

2025 PIA Symposium - Seminar Schedule

(2) after title of seminar indicates it is repeated

Time	R	Seminar 1 Rigging - Packing Table	R	Seminar 2 Rigging - Sewing Machines	S	Seminar 3 Skydiving & Fireside Chats	S	Seminar 4 Skydiving	T G M	Seminar 5 Technical, Government & Management
		Ballroom A		Ballroom C		Meeting Rooms 101 (A-B-C)		Meeting Room 102 (A-B-C)		Meeting Room 103 (A-B-C)
Monday / March 10										
8:00	R	Positive Communication in Rigging: Turning Errors into Opportunities (2) <i>Shauna Finley</i>	R	Packing a Sigma Tandem Reserve <i>Andrew Samper</i>	S	The History of Skydiving <i>Bill Booth</i>	S	Facing Fear <i>Pancho Campo</i>	T	Designing Space Parachutes From Scratch <i>Daniel Bradford</i>
9:00	R	Rigging Exchange: Tips and Tricks for Every Level <i>Meredith Ottery</i>					S	Helicopters and Skydiving <i>Kristan Fischer</i>	T	Virtual Reality as a Marketing Tool <i>Ronnie Hughan</i>
10:00	R	Packing the Softie Pilot Rig - Seat <i>Charlie Markin</i>	R	What A Tactical Jumpmaster / Rigger Needs To Know About The Use, Testing And Maintenance of Altimeters <i>Jens Gronemeyer</i>	S	BASE jumping & The Canopy <i>Timothy Parrant</i>	S	Whats in a Save? 582 Life Lessons (2) <i>Karl Meyer</i>	T	Tandem Master Medical Certification (2) <i>David Du Plessis</i>
11:00	R	Packing & Closing the eRacer Pilot Emergency Rig with Square Parachute (2) <i>Nancy La Riviere</i>	R	What A Tactical Jumpmaster / Rigger Needs To Know About The Use, Testing And Maintenance of Altimeters <i>Jens Gronemeyer</i>	S	Misty Blues All Female Demonstration Team For 40 Years! Fireside Chat Hosted by James La Barrie <i>Misty Blues Members including current Team Leader, Amanda Scheffler, and former Team Leaders Sandy Williams and Cindy Irish</i>	S	Improve Your Training With Performance Tracking <i>Andreas Jankowsky</i>	T	Case Study on Line Drag in a Ram-Air Parachute System <i>Jimmy Hutfles</i>
12:00						S	Elevating Excellence: Staff Development and Mentoring Strategies for Skydiving Instructors <i>Amber Wright</i>	T	HALO2 - HALO by Skydivers For Skydivers - Bring to Your DZ Today (2) <i>Matthew Yount</i>	
1:00	R	Sigma Tandem System Periodic Maintenance and Drogue Calibration (2) <i>Meredith Ottery</i>	R	Basic Sewing Machine Problem Solving <i>Doug Glenn</i>	M	Marketing of Our Sport Through Photography <i>Norman Kent</i>	S	The Dynamics of Canopy Flocking: Perspectives on Safety and Operational Success <i>Matt Leonard & Pete Lubrano</i>	T	They're Probably Still Good... Maybe: JYRO's No-BS Guide to Safer Parachute Lines (2) <i>Julien Peelman</i>
2:00	R	Parachute Loft Management (2) <i>Kevin Gibson</i>	R	Two-Pin Racer Reserve Pack & Closing <i>Sergio Cribas</i>	S	Preparing for the 250-Way Illinois State Record Fireside Chat Hosted by James La Barrie <i>Doug Barron</i>	S	Unusual Canopy Emergencies - Collisions and Entanglements (2) <i>Jim Cowan</i>	T	Parachute Qualification Testing <i>Matt Zwicker</i>
3:00	R	US Self-Supervised Main Parachute Packers - Current Status, History, Q&A <i>Abbie Mashaal & Kirk Smith</i>							T	High Altitude Skydiving Operations (HASO) Panel Discussion <i>Moderator: TK Donle</i>
4:00	R	Reforms to FAA Rigging Regulations - Discussion <i>Kirk Smith & Abbie Mashaal</i>	R	Main Packing Techniques for Vector 3 <i>Andrew Samper</i>	S	USPA's 2024 Fatality Summary <i>Ron Bell</i>	S	Cameras, Confidence, and Catastrophe: A Wake-Up Call for the Skydiving Industry (2) <i>Mark Kirschenbaum</i>		<i>Participants: Aaron Rubin, David du Plessis, Neil Wilcox, Ray Lallo, Ryan Jacksonand and Tad Smith</i>

