

# THE HOLD SHORT

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**07FEB - 13FEB**

## GREAT BASIN AVIATION IS NOW AN FAA KNOWLEDGE TESTING CENTER

Big news for Great Basin Aviation...we are now an official FAA Knowledge Testing Center! That means the written exams required for your certificates and ratings can now be completed right here at GBA. The same place you train, study, brief, and debrief is now where you'll sit down and take your knowledge test.

Yes, it's more convenient. No more trying to find a test center or waiting weeks for availability. When your instructor says you're ready, we can keep the momentum moving. Knowledge stays fresh. Training stays aligned. Progress doesn't stall.

But this is about more than convenience. It strengthens the entire training pipeline. Ground school, endorsement, written test, checkride prep, it all flows together under one roof. That continuity raises accountability and reinforces the standard we expect from our students.

This does not mean shortcuts or easier tests. It means preparation, verification, and execution. Your instructor won't sign you off unless you're truly ready, and once you are, we'll have a seat waiting.

This is another step in building a complete, high-standard training environment here in Northern Nevada. We're proud of the growth, and even more excited for what it means for you.

Hold short. Study hard. Then go earn it.

## REMINDERS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

- In the event of cancellation, call the office or email us asap. Messages and emails are monitored even after hours.
- Please check for wing covers before you start your pre-flight. Do not lower flaps with covers on. Flaps can bind and crack under the fabric, and any damage will be passed on.
- Come to the Monday night study groups! Private Pilot is the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, 6pm-8pm. Advanced rating/certificate study groups will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month, same time.

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# GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT

Huge congrats to Ben Novello on passing his Instrument Rating checkride! 🙌🙌

Instrument training is no joke. It takes focus, consistency, and staying ahead of the airplane, and Ben tackled it the same way he does most things. Head down, locked in, and willing to put in the work without making it a big production.

Ben is pure Tahoe. Dirt bikes, snowboarding, and doing what he casually calls “Tahoe things” when he’s not flying. To celebrate this milestone, he’s taking his wife and daughter out to dinner, which feels like the perfect way to mark a big accomplishment. He even has a Voyager space probe tattoo, which is very on brand for someone who loves navigation, exploration, and going places most people never will.

Ben is steady, sharp, and quietly funny. He’s also a self proclaimed terrible singer, which is probably for the best because flying is clearly his lane. This rating is a big deal, and Ben earned it through real effort, discipline, and showing up every step of the way.

And a big congrats as well to his instructor, Eric Harned, for guiding Ben through this milestone.

Well done, Ben. Proud of you and excited to see where you fly next.



**Ben Novello -  
Instrument**

Jaxton Morales' First Solo!!

KRTS. Runway 14. N495SP. Instructor removed.

Jaxton Morales said, “I got this,” and then proceeded to absolutely prove it. Air Guard grit? Check.

Ukulele-playing ramp morale officer? Also check.

Cool, calm, unbothered in the pattern? Big check.

Jaxton is one of those humans you’re just happy to have around. He shows up smiling, probably humming something island-vibe while running checklists, and then quietly just handles business. And today he handled it solo. Clean departures. Solid pattern work. Landings that said, “Yes, I belong here.”

So if you see him celebrating, mind your business. This is elite first-solo energy. Let him live. Let him strum. Let him replay that takeoff in his head 42 times like the rest of us did after ours.

Major props to his CFI Derrick Craine for knowing exactly when to step out and let him send it. That’s the art of instructing: build them up, then get out of the way.

Jaxton, we’re proud of you.

The runway’s shorter without the instructor’s weight... like a rocket ship taking off! (Not a jab at Derrick’s athletic physique at all)

Jaxton Morales, Private Pilot loading...



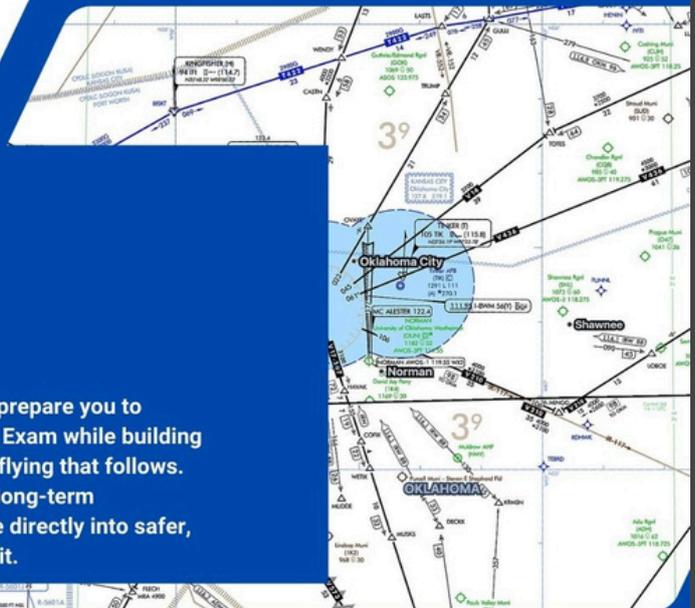
**Jaxton Morales -  
Solo**

Last Chance!! Our in-person Instrument Ground School taught by the incomparable Bob Bennett. Reserve your seat now!



# INSTRUMENT GROUND SCHOOL

This in-person Instrument Ground School is designed to prepare you to successfully pass the FAA Instrument Rating Knowledge Exam while building a strong foundation for the oral exam and real-world IFR flying that follows. The course emphasizes understanding, application, and long-term proficiency, not rote memorization, so concepts translate directly into safer, more confident instrument decision-making in the cockpit.



## DETAILS



### WHEN AND WHERE

- Monday & Wednesday evenings
- 6:00–9:00 PM
- February 16-March 25
- Atlantic Aviation



### COURSE MATERIALS

- Jeppesen Text Book and ASA Test Prep (included in price)
- Basic Foreflight Subscription for electronic charts



### EXPECTATIONS

- Willingness to actively participate
- Commitment to completing assigned homework
- Consistent attendance and engagement during class sessions



### COST

- \$500 (includes books)



### SIGN UP

- Email - [GoFlying@GreatBasinAviation.com](mailto:GoFlying@GreatBasinAviation.com)
- Call/Text - 775-856-3655



## Why Choose GBA?

Well, #1, Bob is teaching the class, but also, training for your Instrument Rating at GBA means learning in a structured, professional environment led by experienced instructors who emphasize long-term proficiency. Our focus goes beyond passing a test to developing sound aeronautical judgment, strong IFR fundamentals, and disciplined habits that translate into safe, confident decision-making in real-world instrument flying.