

Rockcliffe Flying Club

“Co-pilot” training course

Training syllabus

Objectives:

The purpose of this course is to allow frequent passengers of private aircraft to acquire some knowledge of general aviation and basic flying skills. It is also well suited for people who have never flown, are interested in aviation and would like to know more about it, but are not interested in becoming pilots.

At the end of the training you will be able to:

- understand basic weather reports and forecasts;
- read maps and symbols and relate ground features to map features along a track;
- read Canada Flight Supplement entries for an airport and do a pre-landing briefing;
- understand the basic principles of what keeps an aircraft in the air, and the purpose of different engine controls;
- brief the pilot in command on required information while approaching an airport;
- control an airplane for limited periods in straight and level flight and light turbulence;
- understand the steps for landing an aircraft.

Why take this course?

- To increase your confidence and enjoyment in the air by understanding more about the experience of flying.
- To share some of the pilot’s workload, such as radio communications and navigation, thus making long flights, in particular, less tiring for the pilot and more interesting for you, and
- To learn how you could assist the pilot, not only in normal flying conditions, but also during a difficult flight or in an emergency.
- To learn more about aviation and get a chance to fly an aircraft yourself with an instructor.

Feedback from previous sessions.

Feedback from students who participated in our previous courses in in 2004 and 2005 was that the course made them much more comfortable with the idea of flying in a small single-engine aircraft, helped them understand what was going on at different moments, anticipate next steps in a flight, understand the radio communications, and more comfortable taking controls. Some even stated that it eased their “fear of flying” by helping them understand how an airplane flies and how pilots are trained. They suggested it would be a good course to offer to the general public for people with an interest in aviation.

Structure

The course will consist of two days of groundschool and 2 one-hour (approx.) sessions of flight instruction.

Detailed course plan

Day 1 groundschool (9AM to 2PM):

- introduction to flying,
- aircraft terms,
- aircraft controls and what they do.
- radios,

- how does an airplane fly? When does it fail to fly properly? What can be done to prevent this?
- getting around an airport, on the ground, in the air
- human factors (how will flying affect me physically)

Between day 1 and day 2 groundschool, students should have done the first flight instruction session. This will be the equivalent of an introductory flight. In the case of a “co-pilot” who has already had a lot of experience flying as a passenger, this may be more a review of straight and level flight and attitudes and movements.

Day 2 groundschool (9AM to 2PM):

- Radio communications
- Airspace and air traffic control basics
- reading weather reports and VFR flying visibility minima
- trip planning, map reading,
- opening and closing flight plans,
- Canada Flight Supplement entries and pilot briefing
- procedures for landing (circuit description)

The second flight will be a mini-cross-country flight to nearby airports to give you the opportunity to identify ground features on the map, to practice straight and level flight and to practice briefing the pilot while approaching the destination airport.

An airport approach and landing will be demonstrated, to familiarise you with the visual references. You may wish to keep a light hold on the controls as the instructor flies the approach circuit and lands on the runway. If you wish, you may then try the approach and landing yourself, with the instructor following through on the controls.

When and how much?

RFC are planning to make this a permanent feature of our training courses and offer it at least twice a year. The fall session for 2005 will be scheduled for Sunday mornings October 2nd and 16th (to be confirmed) and for the groundschool days. The flights will be individually scheduled with each student.

Students **must** register ahead of time by calling Brenda Reid at 613 746 4425 or by e-mail to Brenda@rfc.ca.

The total program cost will be \$350 plus applicable taxes. This will include ground school, two flights and lunch on the two groundschool days. This will be payable at the club, and can be paid either before the session or after the first groundschool when the student comes to the club for the first flight.

The groundschool sessions will be at the Canada Aviation Museum, Bush theatre, starting at 9 AM. Please plan to arrive a few minutes early.