

Some Easy-to-Follow Guidelines for all those with Cameras at Jump Start 2011

Do these and we will LOVE you (seriously!) and SkyGod will bless you forever with blue skies and happy landings...

Hi there Cool Camera-people and Terrific Tandem-masters (yup, I am sucking up – I need your help!)....

After Jump Start we are gonna have over 7 hours of video footage and 5000 photographs. Processing all of these and making a completely awesome DVD for the CanTeen and Project K kids to enjoy is a MASSIVE job, but you can help make it loads easier! So please, take a little time to read this and take a little extra time about things on the day – we would really really appreciate it! ☺

General

- Clean your lenses before each jump.
- Remind the TM to face the sun (we'd rather the sun be in their eyes than ours..;-P)
- Don't swap slots with other people on the ramp – it causes all sorts of confusion and more work later on when the video doesn't match the manifest. If you need to swap slots, clear it with the manifest first and make sure it gets changed there.

Stills Cameras

- Clean your lens and clean it again before each jump (If you have the tools to do so, clean your sensor too)
- Please set the correct time. Remember, we have more than 5000 photos to process. Timestamps on photos can be very helpful in working out what is what (but not if the camera is on California time!!)
- Make sure your name is on your memory card and drop it off to the camera room after every jump (we know it takes a little more time, but please give us your photos after every jump! And know the name of your subject – that will make it heaps easier for us!)

Video Cameras

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!

- This year our DVD is going to be in a 16:9 format rather than 4:3. So if you have a widescreen or HD camera, that's great! Those of you with 4:3 equipment, don't worry! If you can't set your camera to record in widescreen (check with someone first, many cameras can record in 16:9 and you might not even know it!) we can letterbox your footage when editing – no problem whatsoever!
- You will be provided with a MiniDV tape if your camera is not digital. Please record 10 seconds of black with the lens cap on first before starting the days filming.
- Record a 4 second title plate before each jump (you will be provided with blank sheets to write the load number, passenger name, TM name and cameraperson name). If you don't have a moment to do that, point the camera at some unsuspecting subject and get them to say the details for you! (A shot of the manifest doing this will do). Just make sure it is clear ☺
- Keep recording for 4 seconds at the beginning and end of each shot so that we have material to use in transitions if needed. Think of it as freefalling for 4 seconds – it is longer than you think!
- Do NOT use in-camera effects AT ALL!!!

- Do not record short clips, they are hard to use. A minimum of 10 seconds for everything.
- Please leave no timecode breaks between shots. The easy way to avoid them is to not watch your footage after the jump. If you really must, make sure you record several seconds extra so you can safely stop playback before you get to the end.
- Try to do interviews outside. The fluorescent lights and echos inside the hangar make most footage recorded there difficult to use.
- Please rewind your tape to the beginning at the end of the day before returning it to us.

Giving us your photos/footage

- Please come and give us your photos after every jump. This means we can save the photos in a folder with the kids name on it and makes everything a whole lot simpler! We are awesome, but not THAT awesome – we can't take in hundreds of photos all at once if you (and every other photographer!) saves up their photos to give to us at the end of the day!
- Those with digital video cameras: Please do the same as with photos – bring us your footage after every jump! That way we have a steady stream of footage coming in over the day, instead of hours worth all at the end of the day. It won't take us long to get it off you between jumps!
- Tapes: If you run out of space we will have more tapes available at the media centre (the place where we sit taking all your stunning footage off you) on the day. Please make sure your tapes are labeled clearly with your name. If you are truly amazing, you might also want to give us your title plates that you have been faithfully recording before each jump, and we can easily see what teenagers you have been filming. Remember to rewind your tapes before giving them back to us.

Whew, well that's that. If you have made it here all the way to the end of the instructions you definitely deserve a beer.

So please do your best to follow them on the day...and when you're tearing your hair out in frustration at having to bring us the footage once again after your jump, just think of all the amazing things SkyGod has in store for you if you DO! ☺ (and all the awful curses he'll place on your jumping and/or your life if you don't!) lol

Your help is muchly appreciated! If you have any queries on the day you can come and ask me (Shan) – but if you have any serious problems, uh, please take them to someone else...just kidding!

Blue Skies!

Your Friendly Footage-Taking Crew