THE HOLD SHORT

A 11JUL - 17JUL

DON'T BE AFRAID TO FLY AFTER 1100

Summer flying in Northern Nevada has an unofficial rule: fly early or don't fly at all. Mornings usually offer cooler temperatures, lower density altitude, and calmer winds, but 1100 should not automatically become cancellation time. The clock does not determine whether a flight is safe. The conditions do.

Flying later means carefully evaluating density altitude, aircraft performance, winds, turbulence, terrain, and personal minimums. Sometimes those factors make canceling the right decision. Other times, they simply provide an opportunity to build valuable experience.

There is a difference between uncomfortable and unsafe. A bumpy flight may not be ideal for sightseeing or a discovery flight, but with the right instructor, afternoon winds and turbulence can help pilots develop confidence, improve crosswind skills, and learn how to manage changing conditions.

Pilots who only fly on perfectly calm mornings may struggle when conditions change during a cross-country, checkride, or future flight. Personal minimums matter, but they should be thoughtful safety boundaries, not permanent walls.

We are not encouraging anyone to challenge unsafe weather. We are encouraging pilots to stop using 1100 as the weather forecast.

Check the conditions. Calculate performance. Know your limitations. Bring an instructor when appropriate. But don't let the clock become another limitation in your POH.

REMINDERS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

- CFI-led Study Groups are every Monday from 6-8pm. Contact the office for details.
- Dont forget to tell us where you are heading! Any XC flight, please add your destination to the comments.
- In the event of cancellation, call the office or email us asap. Messages and emails are monitored.

B 11JUL - 17JUL

GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT

Johnny Harris- Solo

There are good students, there are great students... and then there's Johnny Harris.
Today, Johnny soloed N37JA from KRST Runway 08, and nobody is surprised. He put in the work, and then some.
If being helpful was an Olympic sport, Johnny would have the gold medal before anyone else even found the parking lot. He's the guy who will stop what he's doing to help someone work on a car, jump in around the office, lend a hand on the ramp, or spend time helping someone else chase their aviation goals. He never keeps score, never asks for recognition, and somehow always has time for everyone else.
Well... almost everyone else. Today the only thing he wasn't giving away was his solo shirt.
Johnny is genuinely one of the sweetest souls you'll ever meet. He has this rare ability to connect with just about everyone, and that is going to take him a long way in aviation. Flying airplanes is important, but this industry is built on relationships, trust, and people who others want to fly and work alongside. Johnny already has that figured out.
The part that makes this even more impressive? He does all of this while working full-time and still finding the time to study, show up for ground lessons, fly, and continue pushing toward his goals. Success isn't luck; it looks a lot like showing up over and over again, and Johnny does exactly that.
We couldn't be prouder of you. Watching good people accomplish big things is one of the best parts of this job, and today was one of those days. Your first solo is something you'll remember forever, and we have no doubt this is only the beginning of an incredible aviation journey.
A huge congratulations also goes to Andy Glenn for getting another student safely to this milestone. Great work, Andy.
Now go enjoy that solo shirt. You've earned it.

Some people are born to fly, and from the moment Jack Rauscher walked through the doors at GBA, it was pretty clear he was one of them.
At just 17 years old, Jack has been an absolute natural in the cockpit. But don't let his talent fool you. His success comes from the work he puts in behind the scenes. Before he ever logged a flight lesson with us, Jack had already completed his FAA written exam, giving himself a strong foundation before taking to the skies. Since day one, he's shown up early, prepared, and ready to make every lesson count with his instructor, Lucas.
Whether it's mastering new maneuvers, learning from every flight, or tackling each challenge with confidence, Jack has excelled every step of the way. His steady work ethic, positive attitude, and willingness to learn have made him a joy to watch progress through training.
That hard work reached a huge milestone when Jack completed his first solo flight from Runway 32 at Reno Stead (KRTS)! There's nothing quite like that first takeoff alone, and Jack handled it like a seasoned aviator.
Jack, congratulations from your entire GBA family! We couldn't be more proud of everything you've accomplished so far, and we have no doubt this is just the beginning of an exciting aviation journey. Keep showing up prepared, keep chasing excellence, and keep reaching for the skies. We'll be cheering you on every step of the way. Blue skies and tailwinds! 🛩️🎉

Jack Rauscher- Solo