

THE HOLD SHORT

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27SEP - 03OCT

WEATHER WISE: MAKING THE FORECAST PART OF YOUR FLIGHT PLAN

Fall is here! That means cooler air, potential storms, shifting winds, and the occasional unsettled skies. It keeps a pilot on their toes! While it can be tempting to look out the window and make a go/no-go call without getting the big picture, the weather deserves a little more respect. Weather is one of the big risk management factors that has to be mitigated for any flight. It isn't just background noise nor is it a "wait and see". It's a critical part of the decision-making process every time you fly.

If you're working on a rating, talking through the weather with your instructor is one of the most valuable habits you can build. A forecast isn't just a wall of METARs and TAFs, it's a story about how the air will change during your lesson. The forecast discussion is always worth a visit. Pay attention to PIREPs, AIRMETs, and SIGMETs! Maybe ceilings are workable now, but trending lower. Maybe winds will ease after lunch instead of building. Maybe a line of storms today means moving your cross-country to tomorrow. All of this information needs to be considered and can sometimes be overwhelming! Ask a CFI for help. It's all about reducing risk.

Weather awareness pays big after you have launched, too. Once you are flying, do you recognize the signs that conditions are changing? Knowing when to change course or turn back is all part of adapting to the scenario. Do you know how to access in-flight weather via ADSB or Flight Service? Flight Service is with you everywhere but also can be very lonely at times. Be sure weather isn't an afterthought. Bring it up ahead of the flight, ask questions, and let your instructor walk you through the "why" behind the go/no-go call. Know how to adapt in flight, too. The storms will pass, but the habit of checking and learning from the weather will serve you all year long.

REMINDERS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

- Need some study buddies? Don't forget about Private Pilot Study Groups on the 1st and 3rd Monday, 6pm-8pm. Instrument Ground School help, those will be the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 6pm-8pm.
- Don't forget about the Ground School Supplement Courses. Schedule is on the last page.
- **Check out the new time logs in the binders. Renters and/or CFI need to sign that the post flight checklist is completed.**
- **Get ready to elevate your aviation skills with our upcoming in-house, lecture-based Instrument Ground School classes, led by the phenomenal CFI/CFII, Bob Bennett! Here are the details: Dates: October 14 - November 20 (6 weeks), Every Tuesday and Thursday night, 6pm-9pm. Cost: \$500 (includes books). Location: Atlantic Aviation. Requirements: Basic Foreflight subscription for electronic charts Space is limited, so don't delay! Reach out ASAP to the GBA office (775-856-3655, goflying@greatbasinaviation.com) to secure your spot as enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis.**

B**27SEP - 03OCT**

GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT



RIIS MENDELSON- INSTRUMENT

Big congratulations to Riis on earning his Instrument Rating! If there's one thing that stands out about Riis, it's that he doesn't do anything halfway. From working sunup to sundown (or sometimes even sundown to sunup) as a plumber, to being a true workout fanatic, to his love for pitbulls, everything he takes on gets his full commitment. That same relentless drive carried him through the challenges of instrument training, and it's no surprise he came out successful. The instrument rating is no small accomplishment, it takes focus, discipline, and persistence. Riis showed all of that and more, proving once again that when he sets his mind to something, he gives it everything he's got. Huge congratulations to Riis on this incredible achievement, and to his instructor, Andrew, whose guidance and support were instrumental throughout the journey. This accomplishment is a true reflection of their hard work, perseverance, and dedication. We couldn't be more proud of the effort he's put into reaching this milestone. Congratulations, Riis! Your hard work in and out of the cockpit continues to inspire, and the sky is truly the limit from here.

Today, Skyler Steele taxied out on Runway 26 at KRTS, took a deep breath, told gluten to mind its business (no bread for this guy), and flew a clean, confident first solo. Not bad for a California transplant (we won't hold it against him), a Costco power shopper, and a football diehard who knows the value of yardage, because every lap in the pattern is earned.

Here's the deal with Skyler: he doesn't make noise; he makes progress. Shows up. Listens. Practices. Shows up again. That kind of consistency turns "someday" into rotate faster than you can say "Costco taco kit." He took the long list of little things like checklists, crosswinds, centerline discipline, and did the unglamorous work until it looked effortless. (It isn't. He just makes it look that way.) In the office, he's the kind of pilot who makes the room lighter, even when we're giving him a good-natured hard time. On the ramp, he's disciplined and calm. In the cockpit, he's the pilot you want in the left seat when the air gets honest. That's why today happened quickly: not luck, not a loophole, work.

