

# TAKE OFF

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SINGAPORE YOUTH FLYING CLUB



**SINGAPORE YOUTH  
FLYING CLUB**  
*Takes You To Greater Heights*  
SINCE 1971

**NOV 2020**  
MCI(P) 30/11/2017



09 SYFC Workplan Presentation



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## GM's Foreword

SYFC resumed flying training since Jun 20, following the end of the Circuit Breaker period. The measures we put in place to guard against the transmission of COVID-19 include health screening at our entry point, cohorting for our staff and students, wearing of masks, and conducting lessons and meetings via teleconferencing platforms. In Oct 20, we further resumed the CCA Schools Open Unit (SOU) sessions, following Ministry of Education's announcement on the easing of restrictions on the conduct of physical CCA. Our staff and students have adapted well, and we achieved business continuity amidst the "new normal".

As part of our continual quest to ensure safe flying operations, we conducted the biannual Safety Day on 5 Nov 20. It was attended by SYFC and ST Engineering Aerospace Pte Ltd staff. The Safety Day message reminded all of us the need to maintain a safety conscious mind throughout our course of work, as well as at home.

The highlight for Nov 20 was the successful conduct of the SYFC Private Pilot Licence (PPL) Wings and Aviation Awards Ceremony, where 34 deserving graduands received the coveted Wings. To ensure safe distancing measures, we adopted a modality whereby the ceremony was conducted in the Theatre with guests attending virtually. It is heartening to see the commitment and determination of our PPL students in completing their year-long rigorous pilot training, while adapting to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 situation. Through deliberate planning, SYFC has been able to achieve our training programmes safely. With the strong SYFC team spirit, I am sure we will continue to achieve our mission and keep our staff and students healthy and safe.

*Warmest regards*

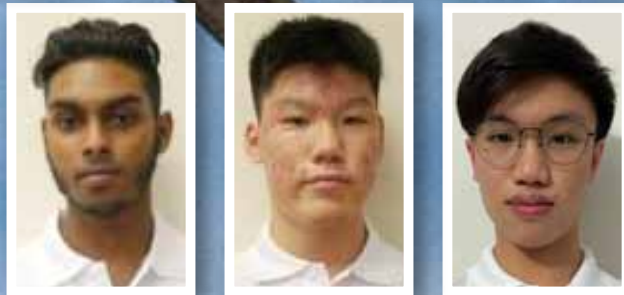
**COL (RET) Foo Yang Ge**

General Manager

Singapore Youth Flying Club

# WELCOME ON-BOARD

## BFC 253



## SP9H-20

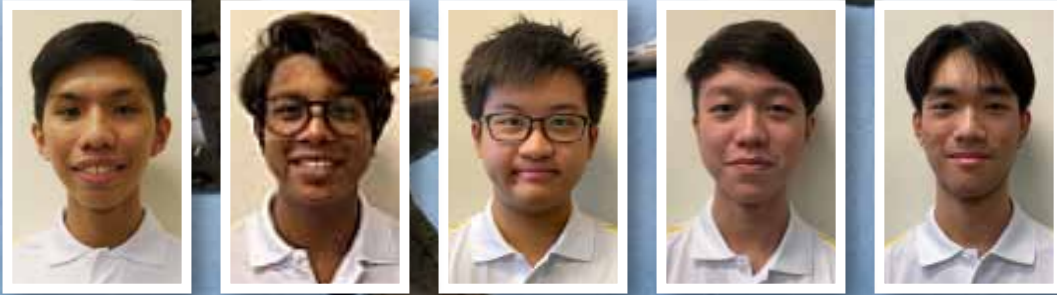


## NP9H-20

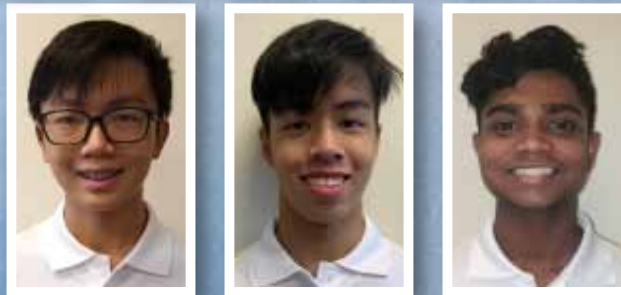


# WELCOME ON-BOARD

**RP9H-20 & 254**



**PAC1-20**



**ACSI7-20 & RI7-20**



# FIRST SOLO FLIGHTS

The first solo flight is the culmination of sixteen sorties in two phases of the Basic Flying Course. It is a momentous step in one's journey to be a pilot. The thought of flying solo was exhilarating but at the same time I felt nervous. Flying solo means my flying instructor would not be in the aircraft to guide me. The onus was on me alone to pilot the aircraft.

