

TBW Pre-Flight Checklist

Preflight:

WX brief... initial go/no go Decision
Call crew with meeting place
Chase vehicle with fuel tank full
Balloon fuel tanks full
Balloon fuel pressure check (min. 65 psi)
Instruments functional & Altimeter set
Fan fuel tank full & functional

On board the Aircraft:

Maps/sectionals
Strikers x 2 (minimum)
Radio's, Instruments

Meet crew at designated place:

Re-Check weather conditions
Launch pibal
Determine launch site
Determine load capacity for flight
Obtain emergency phone #'s

Launch Site:

Determine wind direction for layout
Check launch site for debris
Off load all needed equipment
Chase Vehicle Keys in Vehicle
Brief crew on proposed flight plan
Assign crew position and explain duties

Fuel System Check:

Attach burner supports to Basket
Attach burner to supports (hoses towards #1 tank)
Turn on tank # 4 to pressurize
Look/listen/smell each tank & connec. for leaks
Turn on pilot light switch on tank & burner
Ignite pilot light on burner
Burn check Tank # 4-3-2-1 – Fire 2
Shut each tank off after testing that tank
Burn off pressure – never VENT propane
Burner pilot light switch off
Install Instruments (Flytec Only)

Equipment Layout:

Position basket (lay down) for inflation-Tank#1 UP
Check for downwind obstructions
Layout tarp if needed
Position fan for inflation (muffler away)
Position envelope bag for layout
Attach suspension cables to basket
NO TWISTS OR TANGLES (wood to wood)
Attach Inflation Tie Down
Layout envelope or prepare for blow out

Cold Inflation:

Remind/brief crew of any signals
Crew in position and briefed
Spectators moved from “Danger Zone”
Start fan-slightly above idle
Walk around inflation check (look 4 damage)
Tab in parachute
Attach vent line to basket

Hot Inflation:

Final walk around (look 4 damage)
Alert/signal crew (Crown, mouth & fan)
Record local time
Final Check for twisted cables
Turn pilot light switch on tank & burner & LIGHT
Turn Tank # 1 on
Tilt uprights into position
Final signal to crew
Burn until balloon is upright
Signal to turn off fan and clear away
Balloon upright/Weight on

Pre-Launch: Continue adding Heat

Switch to Highest # Fuel tank
Re-Check fuel pressure
Instruments on and set
Unseat Parachute tabs
Check valve for proper seal
Bring in crown line and attach
Radio check (if conditions permit)

Launch:

Heat to equilibrium
Safety check for balloons overhead or downwind
Weight off
Thanks crew
Climb as required to clear obstacles

Deflation:

Rotate basket so Corner #1 is up
Clear of obstacles
Let out crown line
Pilot light off

Pack Up

Stand basket up
Turn off fuel tank in use
Turn on pilot light on burner & Ignite
Burn off fuel; turn off pilot light on tank
Remove Burner & Store
Remove Instruments & Store (Flytec Only)
Remove Burner Supports & Store