

# THE HOLD SHORT

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05JUL - 11JUL

## IT'S HOT! LET'S TALK HEAT RESTRICTIONS AND PERFORMANCE (OURS & THE PLANE'S)

Summer is in full swing, and so is the heat. As temperatures soar, it's not just you who's sweating, your trusty Cessna 172 is feeling it too.

Let's break it down:

High heat = high density altitude = less performance. That means longer takeoff rolls, reduced climb rates, and less engine efficiency. Your airplane doesn't love hot, thin air any more than you love pre-flighting in 100 degrees. On the ground and in the air, things just get... sluggish. That's why we monitor heat restrictions so closely at GBA. When temps climb, we may delay flights, adjust weights, or limit dual operations in the afternoon. It's not just for the aircraft, it's for you and your CFI's health and safety too. Heat exhaustion is real, and the ramp can feel like an oven by 1 p.m.

Pro tips to beat the heat (and fly safely):

- Hydrate like it's your job.
- Plan morning flights when temps and DA are lower.
- Don't rush, hot, tired pilots make mistakes.

Know your aircraft's performance numbers, and brief the density altitude before every flight. Flying in the heat teaches us flexibility, awareness, and smart decision-making. So keep that water bottle close, your performance charts closer, and don't hesitate to reschedule if the temps push limits.

Stay cool, fly safe, and may your takeoff roll be short (but your checklist thorough).

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays, 6pm-8pm.
- Check the parking map!! Make sure you know where to park your plane when you return.
- Do not add unnecessary oil. If it is at 6, you are good. Adding extra "just because" is a waste, and it just burns off. Check the POH for oil requirements.
- **Watch for a Young Aviator Boot Camp next week. Thank you to all who helped out to make the program a success!**



**CALEB LIN –  
SOLO**

Aloha! It sure does feel like paradise with how hot temperatures have been! And while we're all whining and wiping the sweat off our brows, Holden Stone, a Hawaiian native from Lahaina, is enjoying the heat, living his best life, and staying cool even under the pressure of his instrument checkride. While Holden likes to spend his time outdoors, whether that be hiking, snowboarding, surfing, or training in jiu jitsu, he's been holed up inside studying the intricacies of instrument flying and itching to apply his knowledge in the plane. And today, he can finally say that after all his grit, hard work, and determination that he's a fully-fledged instrument rated pilot! That's right, Holden Stone can now soar in the clouds to his heart's content! Holden is incredibly driven and absolutely fearless. From balancing his flight training, being a loving father and husband, and flying like the madman he is, it's truly no surprise that Holden has crushed this milestone! Holden, we are so incredibly proud of you, and we can't wait to see you further your training as you push for your commercial license. Until then, huge congratulations to Holden and his CFII, Eric Harned, on this awesome accomplishment! Great work you two!

While most people were still hitting snooze this morning, Caleb Lin was already at KRNO 17L, cool as ever, launching N37JA into the sky solo. No audience, no big scene, just one student, one plane, and a calm morning that never stood a chance. This wasn't luck. It wasn't a fluke. It was the result of dedication, discipline, and laser-sharp focus. Caleb has been putting in the work for this milestone, and let's be honest, hard work is more afraid of Caleb than the other way around. Born in Guam, fluent in five languages, and now thriving in the dry Reno climate (despite claiming to hate the heat), Caleb brings serious brainpower and humility to everything he does. He doesn't make a big deal about being impressive, he just is. Today, he added "soloed an aircraft" to an already long list of accomplishments.

Huge congratulations to Caleb, and to CFI Lucas Murphy, who helped guide this sky warrior to solo success. The bar just got raised.