On 25 Jul 20 as I prepared for my first solo flight, I cast aside all my nervousness. I was soon airborne alone and being in control of the aircraft. It was such a surreal and amazing experience and I enjoyed every moment of it. All my previous fears vanished, and I managed to complete a normal circuit successfully.

I am very thankful to my flying instructors, Mr Pek HH and Mr Teo MT for all their instruction and guidance. They always pushed me to continually do better. My first solo flight was a short but unique and sweet memory that would forever be etched in my heart.



## Pang BZ, BFC 245



On the day of my first solo flight, 25 Jul 20, I arrived at SYFC with a calm and cool demeanour. Stepping inside the Ops Room, I did the usual preparation and checks as required before each flight. I was a little anxious as I recalled the mistakes I made in previous flights. To ensure that the mistakes were not repeated, I made use of the three circuits I was given to practice well. On the last solo check, right after the instructor got off the aircraft, it dawned upon me that I was alone in command of the aircraft. When I was given clearance to enter the runway, I just felt relieved that I made it to this stage and put what I practised from the past circuits to good use. Taking off, turning downwind, upon base and even finals, it felt instinctive as I told myself that it was the final stretch. As I felt the wheels contact the ground smoothly, I was elated and thought "I did it, I landed an aircraft by myself." I had learned a lot in my journey to my first solo flight.

## Lim SK, BFC 245

My first solo flight on 28 Jul 20 was a rather unique experience. After my flying instructor, Mr Siva left the aircraft and made his way to the control tower, it dawned on me that I alone would be piloting the aircraft. I felt a little nervous as I did the necessary checks and when I looked up at the sky, clouds were imminent. I mentally told myself to do it and don't let the weather hold me back. With that in mind I taxied, lined up and took off. I felt great on my first solo flight knowing that I could fly independently. Everything was smooth and I lined up for final to land. I had a cheeky thought to go around so I could experience more, but that would be irresponsible and ill-disciplined, so I landed and taxied back with a feeling of accomplishment. All in all, flying is my passion and my first solo flight was indeed great.

## K Bala, BFC 245



# FIRST SOLO FLIGHTS

The past few months had been a memorable and unique experience, from my first familiarisation flight to my first solo flight. Progressing to my first solo flight on 29 Aug 20 was not easy as there were many issues that surfaced throughout the course and I had to learn and correct them quickly. However, with the invaluable guidance from the instructors, I made gradual improvements over many sorties. I felt that my flying skills, awareness, mental toughness and confidence had increased significantly since the first sortie. When I successfully flew my first solo flight, there was such a great sense of achievement. It was on a level unlike anything I had ever experienced. It was the first time I truly thought, "Hey, maybe I do have a chance of realising my dream of taking to the skies as a pilot". I enjoyed my time thoroughly in the BFC and will always cherish the memories and the opportunities I was given.



## Lee MJ, TP18-19



I was captivated by the aspect of flying, prior to joining the BFC. This led me to taking up a course in relation to aviation - Aerospace Electronics at the Singapore Poly (SP). With the encouragement of SP, I applied for the BFC Hybrid Programme and was accepted by SYFC. Throughout my BFC, I had to put in a conscious effort to juggle my studies, ground school lessons, simulator and flying training. The first training flight was like seeing the world through a different lens, being able to view Singapore from a cockpit up in the sky. On 3 Sep 20, I was slightly nervous but enthusiastic and ready to embark on my first solo flight. After dropping off my instructor off, I did all the checks and procedures and awaited clearance. Having the opportunity and responsibility to complete a circuit around Seletar was incredibly enjoyable. It was a rather nice landing and I taxied the aircraft back to SYFC. I can't wait to continue flying with SYFC and attain the PPL, which all BFC students aim to achieve.

