



“Fun in the skies”

You’ve read about how to get on and stay on organised loads. But as well as learning from bigger, more complex and more challenging dives, is one of the primary reasons why most of us still sit on dropzones for hours on end! It’s worth a million points, and if we didn’t have it we wouldn’t do it!

Ever remember watching the intense concentration on a friend’s contorted face in freefall, doing a funky manoeuvre that you couldn’t have done as part of a plan, getting a buzz out of someone’s smile in the sky or simply having a great time in the dirt dives with a few people who’ve been good friends ever since.

Sometimes ‘just having fun’ is overshadowed by the quest for progression. And while you do have to spend time ‘getting known’ to secure those invites, you can also learn massive amounts in relaxed environments where the pressure you place on yourself to perform is less, and failure to perform can’t ruin your day.

It’s what boogies were made for!

The best boogies are those that give you a chance to mix traditional jumping, with something that differentiates your holiday from a weekend on your own dropzone. A great example is the Kenya boogie when it runs; jumping with inflatables, sacks of oranges or even eating bananas in freefall if the mood takes you!

Fun jumps don’t have to be about props though:

Day at the races: you can learn a lot on this old favourite where two people, wearing streamers, act as markers while everyone else races around the circuit scoring points for each lap and losing points for contact with others. This dive raises your awareness and gets you moving fast with precision. If you can stop laughing that is!

Random skydives: get out, get a grip – ANY grip!!! The key is given and the only rules are ‘get a different grip’ while maintaining good approach and docking discipline of course. The slots and movement you choose between points can be as easy or hard as you want. Nine way groups who struggle for two points on a dive have achieved six with ease on a random skydive.... and it’s a great one to do when you’re on a short call too!

Mystery skydives: watch out for these! There is a plan, but you don’t get to see it! All you have are two or three instructions to work out where your slot is on each point. You have to communicate with your fellow jumpers to work out ‘who is where’ and then build something in the sky that is as close as possible to the mystery plan. This dive makes you slow down and ‘think’, tests awareness again, builds communication skills on the ground and in the air and really gets you working as a team.

6 way scrambles: mix up the skill levels and meet new people. 4 way 'secrets' won't help the team as much as big way skills on this one!

'Fly your inflatables' challenge: Get points for creative exits, longest flying inflatables and landing with souvenirs! Fun, but not easy and check with the DZ first as not all countries (UK included) allow you to take such items into freefall!

Finding the fun!

If you are being organised on your home dropzone, why not request a fun dive to end the day? Most organisers simply want people to enjoy themselves and are always happy to take a break from tradition! Look out for (or request) fun skydives from Skydive Choreography organisers too... we are always happy to do something different if we know what the group wants.

There are no Skydive Choreography "Fun in the skies" events scheduled for this year yet – but you can always ask your home DZ to book one!

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