

Notes for Camera Flyers

Non-linear Editing

The footage you record will be captured and edited by computer. When filming for this type of editing, there are a few things you need to do that may be different to what you are used to doing when your video is going straight to DVD.

- **Record a 4 second title plate before and after each jump.** The plate should indicate if it is the beginning or end, the load number, your name, the tandem instructor's name and the passenger's name. General ground footage can be recorded between an end plate and the next title plate without a plate of its own. **Print clearly.**
- **Add 4 seconds to the start and end of each shot.**
- **Do not use in-camera effects.**
- **Do not record short clips.** Recording short clips in your pre-jump footage is just another form of in-camera editing. Make the clips at least 6 seconds long. They will be cut short later, as needed.
- **Leave no timecode breaks in the footage.** That means that each clip must start at, or before, the end of the previous clip. The best way to ensure this is to not watch the footage afterwards. If you can't resist the urge to do that, make sure you stop playing before the end is reached. The extra footage you are recording at the end of each clip can help with that.

Using your own tape

We will be providing Sony tapes to all camera flyers. If you prefer to use your own tape please note the following:

- Try to use a blank tape
- If not a blank tape, please provide a start marker by recording 10-15 seconds of black (lens cap on) at the beginning of the Jump Start footage. Also, please rewind to the beginning of the Jump Start footage before handing in the tape.
- If you are recording over other footage, provide an end marker by recording 10-15 seconds of black (lens cap on) at the end of the footage.
- If you want your tape back, please provide a stamped addressed envelope.

General Notes

- **Please rewind the tape before returning it.**
- **Clean your lenses before each jump.**
- **Try not to swap tapes with other people or cameras.** If you do, make sure you record a title plate. A note with the tape, at the end of the day, explaining what happened would also be helpful.
- **Try to find somewhere quiet for pre-jump interviews.**
- **Don't forget about the sun.** Try to keep it behind you on the ground and in the air. Remind your tandem instructor to face it.

- **Get good face shots.** The primary goal of each jump is to get 5-10 seconds with a clear shot of the passenger's face. After that, moving shots are good (moving away, towards, up, down, around). So is interacting with the passenger (if grabbing hands, try not to block their face with your hands). Avoid clever tricks like flipping on your back or head. It generally produces footage that is jarring and confusing to a non-skydiving viewer.
- **Try to keep your hands out of shot.** This obviously doesn't apply when holding hands with someone. It does when pointing, waving or checking your altimeter.
- After the jump, remember that this is still about the passenger. If you want to high-five your instructor for the cool exit or discuss something funny that happened, do it after you finish recording. Get the passenger's reaction first.
- Jumprun in the Herc is quite long. Please try not to record all of it.
- To avoid a long queue at the end of the day, please go to the camera room and upload your digital stills after each jump.