## Lee N, SP8H-19

"Skylark niner-eight, request practice fan-stop", was what I heard every circuit sortie.

The first time, I was dripping cold sweat and nervous as I had to control the aircraft and simulate engine failure at low altitude. The last time I heard that phrase was during my solo check, but by then, I did not feel the slightest sense of nervousness as I did before. On 19 Sep 20, after dropping off my instructor, Mr Teo MT, I embarked on my first solo flight. Every moment from taxiing to landing felt like a beautiful illusion. One word to describe my feelings on that day is euphoria. Time had really passed by fast, from sortie 1 to 17.



Just like how emergency practices are instrumental in learning how to fly, the astute guidance by GM and Mr Teo MT were also instrumental in preparing me for my first solo flight. It was through their invaluable guidance that I became more resilient and flew my first solo flight confidently.

## Ong JH, SP8H-19

# FIRST SOLO FLIGHTS

First solo flight is something all aspiring pilots look forward to in their flying journey and no doubt I was excited when I was scheduled for my first solo flight on 1 Oct 20. Everything went as per normal until the runway in use changed from RWY 21 to RWY 03. It surprised me as I have never taken off or landed from RWY 03 but my PFI, Mr Teo MT, was there to assure me.

As the aircraft took off, all the nervousness in me went away and it was just flying routinely like I had done so many times before. Fortunately, I managed to land the aircraft smoothly and felt very happy that I successfully completed my first solo flight. I am very thankful for the guidance of Mr Teo and other instructors. I am thankful for the support of my friends and family throughout my flying journey and I will never forget the beautiful memories flying with SYFC.



## Wang W, TP19H-20



My first solo flight on 13 Oct 20 was one where I felt both exhilaration and a great sense of responsibility at the same time, being in control of the aircraft throughout. My solo flight helped me put my training and lessons from my instructor to the test and have reinforced my intent to pursue a flying career in the future.

## Ng JJ, RP8H-19

The day came for my first solo flight on 24 Oct 20, and I remembered being nervous on the way to Seletar Airport. There were patches of rain cloud seen on the rain radar and threatening to pour over the runway. Putting my nerves aside, we went ahead with the solo check, with me praying that the runway would dry up in time and allow me to fly my solo. As the runway was declared dry, I landed the aircraft with my flying instructor and taxied to the A56 parking bay. I parked alongside my course mate, Seet QK, who was also going for his first solo.

Re-starting the engine and taxiing towards the runway, it finally hit me as I looked across to the empty right seat, that I was finally going solo. I felt excited and confident as I took the airplane up into the sky again. The effort and preparation from the past sorties had culminated at this moment of flying alone in the aircraft, and I flew each segment of the circuit with precision as demanded by my primary FI, Mr Pek HH. I appreciated the freedom and serenity of flying alone at 800 feet on downwind, looking down at the runway which I touched down safely shortly after.

I am immensely grateful for this opportunity which has grown my interest and passion to achieve greater things in aviation and look forward to achieving new milestones.

## Goh TJ, BFC 247



# FHT FLIGHTS

Becoming a pilot was a childhood dream of mine and thanks to SYFC, I am able to fulfil this dream. My Journey in SYFC was extremely meaningful and I will cherish forever.

My Final Handling Test (FHT) experience itself was quite a unique one. I was first scheduled to take the test in Apr 20 but unfortunately it was delayed due to Covid-19. When flying recommenced after a hiatus of two and a half months, I needed to regain my flying competency back to the FHT standard within three sorties.

My FHT was eventually scheduled on 12 Jul 20. During the test, the wind direction change resulted in the change of runway-in-use, coupled with cloud coverage in the training airspace made completing my profile challenging.

I carried out a downwind rejoin from Area Alpha, with the cloud base at about 1,500ft. After landing the aircraft, it started to rain. That was a stroke of luck for me, as staying any longer in the air would be even more challenging for me to complete the FHT.

After an oral quiz, I finally passed. I cannot think of any other moment that I felt more relieved and satisfied in my life than to have completed my PPL course.

This journey was never for me to walk alone and I would like to thank my instructors, Mr Teo MT, Mr Raman and Mr Chee P S, for sharing their flying knowledge and believing in me from start to finish.

