

### 1.8 Night Time Aerodrome Operations

- a) No aircraft shall takeoff or land at any aerodrome in The Bahamas between the hours of sunset and sunrise unless that aerodrome has been designated by the General Manager of BANSD as being available for takeoffs and landings between the hours of sunset and sunrise.
- b) An Aerodrome is considered closed between the hours of sunset and sunrise.
- 1) Requests permission to land or takeoff is obtained from the Manager ATM operations or Chief Operations Officer in charge of operations during the hours 9AM to 5PM Mon - Fri and from Watch Supervisor on duty on holidays, weekends and after 5PM weekdays.
  - 2) Requests shall be made for individually identified aircraft operations at a specific aerodrome. Requests for multiple aircraft or multiple aerodromes require additional coordination.
  - 3) Request should be made at least 8 hours in advanced prior to intended flight.
- c) ATS will accept information on an inbound flight from an adjacent ATS facility to a closed aerodrome only after receiving the following information from the Aircraft Operator:
- 1) Written permission was received from the Manager ATM operations, Chief Operations in charge of operations or the Watch Supervisor on duty prior to dispatch of the aircraft.
  - 2) Arrangements with the following persons/ agencies, as required, have been coordinated and appropriate procedures will be adhered to:
    - i) Customs Department
    - ii) Department of Immigration
    - iii) Aeronautical Flight Information Service
    - iv) Aerodrome Superintendent
    - v) Airport Security Department
  - 3) Coordination to make the aerodrome ready to accept the flight has been completed with personnel/agencies at the aerodrome of intended landing.
- d) Aerodrome owners/operators shall take necessary measures to prohibit takeoffs and landings at aerodromes considered closed between the hours of sunset and sunrise. Obstructions placed on a runway must be lighted and require General Manager of BANSD authorization.
- e) All expenses for takeoffs and landings at a closed aerodrome between the hours of sunset and sunrise shall be borne by the person/ agency requesting such operations.
- f) Aircraft Operators, in the event of an emergency, may land at an aerodrome closed to takeoffs and landings between the hours of sunset and sunrise. The Aircraft Operator shall, within 48 hours of the

emergency landing, provide a written report to the General Manager of BANSD and to Air Accident Investigation Department explaining the circumstances concerning the emergency landing.

#### 1.9 Visual Flight Rules (VFR) Flying at Night

- a) All aircraft flying between the hours of official sunset and sunrise (night) within The Bahamas airspace shall be flown in accordance Instrument Flight Rules (IFR).
- b) A VFR flight shall not commence if termination of the operation is known or expected to occur after official sunset.
- c) The General Manager of BANSD may grant prior written approval for specific VFR night flying operations.

1.10 Closed Aerodromes The Governor General may close any aerodrome within The Bahamas for any reason and for any period deemed to affect the public interest.

#### 1.11 Helicopter Operations

- a) All Helicopters must operate from established/designated publicized licensed Aerodromes or a Heliport where established for public use.
  
- b) Helicopters intending to operate at any other than prescribed aerodromes must be in possession of written authorization from the Minister of Tourism and Aviation along with, and provided all ATS requirements and/or operational restrictions can be adhered to, written authorization from the appropriate ATS authority.
  
- c) All helicopter operational requests to other than prescribed aerodromes shall be accompanied with an up-to-date 1:25,000 scale map of the particular area of intent. The operational area must be clearly outlined and indicate all obstacles in the immediate vicinity (including nearest buildings and heights).
  
- d) Helicopters shall not operate, whether or not attached to a Police Force, Defense Force, Coast Guard, Drug Enforcement Unit, etc., unless under special circumstances as defined in a Letter of Agreement:
  - 1) Below 500' AGL over the open sea.
  - 2) Not below 1500' AGL above the highest obstacle over land.
  
- e) On departure all helicopters shall climb immediately to an altitude above 1500' AGL when their departure route will pass over a city, residential area, or other congested area.
  
- f) Helicopters on arrival routes that pass over a city, residential area, or other congested area shall remain at or above 1500' AGL until five (5) miles from the heliport before commencing descent for landing.