

# NON-TOWERED OPERATIONS AND TRAFFIC PATTERNS

And occasional



# NON-TOWERED TRAFFIC PATTERNS

By Tom Rogers, CFI, CFII, MEI

Lt Colonel USAF Retired

Retired Airline Captain

NAFI Master CFI

FAA Safety Team Representative **FAAST**

FAA Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award

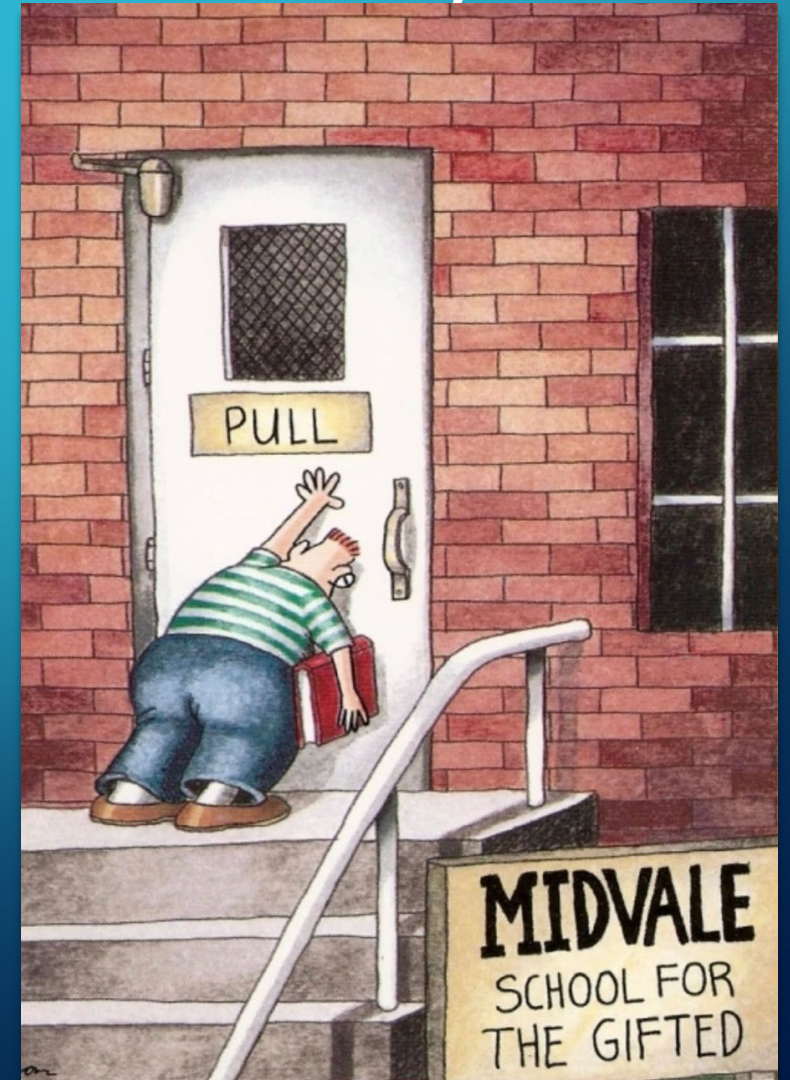




# OUTLINE OF SUBJECTS

- Intro with Safety Facts, Why Answers and Problem Areas
- Regulations, Rules, and Best Practices
- Traffic Pattern Defined
- Entry and Exit
- Radio Calls
- Right of Way
- Summary

WHY ARE WE HERE? THIS IS BASIC STUFF, RIGHT?