Thank you GM, OM, Mr Toh BH and Mr Pek HH, for your constant support and guidance. Last but not least, a big thank you to Mr Preetwant in ground school as well as my flying buddies who helped me along the way.

I hope one day I will be able to serve the nation as an RSAF pilot.



## Tranter, BFC 239



My PPL experience was tough, exciting and joyous. During the training phase of PPL, there were several challenges that I had to overcome. Compared to BFC, the PPL course was way more complex as there were ground school examinations to study along with flying training. However due to proper guidance from instructors, I was able to face and overcome the challenges with confidence.

When I was undergoing the flight training, there were many tough flights. After completing these flights, I felt very satisfied. Solo flights were most rewarding as I could see the outcome of my hard work. Each solo flight built up my confidence in handling the aircraft. As time passed, I progressed through the training programme and reached the FHT.

During the FHT, I kept telling myself to stay focussed and apply whatever I have learnt from the BFC phase to PPL course. I managed to stay composed and completed the FHT and oral test. When the tester said, "I am happy to give you your licence", I was over the moon. Getting a PPL at SYFC has been my dream ever since my CCA days. I am glad that I finally accomplished this.

From my flight training experience in SYFC, I learnt that believing in myself and being confident are the two most important qualities in achieving any goals. Getting a PPL is a good start for the list of milestones I want to accomplish.

## Nandhu, BFC 242



# FHT FLIGHTS

During my time in SYFC, I thoroughly enjoyed every sortie - the joy of getting the aircraft airborne, the excitement of seeing Singapore from a different perspective and the rush of adrenaline while flying solo. Reaping the fruits of countless hours of ground preparation and eventually getting the PPL - is one of a kind.

From the PPL course, I have learnt how to multitask, anticipate, think critically, and make the right decisions fast. On day of my Final Handling Test (FHT), I was faced with many challenges – inclining weather and heavy down pour an hour prior to my take-off time, wet runway, wind direction change and runway change. Thought these were not the perfect weather conditions but I managed the flight well, thanks to the training I have received from SYFC.

I am thankful for the instructors in SYFC for teaching and guiding me, particularly my BFC and PPL primary instructors, Mr Lee SL and Mr Raman, for imparting important life values and polishing my flying skills to make me a better pilot and a better person! Special thanks also go to the staff of SYFC and the ground crew for making everything possible!



**Tan BY, BFC 239**

# SYFC WORKPLAN PRESENTATION

SYFC workplan presentation was held on 27 Aug 20 via video conferencing. The workplan presentation commenced with SYFC GM, COL (RET) Foo, giving the opening statement to thank everyone for the good achievement in the past work year. Following that, the managers shared the WY19/20 achievements as well as the projections for WY20/21. The managers apprised staff on each of their Department's objectives that they aim to accomplish for WY20/21. In closing, GM encouraged all staff to put concerted effort and work towards achieving the workplan Key Performance Indicators of WY20/21. He also expressed his appreciation to staff who were intimately involved in the CEC operations for their earnest support and commitment.



