

Wingsuiter Pin-Checks

Wingsuiters need pin-check love too! All that extra nylon and uber-performance doesn't mean that no mistakes, misroutes, or missed connections can happen. Please share the pin-check love with your fellow skydivers wearing the nylon.

Issues to look for:

- Be sure all lace cables are in place from the bottom to the top. Generally, lace-up systems will deliberately miss the third or fourth loop in the body or wing. This is to provide a place for the laterals on the container to pass through to the inside of the wingsuit or to allow for the main lift web to pass through for access to cutaway and reserve handles.
- Look for access to the cable cutaway handles, so that the access is free and unobstructed. Also be sure to look to see that the handles are actually attached to the suit, rather than hanging free where they can catch on protrusions in the aircraft or on other skydivers in the aircraft.
- A tight main lift web indicates that the legstraps are done up tight inside the suit. Jarno McCordia states *"A zipped wingsuit means legstraps are done up tight. If we find someone with a zipped wingsuit and loose legstraps, that person gets a slap on the back of their head."* Loose legstraps are easy to miss in a hurry, and can cause some serious grief or worse in a wingsuit skydive.
- Check to be sure that altimeter straps are UNDER any thumbloops or other arm straps on the wingsuit. It's very difficult to unzip the arm zippers on a wingsuit if the wrist strap of the altimeter is on top of the zipper or thumb loop. Altimeter and gloves go on before the wingsuit thumb loop.
- If the wingsuit has zippers on the wing like a TonySuit or some PF suits offer, check to be sure zippers are all the way down, or only up as far as the wingsuit pilot would like them to be (some WS pilots like the zippers up an inch or to so that laterals have some free space to move during deployment).
- Be sure all handles are clean and visible. Sometimes, on some wingsuit models, the cutaway or reserve handle can be sucked into the suit. This might not be so noticeable until the time to grab the handle arrives. This includes of course, our hackey handle.

Helping wingsuit pilots with pin-checks is more than just common skydiving safety, doing so will also help familiarize you with wingsuits in general.