(2) after title of seminar indicates it is repeated

Time	R	Seminar 1 Rigging - Packing Table	R	Seminar 2 Rigging - Sewing Machines	S	Seminar 3 Skydiving & Fireside Chats	S	Seminar 4 Skydiving	T G M	Seminar 5 Technical, Government & Management
		Ballroom A		Ballroom C		Meeting Rooms 101 (A-B-C)		Meeting Room 102 (A-B-C)		Meeting Room 103 (A-B-C)
Tuesday / March 11										
8:00			R	Master Rigger/DPRE Q & A Panel Discussion Moderator: Abbie Mashaal <i>Panel includes: Andi Paulsen, Kevin Gibson, Jeff Johnston, Kirk Smith, Nancy LaRiviere, Pablito Perazzoli, Tom Parker</i>	S	Intersecting Sports Psychology, Orthopedic & Clinical Social Work in Skydiving and BASE <i>Chloe Svolakos</i>	S	Airspace Deconfliction Regarding Popular Disciplines – Flocking, Tracking, Freely, Angle, Wingsuit, & High Pulls <i>Phil Webley</i>	M	Managing The Media in a Crisis. PR Essentials for a DZ <i>James La Barrie</i>
9:00	R	Gear Care 101: Simple Tips for the Everyday Jumper (2) <i>Meredith Ottery</i>					S	How to Make a Safe Demo Jump (Skydiver and Pilot Responsibilities) (2) <i>Sandra Williams</i>		Round Table Discussion on TS136, Performance Standards for Military Personnel Parachute Assemblies and Components. <i>Moderator: Jeff Johnston</i>
10:00	R	Packing the Mini Softie Pilot Rig <i>Charlie Markin</i>	R	Making and Replacing a BOC Pouch <i>Bob Feisthamel</i>	S	Arizona Airspeed and Beyond Fireside Chat Hosted by James La Barrie <i>Craig Girard & Eliana Rodriguez</i>	S	What is The Mutant and who Should be Jumping it at Your DZ? <i>Pete Allum</i>	T	<i>Participants: Roberto Montañez, Matt Zwicker, TK Donle, . Bill Coe, Jimmy Scarpelli, Nathaniel Hill, Norman Girdwood</i>
11:00	R	Packing the Infinity Container System (2) <i>Kamuran Bayrasli</i>	R	Sewing Machine Technology, Applications <i>Doug Glenn</i>			S	Evolution of Technologies in Canopy Education (2) <i>Ian Bobo</i>		50 Years in the Parachute Industry - It's a Lot More Than Skydiving <i>Manley Butler</i>
12:00			R	Basic Introduction to Lockstich Industrial Sewing Machines <i>Terry Urban</i>	S	Secrets of Longevity And Avoiding Burnout In Skydiving <i>Norman Kent</i>	S	Dual Deployments - Unusual Canopy Emergencies <i>Jim Cowan</i>		
1:00	R	Positive Communication in Rigging: Turning Errors into Opportunities (2) <i>Shauna Finley</i>							M	Data Privacy & Protection - The Legal Basics. (Keeping Your Data Safe and Staying Compliant) <i>Alexander Gorelik</i>
2:00	R	Mirage Reserve Container Packing Tips <i>Mike Gruwell</i>	R	Packing a Vector Sport Reserve <i>Andrew Samper</i>	S	Skydiving Through the Decades: Pete Allum's Journey Fireside Chat Hosted by James La Barrie <i>Pete Allum</i>	S	EP's: One-hand or two-hand method (2) <i>Kamuran Bayrasli (Sonic)</i>	M	Legal Risks and Strategies for the Industry <i>William Meyer</i>
3:00										
4:00	R	Rigging Olympics <i>Hosted by Andi Paulsen & Matt Zwicker</i>				Creating In-House Systems for Operational Efficiency <i>David Vincent</i>	S	You Have To Be Smarter Than Your Equipment (2) <i>Brad Cole & T.K. Donle</i>	M	Legal Issues for DZO's, Manufacturers and Others in the Skydiving Industry <i>Robert Feldman</i>