# SAFETY RATES

## Safety Record of U.S. Air Carriers (Part 121 Scheduled Service): 2000 to Present

Year	Accidents: Total	Accidents: Fatal	Fatal Accidents per 100,000 Departures	Fatalities: Total	Fatalities: Onboard
2019	36	1	0.010	1	1
2020	11	0	0.000	0	0

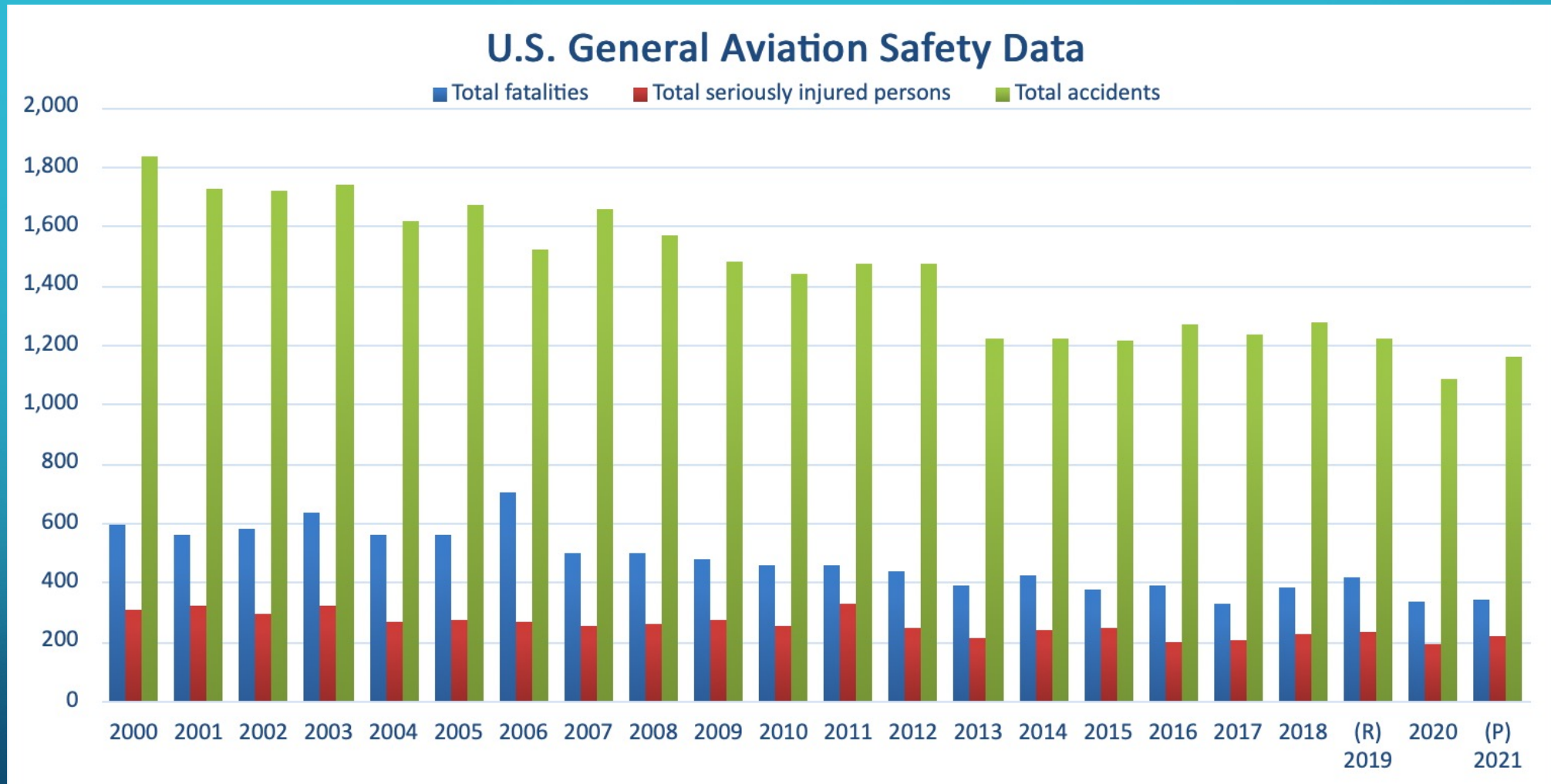
Really great last couple years but 20-year average is about .003

### Military rates

About 27 Class A mishaps have occurred on average in the past five years, the Air Force Safety Center said. That rate fell to **0.94 accidents per 100,000 flying hours** for manned aircraft in 2021, the lowest since 2014, according to AFSC data. Jan 31, 2022