Major kudos to CFI Lucas Murphy for the coaching. Great instruction, combined with a teachable student, is a dangerous combination, in the best possible way. Awesome job guys!!



SKYLER STEELE-SOLO

C**27SEP - 03OCT**

GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT

Big congratulations to Grant White for passing his Instrument Rating check ride!

Grant has shown incredible dedication throughout his training here at Great Basin Aviation. From the very beginning, he's put in the hard work to sharpen his skills and continue progressing toward his dream of becoming a pilot. His strong work ethic, passion for aviation, and drive to keep learning have all carried him to this milestone.

Outside the cockpit, Grant enjoys the outdoors, whether it's hunting, fishing, or just staying active, and he always brings that same determination and focus into his flying. Achieving the Instrument Rating is no small feat, and it marks a huge step forward in his aviation journey.

Huge congratulations to Grant on this incredible achievement, and to his instructor, Greg, whose guidance and support were instrumental throughout the journey. This accomplishment is a true reflection of their hard work, perseverance, and dedication.

We're so proud of you, Grant, and we can't wait to see all the amazing things you'll accomplish next.

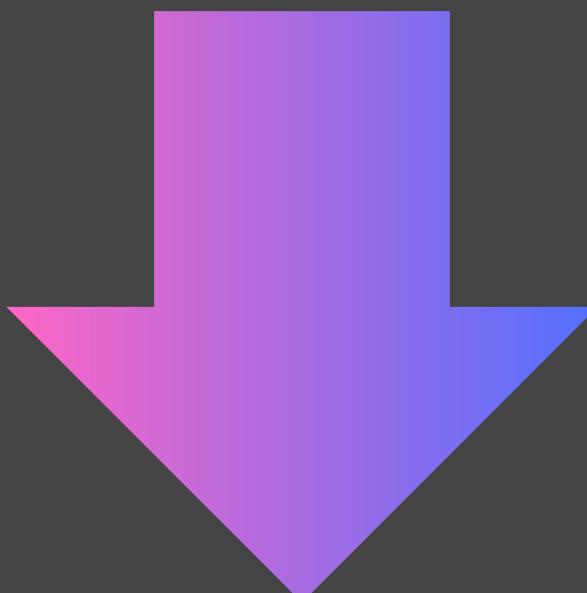
Congratulations on earning your Instrument Rating!

Awesome job as well to his CFI, Greg Athenien!



**GRANT WHITE-
INSTRUMENT**

CHECK OUT INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING GROUND SCHOOL SUPPLEMENT COURSES:



D**27SEP - 03OCT****GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT****CHECK OUT INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING GROUND SCHOOL SUPPLEMENT COURSES:**

GROUND SCHOOL SUPPLEMENT COURSES

\$50 PER CLASS (2HRS)
INSTRUCTOR WILL SIGN OFF TRAINING IN YOUR LOG BOOK

SEPTEMBER

9/20 - AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS

The Aircraft Systems class teaches how key systems, engine, electrical, fuel, and control function, preparing you to identify and manage potential issues for safer flight.

10/04 - AERODYNAMICS

This class covers how these planes fly: lift, drag, thrust, and weight, helping you understand airflow, stability, stalls, and maneuvering for better control and efficiency in flight.

10/18 - AVIATION WEATHER

This class teaches you how to interpret METARs, TAFs, charts, and weather patterns, helping you make informed decisions for safer flight planning and in-flight adjustments.

OCTOBER

11/01 - AIRSPACE

This class covers airspace classes, chart recognition, communication and equipment requirements, plus the weather minimums every pilot needs to know.

NOVEMBER

11/15 - CHARTS AND FLIGHT PLANNING

This class helps you master sectionals, airspace, and chart symbols, ensuring you can navigate safely and efficiently in all flight environments. This class will also cover route selection, fuel calculations, airspace considerations, and weather analysis, ensuring you can plan safe, efficient, and well-prepared flights.

12/06 - EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

This class prepares you to handle engine failures, system malfunctions, lost communications, and in-flight emergencies, ensuring quick thinking and confident decision-making in critical situations.

12/20 - CHECKRIDE PREP

This class helps you master oral exam questions, flight maneuvers, and scenario-based decision-making, ensuring you are confident and well-prepared for your checkride.

DECEMBER

 **MORE INFO:** **GBA OFFICE, 775-856-3655**
GOFLYING@GREATBASINAVIATION.COM