(2) after title of seminar indicates it is repeated

Time	R	Seminar 1 Rigging - Packing Table	R	Seminar 2 Rigging - Sewing Machines	S	Seminar 3 Skydiving & Fireside Chats	S	Seminar 4 Skydiving	T G M	Seminar 5 Technical, Government & Management
		Ballroom A		Ballroom C		Meeting Rooms 101 (A-B-C)		Meeting Room 102 (A-B-C)		Meeting Room 103 (A-B-C)
Wednesday / March 12										
8:00	R	Sigma II Main Canopy Packing (2) <i>Peter Bany and Louie Palomares</i>	R	Large Reserve Repacking (Over 400 sf) <i>Pablo Perazzoli</i>	S	Practical Applications from a Quasi-Experimental Study on the Effect of Course Modality on Learning Transfer of Skydiving Teachers-in-Training <i>Jen Sharp</i>	S	Marketing in 2025: Claridy Amidst Change <i>James La Barrie</i>	T	50 Years Experience Building, Designing and Testing Skydiving Equipment <i>Jeff Johnston</i>
9:00	R	Packing a Round Canopy BA-30 Rig <i>Jeremy Atwood</i>			S	Cameras, Confidence, and Catastrophe: A Wake-Up Call for the Skydiving Industry (2) <i>Mark Kirschenbaum</i>	S	How to Choose, Prepare & Prep For an International Boogie And Make Sure You Are Safe <i>Matthew Yount</i>		
10:00	R	Packing the Wedge Softie Pilot Rig <i>Charlie Markin</i>	R	Advanced Sewing Machine Maintenance <i>Doug Glenn</i>	S	Stories from the PD Factory Team. Fireside Chat Hosted by James La Barrie <i>Ian Bobo, Shannon Pilcher and JC Coclosure</i>	S	The Risk of the Flight; an Analysis of Jump Plane Accidents <i>Ed Scott</i>	T	PIA Rigging & Technical Committees <i>Kirk Smith & T.K. Donle</i>
11:00	R	Training Parachute Riggers <i>Kevin Gibson</i>	R	One-Pin Racer Reserve Pack & Closing <i>Sergio Cribas</i>			T	Mission: Zero Accidents <i>Ricardo Pettena</i>		
12:00	R	The Importance of Parachute Material Identification <i>Nancy La Riviere</i>			S	You Have To Be Smarter Than Your Equipment (2) <i>Brad Cole & T.K. Donle</i>	S	Observations from the Road: Downsizing <i>Beau Riebe</i>	T	Optimising Parachute Canopy Fabric Performance to Help Deliver a Soft Landing on Mars <i>Pete Hill</i>
1:00	R	Packing & Closing the eRacer Pilot Emergency Rig with Square Parachute (2) <i>Nancy La Riviere</i>	R	Cutaway Handle Repair / Replacement <i>Bob Feisthamel</i>	S		S	How to Make a Safe Demo Jump (Skydiver and Pilot Responsibilities) (2) <i>Sandra Williams</i>	M	Soaring Safely: Mastering SMS, AIM Reporting, and Risk Mitigation in Skydiving <i>Allison Cooney</i>
2:00			R	MJ Packing Demonstration (2) <i>Rezzan Aral Shashiel & Jeff Johnston</i>	S	The Journey to 1,000 Skydives Fireside Chat Hosted by James La Barrie <i>Kim Knorr</i>	S	Canopy Collision Avoidance (2) <i>Greg Windmiller</i>	T	They're Probably Still Good... Maybe: JYRO's No-BS Guide to Safer Parachute Lines (2) <i>Julien Peelman</i>
3:00									M	Marketing Magic: 10 Things Your Dropzone Should Definitely be Doing <i>Caroline Jacokes</i>
4:00	R	Rigging Olympics <i>Hosted by Andi Paulsen & Matt Zwicker</i>			S	Conflict Resolution in High-Stress Environments <i>Haley Gwinn</i>	S	Safety EVolution in m2 AAD (2) <i>Kody Kosloski</i>		