*Mr Daniel Tan briefing on Ops Dept Workplan*

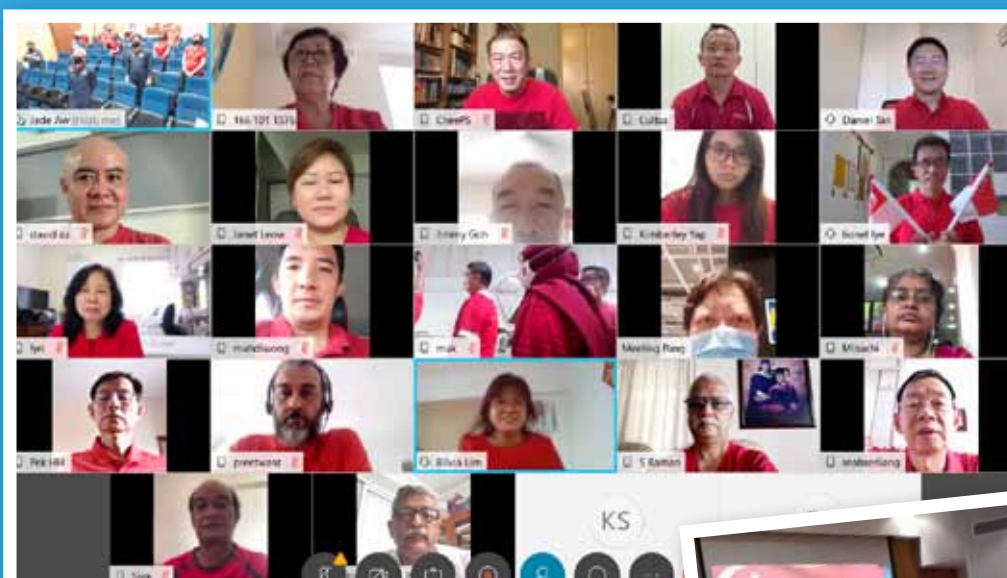


*Staff from Team B attending the Workplan Presentation at the theatrette*

# NATIONAL DAY OBSERVANCE CEREMONY



On 8 Aug 20, staff of SYFC and ST Engineering Aerospace Pte Ltd (STEA), as well as students on flying course, commemorated our nation's 55th independence through the singing of Majulah Singapura and the recitation of our Pledge. Due to cohort requirement under Covid-19, the poignant National Day Observance Ceremony was conducted via video conferencing.



# STANDING DOWN OF THE COMMUNITY CARE AND RECOVERY FACILITY AT CHANGI EXHIBITION CENTRE

Senior Minister of State for Defence Mr Zaqy Mohamad officiated the closing ceremony of the Changi Exhibition Centre Community Care and Recovery facility (CEC CCRF) on 25 Aug 20. The ceremony was attended by representatives from various MINDEF-Related Organisations (MROs), private and public sector partners. At the ceremony, SMS Zaqy expressed his appreciation to the MROs and various partners involved in the setting up and running of the facility.

SYFC has been part of the Multi-Ministry Task Force in the fight against Covid-19 and has successfully supported the food and water operations covering concept planning, budget management, procurement and distribution of packed meals for the CEC CCRF. The integrated facility received its first patient on 25 April 2020 and having cared for over 13,000 recovering Covid-19 patients. From 26 Aug 20, the facility was put into reserve and can be activated to support national requirements should the need arise.



SYFC GM with MROs representatives



SMS Zaqy delivering his speech



# SYFC PPL WINGS AND AVIATION AWARDS CEREMONY 2020



Front, L to R - Mr Toh Boon Han (CFI SYFC), Mr Goh Yong Kiat (EVP STEA), BG Kelvin Fan Sui Siong (President SYFC), COL (RET) Foo Yang Ge (GM SYFC), COL Joseph Peh (MC SYFC) and Mr Danial Amsyar Bin Azhar (graduand)

The SYFC PPL Wings and Aviation Awards Ceremony 2020 was held on 28 Nov 2020. The 34 graduands were present in SYFC Theatrette while SYFC Management Committee members, the graduands' families, school representatives and officials from RSAF attended virtually via video conferencing. The event was also live streamed on Facebook.

It was a proud and momentous occasion for the graduands as they officially became qualified pilots.

Addressing at the ceremony in a pre-recorded speech, the event Guest-of-Honour, Mr Zaqy Mohamad, Senior Minister of State for Defence, highlighted that the SYFC has lived up to its mission of inspiring youths to pursue a career with the RSAF. He said, "Our need for a strong RSAF remains the same. Singapore is a small country with no strategic depth. We rely on a capable and operationally ready RSAF to overcome our geographical vulnerabilities, so that Singapore can survive and thrive. Today, a third of RSAF pilots are SYFC alumni. I hope their achievements will encourage more youths to take advantage of the excellent opportunities provided by SYFC, and in doing so, be inspired to take the next step of building a career flying with the RSAF and defending our skies."

At the ceremony, SYFC also commended five teachers from the various schools with the Teacher's Recognition Awards, for their contributions in promoting SYFC CCA programmes in their Secondary Schools.



