

Achievement Badges

- 1 Proficiency badges are awarded to pilots who complete the stipulated tasks discussed below.
There are two types of proficiency badges available from the MGA —
 - a **Eagles** — Thermal
 - b **Gulls** — Slope Aerobatic
- 2 All models must comply with current FAI limits —
 - a maximum flying area 150 dm²
 - b maximum mass 5 kg
 - c wing loading 12–75 g/dm²
- 3 Launching for Eagle Badges must be by one of —
 - a 150 metre bungee (unstretched — not more than 30 metres elastic)
 - b 175 metre handline
 - c 200 metre winch — measured from turnabout to tow-ring

For other Badges, models may be launched by hand
- 3 The same aircraft must be used for all tasks for any one grade, but ballast may be changed. The “same aircraft” includes aircraft rebuilt after a crash as well as a new aircraft built to the same plan and with all essentials unaltered. The MGA may require confirmation of the validity of a new or rebuilt model.
- 4 All tasks for any one grade must be completed before any tasks may be recorded for the next grade.
- 5 Not more than one task may be recorded from any one flight.
- 6 The goal for all cross-country or goal-and-return flights must be nominated before the flight, with reference to a suitable, accurate map. Odometer readings are not acceptable. Distances must be measured along the shortest distance between launch point and goal. All cross-country flights must overfly the nominated goal for straight line flights, or overfly the launch point at start and finish of goal-and-return flights.
- 7 Any system which feeds information back from aircraft to pilot is not permitted.
- 8 It is the responsibility of pilots to ensure that they are adequately covered by insurance, especially when attempting cross-country flights.
- 8 Tasks for Diamond Eagle and above must be witnessed by at least one competent glider flyer, and a report must be submitted with the claim. This is intended more to ensure literary input for possible publication than as a form of check.
- 9 The badges are provided free of charge to SAMAA members and while SAMAA membership is not strictly required, it is in fact a moral obligation if you are going to accept their badges. Non-SAMAA members are required to pay a nominal fee for a badge.
The present costs are — R10 for bronze badges, R 5 for scrolls.

- 10 On completion of the required tasks, application for a badge must be made in writing to the current Badge Co-ordinator, stipulating —
- a the name of the pilot.
 - b his SAMAA Number —
(non-SAMAA members to include the appropriate fee)
 - c his Club
 - d the Badge claimed
 - e the signatures of pilot and Club Glider Co-ordinator, affirming that the conditions were fulfilled.

Eagle Thermal Soaring Grades

Bronze Eagle

- a Two 6-minute flights, ending not more than 20m from spot.
- b Five landings not more than 10m from spot.

Silver Eagle

- a Two 10-minute flights, ending not more than 10m from spot.
- b Five consecutive landings not more than 10m from spot. (NB Hand launches are not permitted!)

Golden Eagle

- a Two 20-minute flights, ending not more than 10m from spot.
- b Five consecutive landings not more than 5m from spot. (NB Hand launches are not permitted!)
- c A cross-country flight of not less than 2km.



Diamond Eagle

- a Two 30-minute flights, ending not more than 10m from spot.
- b Five consecutive landings not more than 2m from spot.
(NB Hand launches are not permitted!)
- c A 2km goal-and-return flight **or** a 5km cross-country flight.
- d Two F3B speedruns in not more than 30 seconds each
("F3B speedrun" means four 150m legs of a course — A-B-A-B-A).

Diamond A

- a Three 30-minute flights **or** two 45-minute flights, ending not more than 10m from spot.
- b Five consecutive landings not more than 1m from spot. (NB Hand launches are not permitted!)
- c A 5km goal-and-return **OR** a 10km straight-line cross-country flight.
- d Two F3B speedruns in not more than 35 seconds each.
- e A 6-leg speedrun in not more than 55 seconds. (*)
- f Place in a recognised Provincial Championship, **either** in the first three in an entry of not less than 15,
or in the first two in an entry of not less than 10.

Diamond B

- a Three 45-minute flights **or** two 60-minute flights, ending not more than 5m from spot.
- b A 7km goal-and-return flight **or** a 15km cross-country flight.
- c Three F3B speedruns in not more than 30 seconds each.
- d An 8-leg speedrun in not more than 70 seconds. (*)
- e Place in the top three in a National Championship.

Diamond C

- a Three 60-minute flights ending not more than 5m from spot.
- b A 10km goal-and-return flight **or** a 20km cross-country flight.
- c Three F3B speedruns in not more than 26 seconds each.
- d An 8-leg speedrun in not more than 60 seconds. (*)
- e Win a National Championship.
- f Establish or improve a South African Gliding Record.

(* the multi-speedrun may be replaced by a cross-country flight of double the length required earlier in that grade.)

Gull Slope Aerobatic Grades

Conditions

- 1 Pilots must perform the schedule of manoeuvres in the order listed, to be judged by at least one higher Gull holder or by at least two competent judges, who will score each manoeuvre out of 10.
- 2 To pass a grade, an overall average of 5 per manoeuvre must be achieved, subject to a minimum of 3 on any one manoeuvre.
- 3 As many attempts may be made on any one outing as the pilot wishes and/or his judges will allow, but the schedule must be completed in the correct, unbroken sequence.
- 4 The Diamond A grade must be achieved flying an aircraft designed and built by the pilot, flying the Diamond schedule but he must score an average of 6 per manoeuvre with a sub-minimum of 4 for any one manoeuvre. He must also submit a written article on his aircraft's design and development and must place in the first three in the Expert Class in a National Slope Aerobatic Championship.
- 5 All manoeuvres are described in the Aerobatic Contest Rules, with the exception of the inverted rectangle, which is the same as the landing pattern but starts and ends with half-rolls, which are part of the manoeuvre, and without the loss of height.

Bronze Gull

- a One large circle (left or right . . . not less than 100m diameter)
- b Two consecutive loops
- c 10 seconds straight & level across wind
- d One roll
- e Landing pattern

Silver Gull

- a Overhead eight
- b Stall turn
- c Three consecutive loops
- d Immelman turn
- e Two consecutive rolls
- f 5 seconds inverted flight
- g Landing pattern



Golden Gull

- a Double Immelman
- b Inverted rectangle
- c Three consecutive rolls
- d Vertical eight
- e Three consecutive loops
- f Cuban eight
- g Three turn spin
- h Landing pattern

Diamond Gull

- a Slow roll
- b Vertical eight
- c Six turn spin
- d Inverted eight
- e Four-point roll
- f Four consecutive loops
- g Figure-M
- h Landing pattern
- i Horizontal eight
- j Place in 'Expert' in a Provincial Championships