

GENERIC High School's *The Flight of the Lawnchair Man*

Stage Manager Responsibilities and Operator Guidelines

Responsibilities:

1. Provide inspecting person(s) with adequate daily inspection sheets.
2. Add the two completed inspections sheets for each show to an Inspection Log that the SPA will provide you with.
3. Do not start a show until you have received these two inspection checklists and any found issues have totally been resolved.
4. Make a ratchet with the appropriate size socket for seatbelt connections to chair frame, part of Hanna's props for the scene in which she inspects the chair, and oversee her practice their use in the event they are needed.
5. BY ALLOWING ACT 2 TO PROCEED, YOU ARE AUTHORIZING THE SUSPENSION OF THE CHAIR. AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO IT BEING SUSPENDED, YOU CAN CALL OFF THE SUSPENSION FOR SAFETY CONCERNS. A SUBSTITUTE SCENE SHOULD BE DISCUSSED PRIOR TO OPENING NIGHT. In no way should the Stage Manager submit to pressures outside the priority of actor safety.
6. On a regular basis, review (name) visual inspection during the show with her to maintain consistency.

Operational Guidelines To Be Enforced

- Keep chair flown out until it needs to be flown in, due to the arbors being over-weighted.
- Both linesets are to be LOCKED AT ALL TIMES unless the Chair linesets are in stand-by mode for its cue.
- Utilize three operators: One at each of two linesets and one operating the horizontal hand line.
- No other persons except the specific lineset and hand line operators and (NAME) should ever touch the ropes.
- No person without direct authorization from the Director, the SM or (NAME) should ever sit in the chair, for any duration of time.
- Test flights of human suspension should be limited to rehearsals and performances.
- The chair should not be suspended during rehearsals and performances without both inspections being preformed and documented in writing prior to opening curtains.
- During the run of the show, the number of persons allowed access to the grid should be limited.

Special Note About Flight Cueing

The two linemen operating the lock rail and the horizontal hand line operator must WORK TOGETHER to create a safe and functioning effect. The Stage Manager must pay special attention to the clarity of directions given in the cueing process. The operators must have a series of warning, a command to be ready and a clear command to GO. An example of cueing that works very well for specialty flight maneuvers goes like this... at 2 minutes "Lawnchair flight crew you are on a long Stand-by to fly out Chair on a 10-count" said at 30 seconds from cue. "Lawnchair flight crew Stand-by" at 5 seconds "Lawnchair crew ready...4, 3, 2,...GO! ..9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4 3, 2, and at high trim." It is never a good idea to use operator names. Using position names iterates the business they are there to do. Operating a flight command can be very anxiety inducing. The SM should be a calm, responsible show lead that is all business with a considerate demeanor.