in basic swimming already

GEAR

- BSR's state all skydivers with round mains or reserves and all solo students must wear **flotation devices** when the exit, opening or landing point is within one mile of open body of water
- High performance / heavily loaded canopies
- Extra equipment that complicates things...
 - Weights for faster freefall? Full face helmets? Camera flyers? Skysurfers?

RED FLAGS

- No flotation gear
- No training/ incorrect procedures
- Panic/ indecision
- What put you there?
 - Spotting errors/ airplane emergency
 - Malfunctions/ landing under reserve instead of main/ off field landing
 - Extreme weather conditions / high winds
 - If you are unintentionally landing in water, chances are, winds will be high, or you could have made your intended target.
- Depth perception over water

PROPER PROCEDURES

- As with all obstacles:
 - AVOID: LOOK AWAY - STEER AWAY**
 - If can't avoid, prepare for PLF, flare (proper unknown altitude flare)
- Loosen chest strap, leave leg straps alone!
 - Your legs taper towards your feet and that's the direction they come out, so it works out fine!
- Face into the wind / facing upstream
 - wind direction (choppy to smooth)
- Try first to stand up
- If not, GET OUT OF GEAR:
 - throw arms back
 - swim down & upwind/stream
- Pull a toggle to collapse... or Cutaway? Only after both feet are wet!
- Find a seam and follow it out
- Try to not get entangled in suspension lines
- Take a breath as often as you can

PHYSICAL PRACTICE

- Simulate getting out of harness
- Canopy thrown over head