Sky Paragliders „Fides 2“

SONNYBOY

FIDES²

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The "Fides 2" is currently one of the lightest DHV1-wing built from standard-materials on the market. Maybe even the lightest.

During launch you already develop much confidence in the "Fides 2". No matter if forward- or reverse-launch, the canopy rises cleanly, evenly and well-controlled above the pilot without requiring much guidance. In the "normal" brake-range the "Fides 2" scores with effort typical for its class. The pilot should definitely feel like having fun: Despite its classification as DHV-1 the "Fides 2" proves to be a very agile wing. By dountless steering and active flying woderful wing-overs are made possible. It is comparably easy to get into a spiral dive. Our tests showed well meterable descent-rates beyond 15 m/s – this way the spiral dive becomes the most effective manoevre for fast descents. For getting rid of superfluous altitude by practising Big Ears just use the divided A-riser. The outer A-line is pulled in by a pulley. The pull should head outwards and down, this way provides the best initiation. This requires moderate force; holding the ears poses no problem, not even for a longer period. After releasing the canopy opens instantly and on its own. For initating the B-stall it is recommended to grab the riser at the top-end of the maillons. Despite doing so, both starting and holding the B-stall requires some power.

Well-mannered flying characteristics
Even large frontals lose their horror-potencial under the "Fides 2". When powerfully pulling both A-risers the canopy empties quickly. After release the wings starts refilling from the centre and cleanly and evenly regains normal flight. Collapses – both at trimspeed and accelerated – don´t impress the canopy in any remarkable way. Slow turning and opening on its own after about 90 degrees make such "interruptions" absolutely manageable. In accelerated flight the front slightly deforms, "pockets" on the lower panels reliably inhibit thrashing. Even the weak thermals during our testing could be used by the "Fides 2". By moderate steering and additional weight-shift the canopy can be turned both very flat and narrow. Students and occasional pilots get to know the promise of a safe paraglider with well-balanced flight-characteristics without forgoing narrow turns and fun.

Balanced beginner
Conclusion: The "Fides 2" is a well-balanced wing that will earn many friends among students and safety-conscious pilots. In addition the lower price compared to the entry-level-wings of competitors speaks for the "Fides 2".

Test protocol
<u>Forward launch:</u> After a short impulse the canopy rises evenly and reliably above the pilot without any tendency to overshoot or turn off
<u>Reverse launch:</u> minimal guidance required; simple handling; can be held above the pilot easily
<u>Agility:</u> high; braking is transferred directly
<u>Steering behaviour:</u> slight pressure in the normal range; rises significantly in the last third
<u>Extreme flight behaviour:</u> collapses are well-dampened; very slight shooting; slow turning; opening on its own after 90 degrees; during front-collapses the canopy empties
<u>Accelerator:</u> can be pushed and held without much effort; nose slightly deformates
<u>Big ears:</u> help easenes the manoevre; resistance against initiation, easy holding; immediate termination on its own
<u>B-stall:</u> high strength necessary for inducing and holding; no turning off; simple termination; immediate return into normal flight
<u>Spiral dive:</u> simple initiation; descent-rate quickly rising; easy control of banking; more than 15 m/s possible
<u>Winch-launch:</u> decided impulse necessary in weak headwind; canopy rises reliably
<u>Behaviour at winch-launch:</u> tends somehow to stay behind pilot; follows the rope cleanly; easy corrections.

Distinctive technical features: openings for disposing debris, help for Big Ears, pockets on lower panels
Target group: students, safety-conscious pilots, occasional pilots, due to low canopy-weigth even mountaineers