

# **Drone Pre-Flight Checklist**

Pilot & Flight Details Pilot in Command (PIC):
Visual Observer / Spotter:
Date / Location:
Nearest ATC / Contact Frequency:
Airspace: ☐ Controlled ☐ Uncontrolled ☐ Restricted ☐ BVLOS
1. Administrative & Planning
<ul> <li>□ Flight plan filed / authorization approved (LAANC / UTM / NOTAMs checked)</li> <li>□ Airspace and geofencing confirmed clear (via DJI Fly, OpenSky, or equivalent)</li> <li>□ Remote ID active and broadcasting correctly</li> </ul>
■ Mission objective, area, and hazards briefed with all crew
<ul> <li>Emergency procedures reviewed (loss of signal, flyaway, incursion, etc.)</li> <li>Weather check (wind, visibility, temperature, precipitation, ceiling)</li> </ul>
■ Risk assessment completed (terrain, people, obstacles, EM interference)
2. Equipment Inspection
<ul> <li>■ Airframe and landing gear condition good (no cracks, damage, or dirt)</li> </ul>
● □ Propellers secure and undamaged
<ul> <li>■ Motors free of debris and spin smoothly</li> </ul>
■ Gimbal and camera move freely, lens clean
Payload secure  □ Patterios charged > 05% no awelling/demage, properly sected
<ul> <li>□ Batteries charged ≥ 95%, no swelling/damage, properly seated</li> <li>□ Controller charged, device connected, firmware up to date</li> </ul>
■ Controller charged, device connected, ill ill ware up to date ■ SD card installed and formatted
■ OD card installed and formatted  ■ Volume and brightness adequate

#### 3. Pre-Flight Power-Up

- □ Drone power ON → Controller ON → App ON
- □ Confirm: No warnings or errors
- ☐ GPS lock (minimum 10 satellites)
- ☐ Compass & IMU calibration OK
- ☐ Return-To-Home (RTH) point updated and altitude set
- ☐ Max altitude set (per airspace rules)
- ☐ Camera settings adjusted (ISO, shutter, WB, format)
- □ Take-off area clear, people notified
- □ Weather within limits
- ☐ Hover test stable, no drift, no warnings

#### 4. In-Flight Monitoring

- ☐ Maintain VLOS (visual line of sight)
- ☐ Monitor telemetry: battery %, altitude, distance, speed, signal
- □ Observe surroundings and other air traffic
- ☐ Maintain situational awareness and airspace compliance
- ☐ Respond to warnings promptly (wind, obstacle, GPS loss, etc.)

### 5. Landing & Post-Flight

- ☐ Select safe, clear landing zone
- ☐ Verify satellites >10
- ☐ Hover check before touchdown
- □ Land smoothly; motors stopped
- $\square$  Power down drone  $\rightarrow$  controller  $\rightarrow$  app
- ☐ Inspect drone for post-flight damage
- Record flight time, battery use, and notes

## **▲** Emergency Actions

- Loss of control / signal: Maintain VLOS if possible, wait for RTH activation, avoid people and property.
- Low battery: Return to home immediately if under 25%, land safely if under 15%.
- Flyaway / crash: Mark GPS coordinates, secure area, check for injuries, report to authority if required (FAA / CAA / police).

N	otes /	' Signatures:	