Arrival of BG Kelvin Fan Sui Siong (President SYFC) accompanied by Mr Goh Yong Kiat (EVP STEA), COL Joseph Peh (MC SYFC) and COL (RET) Foo Yang Ge (GM SYFC)



Danial Amsyar Bin Azhar receiving the Best in Flying award from BG Kelvin Fan Sui Siong (President SYFC)



Guest-of-Honour, Senior Minister of State for Defence, Mr Zaqy Mohamad, addressing the graduands via a pre-recorded video message

## PPL GRADUATES

NAME	SCH	COURSE
TAN JUN KAI	VJC	233
LIM JIAN YE BRENDEN	VJC	236
SOH XIAO TECK	TP	232
CONRRAD WONG MANG YEE	TP	233
BRYAN PHING ZI XUAN	TP	234
LUCAS TAN LE JUN	TP	238
NATHAN CHEONG XIAN EN	TP	235
LIM YU TER	TP	235
OOI JIE MING JEREMY	TP	238
ONG HONG RUI	TP	TP14H-18
SEAN CHIA WEN BIN	TP	TP15-18
RYAN NEO JUN HAO	TP	TP16H-19
DANIAL AMSYAR BIN AZHAR	TP	TP16H-19
ALEXANDER TSHAI MING JIN	TP	TP17H-19
FONG IAN HOW FORTUNATEUS	SP	SP6H-18
DYLAN SIM RUI HERN	SJI	SJI3-18
RHYNE TANG JIANAN	RP	234
LIM TING KANG	RP	RP6H-18
CHEOW ZIYI JOASH	RP	RP7H-19
CHERI TEO	RI	PAC-18
MAX KOH HONG RUI	RI	R15-18
ENTHAN TAN WEI JEN	RI	R15-18
THOMAS AUNG	NYP	237
CHIA YONG CHIN KENNETH	NYP	234
SIAH YEE LONG	NP	233
ALEX CHAN CHEE HAO	NP	234
PANG JIE MAXIMUS	HCIS	237
DENZEL TAN YONG LIANG	HCI	240
NGIAM KAI HER DARRYN	EJC	238
RYAN TAN JUN YU	AJC	235
TAN RYAN JEVON	ACSI	235
HSU YIH HOW DYLAN	ACSI	ACSI5-18
MAHESH DEVAN SHIKI VAAHAN	ACJC	235
TOH ZHENGLIN DENZEL	ACJC	238

## SYFC BEST IN FLYING

NAME	SCH
DANIAL AMSYAR BIN AZHAR	TP

## SYFC BEST IN GROUND SCHOOL

NAME	SCH
TAN JUN KAI	VJC

## ST ENGINEERING AEROSPACE EXCELLENCE AWARDS - BEST IN FLYING

NAME	SCH	COURSE
1 <sup>ST</sup> DANIAL AMSYAR BIN AZHAR	TP	TP16H-19
2 <sup>ND</sup> LUCAS TAN LE JUN	TP	238
3 <sup>RD</sup> KENNETH CHIA YONG CHIN	NYP	234

## ST ENGINEERING AEROSPACE EXCELLENCE AWARDS - BEST IN GROUND SCHOOL

NAME	SCH	COURSE
1 <sup>ST</sup> TAN JUN KAI	VJC	233
2 <sup>ND</sup> LIM JIAN YE BRENDEN	VJC	236
3 <sup>RD</sup> RYAN NEO JUN HAO	TP	TP16H-19

## TEACHERS' RECOGNITION AWARDS

**MR RICHARD AU WAI THONG**  
FUCHUN SECONDARY SCHOOL

**MRS HO KUAN KUAN**  
HILLGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL

**MR HO KOK WAH**  
EVERGREEN SECONDARY SCHOOL

**MR RUDY LEE CHANG TAI**  
HWA CHONG INSTITUTION

**MS RAFIDAH BANU ABDUL RAZAK**  
HAI SING CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Sharing by  
Danial Amsyar  
Bin Azhar



Cheri Teo  
receiving her PPL  
Wings and cert  
from BG Kelvin  
Fan Sui Siong,  
(President  
SYFC)



Tan Jun Kai  
receiving his  
Best in Ground  
School trophy  
from BG Kelvin  
Fan Sui Siong,  
(President  
SYFC)

# BIANNUAL SYFC SAFETY DAY



A SAFETY CONSCIOUS MIND



Staff participation in the theatre

The SYFC biannual Safety Day was conducted on 5 Nov 20 via video conferencing between the two cohort teams. The theme of the Safety Day was “Where To Draw The Line”. It covered the topics of defining a personal safety limit, threat and error management and developing good safety habits. Mr Mahdi Wong, SYFC Safety Manager, delivered the opening address emphasising the need for everyone to maintain a safety conscious mind in our course of work and at home.

