

Tandem Emergencies

PARATEC NEXT

Exit Phase (Before Drogue Fall)

Bag out immediately on exit

Deploy drogue, release drogue immediately and expect malfunction.

If cannot deploy drogue, disconnect RSL, pull cut-away handle, attempt release of main risers and pull reserve handle.

Unstable on exit

Have one attempt to gain stability, if unsuccessful deploy drogue preferably in a face to earth position.

Side spin

Have one attempt to rectify using a side spin recovery technique. If unable to recover and drogue side up, deploy drogue. If drogue side down, pull reserve handle. It may still be advantageous to deploy drogue even if drogue side down.

Drogue release handle pulled prior to deployment of drogue

Immediately deploy drogue in a face to earth position, expect a potentially slower deployment of the main canopy.

Unable to locate drogue

Arch, try to locate again, Check drogue has not prematurely deployed, if not immediately pull reserve handle.

Unable to deploy drogue

Have two attempts to deploy drogue, if unsuccessful pull reserve handle.

Student interference

If student grabs left arm, deploy drogue in a face to earth position, attempt to free left arm, consider releasing drogue at altitude. If student grabs right arm, attempt to free right arm, if unable, deploy reserve with left hand. If student grabs both arms, attempt to free arms and follow left or right arm procedure depending on which has been freed first.

Drogue Fall

Drogue entanglement with videographer or skydiver

Release RSL shackle, pull cutaway handle, attempt release of main risers, track away, pull reserve handle

Drogue does not inflate

Hard arch, to maintain stability, if drogue has not inflated after 6 to 8 seconds, pull primary drogue release handle.

Drogue detaches / breaks

First check for bag out, if not then immediately initiate reserve deployment. If bag out and not deploying, pull cut away, clear risers if necessary, pull reserve.

Cannot locate (Or Pull) primary drogue release handle

Pull secondary drogue release handle.

Cannot locate (Or Pull) secondary drogue release handle

Cutaway and pull reserve. If cannot locate cutaway handle immediately pull reserve handle. If left arm is incapacitated, pull RSL upward then outward to direct pull on reserve pin.

Drogue bridle or drogue becomes entangled

Attempt to clear, if unsuccessful immediately pull reserve handle.

Main container opens during drogue fall

Pull drogue release, be prepared for a malfunction.

Left arm incapacitated by injury or by student

Pull secondary drogue release handle, if cannot locate secondary drogue release handle, with right hand immediately initiate reserve deployment using RSL.

Right arm incapacitated by injury or by student

Pull primary drogue release handle, if cannot locate primary drogue release handle, immediately pull the reserve handle. If main malfunctions, free right hand, pull cutaway handle and pull reserve handle. If unable to free right hand, pull reserve handle.

Unable to locate either drogue release handles

Pull cutaway handle then pull reserve handle.

Primary Droque Release Handle Pulled

Main Malfunctions

If altitude and time permit, attempt to capture student by hooking legs, pull cutaway handle and then pull reserve handle.

Baglock Malfunction

Pull cutaway handle, attempt to clear the risers and then pull reserve handle.

Inflated drogue does not release

Pull secondary drogue release handle. If drogue does not release, cut away and then pull reserve handle

Drogue deflates but does not release

Pull secondary drogue release handle. If drogue does not release, cut away and then pull reserve handle

Drogue detaches / bridle breaks on drogue release pull

If main does not deploy, pull cutaway handle, pull reserve handle.



Tandem Emergencies - Other Scenarios

PARATEC NEXT

Suggested Aircraft Emergency Heights

Below 1500ft - Land with aircraft, unclip student, attach restraint, evacuate aircraft.

1500ft - 4000ft - Leave on reserve or land with aircraft.

Above 4000ft - Leave on main.

Prior to Exit Phase

Can't locate drogue prior to getting in the door

Have one more attempt, if cannot locate the drogue, move away from the door, re-assess condition of the equipment, land with the aircraft.

Student refuses in the door

Move away from the door, re-assess students' condition, place on restraint if fitted, land with the aircraft. In some cases it may be restrictive to get back in and consideration must be given to the chances of causing a premature deployment of the reserve.

Free Fall & Canopy Scenarios

RSL seen to be disconnected in free fall

Do not attempt to reconnect, be aware on main deployment.

Uncontrolled Turn

Bring student arms in to try and remove input, squeeze student legs together / hook back. If at limit of control pull drogue release. It may be advantageous to pull secondary.

Line twists

Clear with kick/ arm windmill/ pull risers, check altitude, if not clearing, initiate reserve drill. Hard deck altitude should be considered based on height, location and upper wind strength.

Drogue entangled with the main / over the nose

Carry out control check. If you cannot control or land the canopy safely, initiate reserve drill.

Canopy fabric damage

Assess the extent of the damage – if large tears, holes or rips, immediately initiate reserve drills. For small damage, or holes, carry out control check, if you cannot control or land the canopy safely, initiate reserve drill.

Broken brakes lines / brakes trapped on

Try to release, check if wrapped around guide rings, if not able to clear initiate reserve drill (if altitude permits).

Unable to release side snap ejectors

Have the student to stand on your feet, pull them back towards you. Once released you should do them back up.

Nauseous student

Tell the student to look at horizon & steer gently. Offer sick bag if not in the landing pattern. If fitted, consider closing full face visor. If they lose consciousness, alert catchers to assist.

Canopy stack

Ensure plenty of separation under canopy. Lower tandem has priority. If at the same level, signal should be given to clarify who will go first.

When are secondary flare toggles to be picked up (if fitted)?

Prior to start of landing pattern - approximately 1000ft.

On final approach, if you realise you have not picked up the secondary toggles, flare using the primary toggles only.

Landing / no catchers

Undo RSL, sit down, if dragged cutaway.

Canopy Collision

Check altitude. Communicate with the other jumper. If top canopy and above safe altitude try to drop lower canopy. If lower canopy and above your safe hard deck encourage being dropped. If below safe hard deck land as pair, If the descent rate feels too fast it may be advantageous to also deploy reserve canopy(s). If dropped check canopy condition and controllability, perform reserve drills if required above safe altitude.

Reserve Brake locked on / Tension knot

If brake line caught on L-Bar connector try keep canopy flying straight (student can help by holding other toggle), try to clear line wrapped around L-Bar. If unable to clear cut the appropriate line.

Two canopies out

Bi-plane

Leave brakes stowed, fly rear risers of the front canopy.

Side-by-Side

Disconnect RSL, leave brakes stowed, fly rear risers of the dominant canopy.

Down-plane

Time permitting, disconnect RSL, pull cutaway handle.

Cannot locate emergency handles

Try to follow main lift webbing up from laterals with open handles to try and locate handles, alternatively follow risers down to three rings and continue down outside of main lift webbing.

Off landing discussion

Landing off the PLA

Undo RSL, sit down, if dragged cutaway.

Landing in water

Brief student to inflate life jacket if provided. Undo RSL, disconnect laterals, flare as if ground, disconnect student, cutaway.

Landing in trees

Brief student to protect face, goggles on, undo RSL, disconnect laterals, flare as if ground.