## Now look at General Aviation not including Part 135



**General Aviation is at 5.56 (6) per 100,000 hours, 100 per month! 17 a Month are Fatal!**  
**NTSB DATA does not include 8 GEAR-UP Landings and 5 GROUND LOOPS/Week**

# MID-AIR COLLISIONS

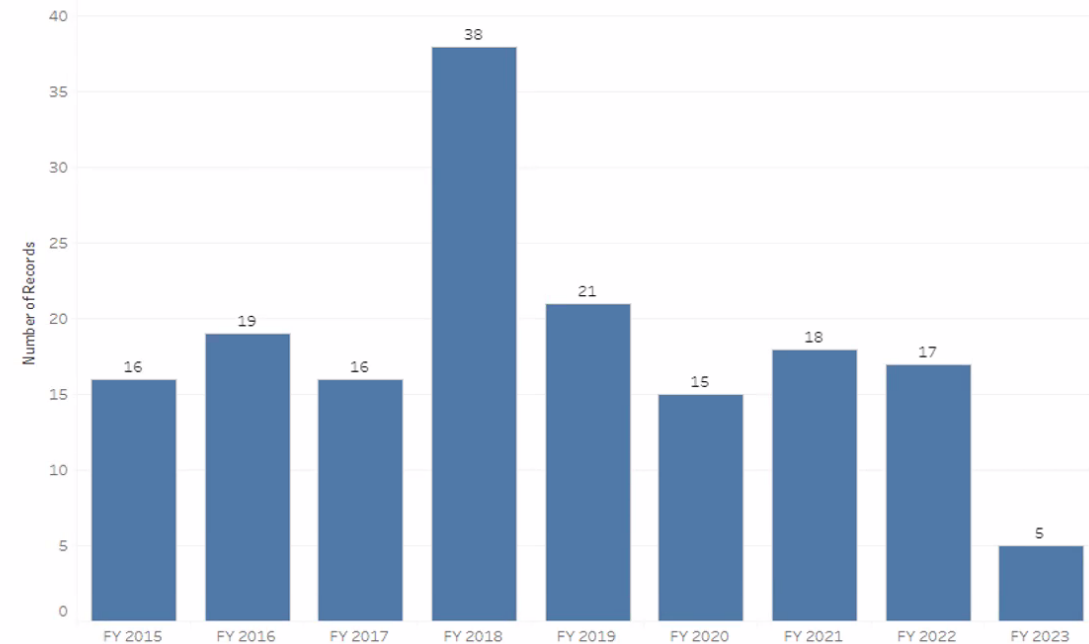
According to the 2019 Null Report,

- Dual Lessons account for 62% of Pattern Mid-Airs
- Mid-Air in Traffic patten are at 1 per month
- 96% are at or within 5 nm of non-towered airports.

## Accidents and Incidents

### Count of Accidents

Source: NTSB Accident Database System (eADMS) Updated Through February 26, 2023  
Data Tool Refreshed on 3/14/2023 4:11:17 PM





# Accident Subset: Mid-Air Collisions



Since 1978, There has been an average of 30 Midair collisions in the United States each year. These collisions resulted in an average of 75 deaths per year. There are also an average of 450 near midair collisions (NMACS) reported each year; no one can calculate the number that have gone unreported! FAA Team Notice July 2011