**HOLDEN STONE –  
INSTRUMENT**

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# GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT



**SHON PLAMONDON –  
COMMERCIAL**

Flight Deck Announcement – Great Basin 737 to Career Altitude! Good morning, passengers, this is your captain speaking. We're cruising at a celebratory altitude today because Shon Plamondon just earned his commercial pilot certificate! That's right, he's cleared to fly for hire... which means his flying is now FAA-certified and invoice-worthy. Shon's journey has had its share of laughs, lessons, and... questionable life choices, like losing a bet and ending up with a tattoo on his backside (no, we're not showing you). He's also developed a healthy respect for turbulence and for Jenn's "motivational yelling", both of which seem to keep him sharp. All jokes aside, Shon has put in the work and flown through the challenges to get here. We're proud of his growth, his determination, and his ability to make every checkride prep just a little more entertaining. A huge shoutout to CFI Cory Kleidosty, who expertly navigated the left seat alongside Shon and made sure everything stayed on heading. Congratulations, Shon, next stop: wherever the aviation winds take you. Now sit back, relax, and enjoy the view... from the paid pilot side.

Solo Milestone Alert! Give it up for Jeremy Ellison, who officially joined the solo squad today at KRTS, runway 32, in N352ME! On a cool, very early, Nevada morning, Jeremy lined up, launched, and made three smooth, buttery landings, so smooth, in fact, we're pretty sure a PIREP needs to be filed: butter spotted on the runway.

Jeremy is not only a natural in the air, he's also a guy who thrives outdoors, and more importantly, an incredible dad. Balancing family, adventure, and flight training is no small feat, but Jeremy makes it look easy (just like those landings). Huge shoutout to CFI James Morgan for helping guide him to this unforgettable aviation milestone. Today, Jeremy took a major step toward his dreams, and we couldn't be more proud. One plane. One runway. One pilot. And zero instructors on board.

Congrats, Jeremy! You've got the sky to yourself now, enjoy every second of it.



**JEREMY ELLISON –  
SOLO**





**DERRICK CRAINE –  
CFI**

Yeeeeeeeeeeeeee dawgie! Some of you may be asking, “Why is Derrick smilin’ like a kid who’s found an extra nugget at the bottom of his Chick-fil-a bag?” Well, because today’s the day. The man with the million-dollar smile, the future manager of a Georgia Waffle House, and the holder of the best laugh this side of the Mississippi, Derrick Craine, has gon’ done it and conquered his CFI checkride!! Derrick’s got a work ethic that’d put a tornado to shame. From camping out in the conference rooms building his lesson plans, to taking up guinea pig students to master his teaching technique, Derrick’s drive, determination, and passion has truly shone through with everything he’s put into this rating. Today’s also special because Derrick has officially gone from a zero-time student to a CFI in just a year here at Great Basin Aviation! While we love to give Derrick a hard time, this is truly a very impressive and special moment, and we are so proud to share this awesome achievement with him today. Derrick, you’ve been washing bugs, you’ve been a social media star, and now, you’re a CFI. Let that sink in. Let’s give a huge congratulations to Derrick and his CFI, Eric Harned, who has gone through every rating with Derrick from the very beginning. Congrats Mr. CFI!!

Checkride day is full of emotions. From not sleeping the night before, having a weird eating schedule throughout the day, and to top it off, being utterly exhausted after the gauntlet you’ve been through... most people celebrate their checkride by taking the most glorious nap known to man... but not, Kyra Talusik. Kyra came in bright eyed, and bushy tailed this morning ready to crush her private pilot checkride, and she did exactly that! You heard that right, Kyra Talusik is a fully fledged private pilot! And when I asked Kyra how she planned to celebrate this awesome accomplishment—expecting her to want to take a nap—she came out and told me that she was going to celebrate by going to a trampoline park! Kyra... how do you have the energy?? You’re truly a woman of mystery. In all seriousness, Kyra has been playing a balancing act between flight training, finishing her engineering degree at UNR, shifting to a full-time schedule at her job, and everything else in between. Kyra, you are an absolute powerhouse, and we are so proud of you for reaching the incredible milestone. Let’s give it up to Kyra and her flight instructor, James Morgan. Amazing work!



**KYRA TALUSIK –  
PRIVATE**