(2) after title of seminar indicates it is repeated

Time	R	Seminar 1 Rigging - Packing Table	R	Seminar 2 Rigging - Sewing Machines	S	Seminar 3 Skydiving & Fireside Chats	S	Seminar 4 Skydiving	T G M	Seminar 5 Technical, Government & Management		
		Ballroom A		Ballroom C		Meeting Rooms 101 (A-B-C)		Meeting Room 102 (A-B-C)		Meeting Room 103 (A-B-C)		Meeting Room 104 (A-B)
Thursday / March 13												
8:00	R	Sigma II Main Canopy Packing (2) <i>Peter Bany and Louie Palomares</i>	R	Parachute Repair <i>RD Raghanti (Rags)</i>		USPA Safety & Training Rewrite Task Force presents: Advancing Student Training- Comprehensive Updates to USPA's Manuals and Supporting Resources		Unusual Canopy Emergencies - Collisions and Entanglements (2)	T	Fit to be a Tandem Master? <i>Ryan Jackson</i>		
9:00	R	Gear Care 101: Simple Tips for the Everyday Jumper (2) <i>Meredith Ottery</i>	R	Packing a Sigma Tandem Reserve <i>Andrew Samper</i>	S	<i>Lead: Brandon Radcliff</i> <i>Ron Bell, Sherry Butcher, Rob Laidlaw, Brian Naiman, Mel Schock, Dr. Jen Sharp, Mike Watkins</i>	S	<i>Jim Cowan</i>	M	Elevating Excellence: Where Leadership Fuels Success <i>David Vincent & Haley Gwinn</i>		
10:00	R	Packing the Micro Softie Pilot Rig <i>Charlie Markin</i>			S	International Skydiving Coordination of Governing Bodies Fireside Chat Hosted by James La Barrie	S	Evolution of Technologies in Canopy Education (2) <i>Ian Bobo</i>	T	Night Jumps, Solving the Real Problems. Hint: It's Not the Darkness! <i>Ebby Boehm</i>		
11:00	R	Sigma Tandem System Periodic Maintenance and Drogue Calibration (2) <i>Meredith Ottery</i>	R	Javelin Packing Demonstration (2) <i>Rob Kendall & Damien Sorlin</i>	S	<i>Michelle Matte-Stotyn, Charl Rootman, Albert Berchtold, and Mary Barratt</i>	S	Skydive From Space - Tool to Support People <i>Tomasz Kozlowski</i>	T	Tandem Master Medical Certification (2) <i>David Du Plessis</i>		
12:00	R	Parachute Loft Management (2) <i>Kevin Gibson</i>			S	Sport and Tandem Canopy Coaching Tips Tricks and Techniques. <i>Greg Windmiller</i>	S	CPS and UPT Tandem Programs – Building Industry Continuity in Procedures <i>Neil Wilcox</i>	T	How to create High-Quality Tandem Videos <i>Ralph Wilhelm</i>	M	USPA General Membership Meeting
1:00	R	MJ Packing Demonstration (2) <i>Rezzan Aral Shashiel & Jeff Johnston</i>	R	Extreme Patching - Long Patch Along a Seam <i>Bob Feisthamel</i>	S	Behind The Scenes on the Set of Fandango Fireside Chat Hosted by James La Barrie	S	Safety EVolution in m2 AAD (2) <i>Kody Kosloski</i>	T	HALO2 - HALO by Skydivers For Skydivers - Bring to Your DZ Today (2) <i>Matthew Yount</i>		
2:00					S		S	Danger Zone <i>Leslie Gale</i>	T	European (EU) and Dutch Rigger Training and Education <i>Johannes Oosterveer</i>		
3:00	R				S	<i>Marvin J. McIntyre (Truman Sparks From Film Fandango)</i>	M	Secrets from The Edge: Staying Ahead in Social Media & Digital Marketing <i>Hollie-Blue Allum</i>	T	Information on Line Wear Research and Determination <i>Scott Roberts</i>		

Legend R Rigging

S Skydiving

T Technical

G Government

M Management