Mr V Das, our Ground Safety Officer, presented several case studies of fire incidents that occurred locally and overseas. The objective of the sharing was to remind everyone about the detrimental hazards of fire where individuals must undertake a proactive role in ensuring safety. This can be in the form of adopting safe and responsible behaviour, as well as the timely reporting of any safety hazard.

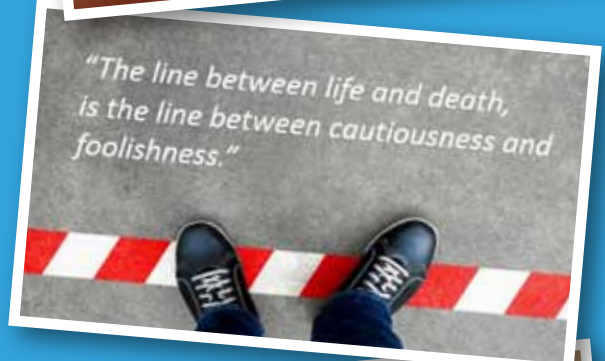
Mr Teo Mun Tiong, our Flight Safety Officer, presented two case studies of aircraft incidents involving the flying instructors and students. The root cause of both incidents started with the miscommunication within the cockpit between the two crew and deteriorated into aircraft crash due to the late take over by the instructors. He reiterated the importance of positive communication and the timely taking over of control by the instructor.

Mr Husrin Tahale, an officer from the Seletar Airport Emergency Service (AES), gave a talk on the rescue and fire protection roles and responsibilities of the AES. He briefed on the various AES response capabilities and procedures for an air crash, which included the on-land and at-sea scenarios. Additionally, he also provided a video demonstration of how to operate a fire extinguisher and the various AES fire -fighting equipment.

In the conclusion of the session, GM thanked the SYFC Safety Team for a well organised Safety Day programme. He reiterated the need to maintain vigilant and cultivate a safety mindset, especially under the current Covid-19 situation.



Mr Das presented on Fire Safety



Mr Mahdi briefing on the safety theme

# CCA EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

## SYFC Aeromodelling Challenge

The suspension of the school Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs) due to Covid-19 had resulted in the cancellation of the 2020 SYFC Inter-school Aeromodelling Competition. In order to continue motivating the CCA students to build and fly aeromodels, SYFC had supported the CCA schools in organising their internal small scale competitions. These competitions, named the SYFC Aeromodelling Challenge (SAC), allowed the schools to select the various aeromodelling segments for their students to compete in.

Evergreen Secondary School (EGSS) conducted the SAC on the 13 Nov 20, with their students competing in the Launch Glider segment. The students built the Launch Glider aeromodels based on specifications given, and the aeromodel that flew the longest distance off an elastic catapult launcher would win the contest.



*EGSS Students with their CCA Teachers and SYFC Aeromodelling Instructors*

The competition was won by the following students:

**Junior Category:** Champion (Bevis Lim Chee Yong)  
(Sec 1 and 2) 1st Runner up (Tang Jie Seng)  
2nd Runner up (Vithanage Sineth Nimansa)

**Senior category:** Champion (Ang Yong Han)  
(Sec 3 and 4) 1st Runner up (Abdul Taqif Bin Murad)  
2nd Runner up (Yeo Wee Jun)

## Resumption of Physical CCA Sessions at SYFC



*Students building their aeromodels at the SYFC CCA Workshop*



*Students attending lesson in the SYFC CCA Flight Simulation Room*

Following Ministry of Education's announcement on 7 Oct 20 on the easing of restrictions on the conduct of physical CCA, SYFC resumed our Schools Open Unit (SOU) sessions on 17 Oct 20. It has been eight months since the last physical CCA at SYFC, and the students were delighted to return to SYFC to participate in the physical activities. All segments of the SOU, namely the remote-controlled and control-line aeromodelling, computer-based

flight simulation, and classroom-based learning for the Year 1 students, have resumed. Safe Management Measures (SMMs) such as maintaining safe social distance, limiting the group size, and prohibiting inter-flight mingling, were enforced during the CCA sessions.