SkyBean SkyDrop Suggested Screens - Paramotoring

Circuit Work / General Handling Time Monitoring

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| VARIO | Alt 2 |
| GSpd |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| VARIO | FTime | Temp |
| Time |

XC General Situational Awareness (SA)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| VARIO | GSpd | Alt 2 |
| F Time | Temp |

Get Me Home Screen

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Home Arrow | Home Dist |
| GHdg | Alt 2 |

Navigation SA

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| GHdg | GSpd | HAgl |
| WDir | WSpd | Home (D) |

My Thoughts on These Screen Layouts

I thought I’d provide a few ideas on screen layout for the Skydrop as there are so many options it can be a little bewildering at first. Obviously, these are my ideas and I’m sure, with use, I’ll change things around and modify the layout as everyone will. Hopefully, these options will allow you to start with some layouts that work and you can modify them as you use your Skydrop.

I’ve set up 5 screens but you can have up to 8 configured to your liking. The screen layout templates vary from displaying 1 ‘Widget’ to as many as 8 or 9. It’s worth noting that the more Widgets per page reduces the size of the information fields so they can be harder to see if your eyesight is not what it used to be!

Screen 1 – Circuit Work / General Handling

This is optimised to give you the information you really need in the circuit or GH environment. The Vario bar allows you to easily see if you’re climbing or descending so helps you maintain an accurate height in the circuit. Alt 2 is easily set to zero so providing height above your take off point for circuit /spot landing / acro flying. Set up Alt2 to ‘Absolute QNH2’ on the Skydrop menu. Groundspeed (GSpd) is there for general Situational Awareness (SA) so you know how fast you’re going over the ground.

Screen 2 – XC General Situational Awareness (SA)

This seems to be a reasonable screen to have when I’m flying around, navigating visually and general sightseeing. The Vario shows where level flight is, Alt2 gives height above take off point, FTime (Flight time) tells you how long you’ve been airborne and Temp gives you the current temperature and humidity. I use this most of the time when I’m out of the circuit.

Screen 3 – Get Me Home!

Imagine the situation when you’ve taken off in some marginal weather or the weather deteriorates and you don’t know where the airfield is. This screen will point you to home, tell you how far it is away and tell you how high you are above the take off point.

The Home Arrow works to point you in the correct direction of travel. If the arrow is pointing at the top of the display, you’re going in the right direction. If it moves to the left, it’s telling you to turn to the left and similarly to the right. Ground heading gives you your GPS heading for situational awareness. The Home Distance gives you a range countdown (confirming that you’re going in the right direction) and Alt2 tells you height above the take off point.

It’s worth practicing with this screen in good weather so you’re familiar with it should you end up uncertain of position/lost!

**Please note** – I also use a small bubble compass pinned onto my reserve which makes this easier.

Screen 4 – Navigation SA

On a long XC it’s nice to know your Track and Groundspeed and GHdg and GSpd give you this. I use the GHdg widget as this is in digital format not an arrow or compass point. Wind Direction and Wind Speed are displayed underneath for comparison. It’s worth noting that the wind speed and direction can only be determined if you’ve flown a nice large, consistent rate, 360 degree turn so the computer has a chance to calculate drift etc during the turn. Home Dist will provide you with the distance from Home for SA purposes. HAgl is a nice feature. The Skydrop knows where it is and compares your GPS altitude with the terrain altitude at the same point. It then does a quick calculation and tells you how high you are above the ground. This could be very useful when flying in undulating/hilly/mountainous terrain.

Screen 5 – Time Monitoring

Vario is shown for SA. Flight Time, Temperature and the actual time are displayed. The actual time is great to compare with your known sunset time that you checked in your preflight!! Temp is very useful when you start feeling cold so that you can see that you put on the wrong clothes/gloves!

Anyway, these are my thoughts as a reasonable starting point to configure your Skydrop. I’m sure everyone will have their own thoughts but this is my starting point. Fly Safe!