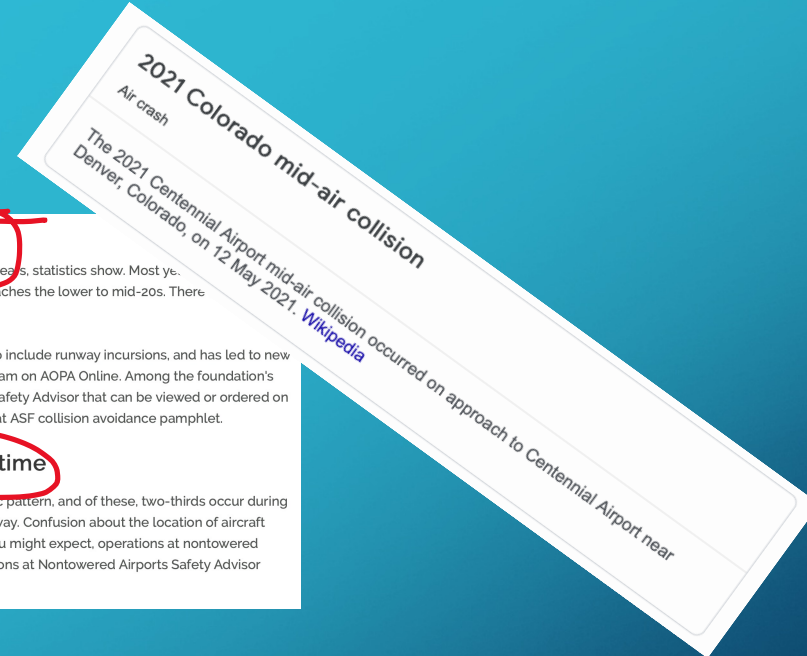
## Collisions continue at a steady rate

Midair collisions have continued at a steady rate in the past 18 years, statistics show. Most years, accidents number in the teens, but occasionally the number reaches the lower to mid-20s. There were 10 midair collisions in 2000, and 11 of those involved fatalities.

The definition of the collision problem has expanded recently to include runway incursions, and has led to new safety efforts. ASF has placed a runway-incursion training program on AOPA Online. Among the foundation's publications is the Collision Avoidance: Strategies and Tactics Safety Advisor that can be viewed or ordered on ASF's Web site. Many of the tips in this article are taken from that ASF collision avoidance pamphlet.

## Approach and landing a dangerous time

ASF data indicate that 45 percent of collisions occur in the traffic pattern, and of these, two-thirds occur during approach and landing when aircraft are on final or over the runway. Confusion about the location of aircraft and their landing order often begins earlier in the pattern. As you might expect, operations at nontowered airports offer the greatest risk. You can download ASF's Operations at Nontowered Airports Safety Advisor (PDF, 741KB).



March 7, 2023  
4 dead after two planes collide in Winter Haven, officials say

Four people are dead after two planes collided in Winter Haven on Tuesday afternoon. According to the Polk County Sheriff's Office, a search and rescue mission has ended, because no other victims were aboard the two planes. In a news conference, the Chief of Staff for the Polk County Sheriff's Office, Steve Lester, said dispatchers received a 911 call around 2 p.m. informing first responders that two planes had collided in the air over Lake Hartridge in Winter Haven.

## Aviation

# NTSB issues safety recommendations after 2020 midair collision near Soldotna

By Mark Thiessen, Associated Press

Updated: March 5, 2022 Published: March 5, 2022

Between 2005-2020, there have been 14 midair collisions in Alaska, with 12 of them in uncontrolled airspace, the report said. The collisions resulted in 35 deaths and 15 serious injuries.

# UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEM

- Most Mid-Air collisions occur on clear days, At non-towered fields, below 1000 AGL.
- Downwind conflicts are created by pilots trying to cut short entries.
  - ❖ Downwind/Entry Mid-Air 16%
- Most pattern mid-air collisions occur on final,  
68%....Due to  
extended downwind or wide patterns.

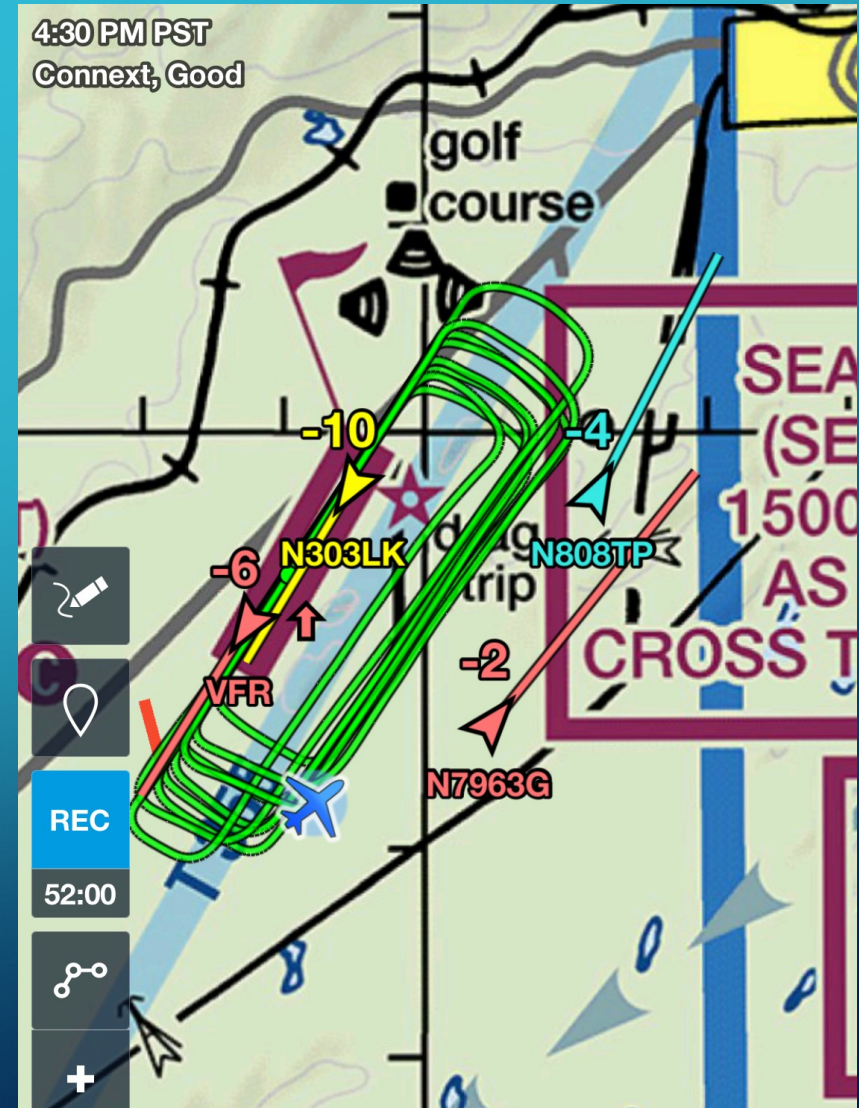
## Why Not to Extend Patterns

- ❖ Engine Failure.
- ❖ Dragging in Final with power.
- ❖ MIDAIR COLLISIONS!!!





# WIDE PATTERNS LEADING TO EXTENDED FINALS







• Paul Bertarelli from AVweb YouTube Channel: @AVweb





180 Degree  
Descending turn  
to downwind



Direct Entry



Wrong Side &  
Blow Through



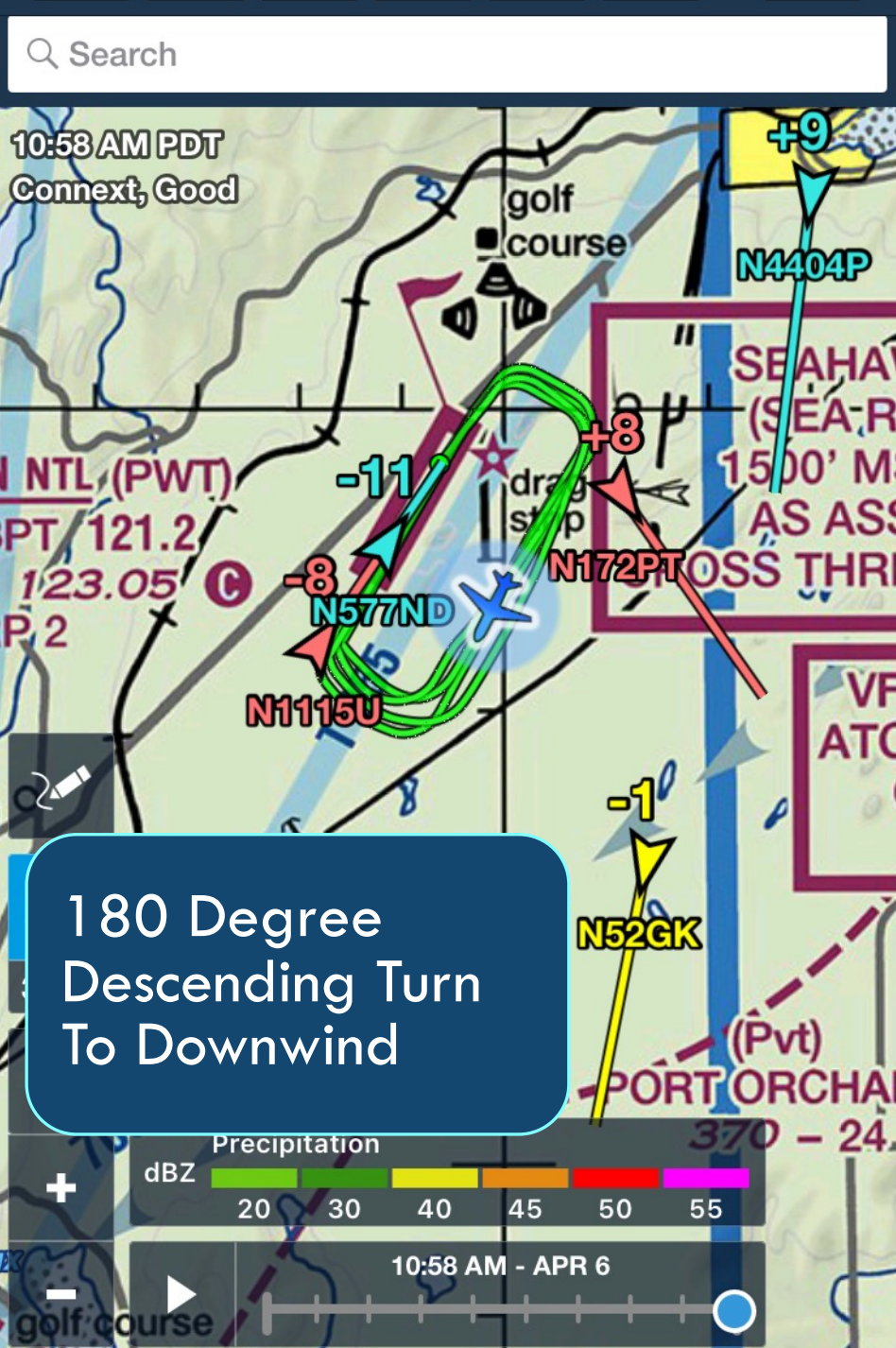
135 Degree "45" entry



Descending through  
Downwind for  
"teardrop"

Examples of other strange behavior in non-towered traffic patterns





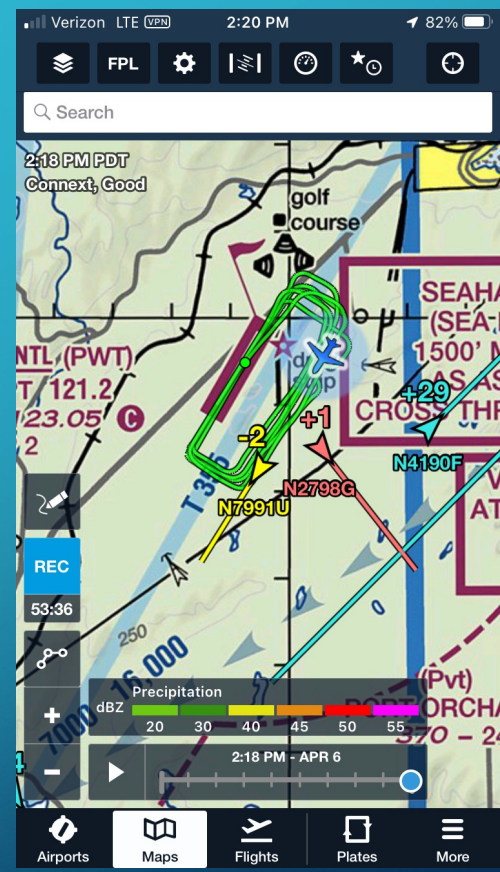
180 Degree Descending Turn To Downwind



Wrong Side & Blow Through

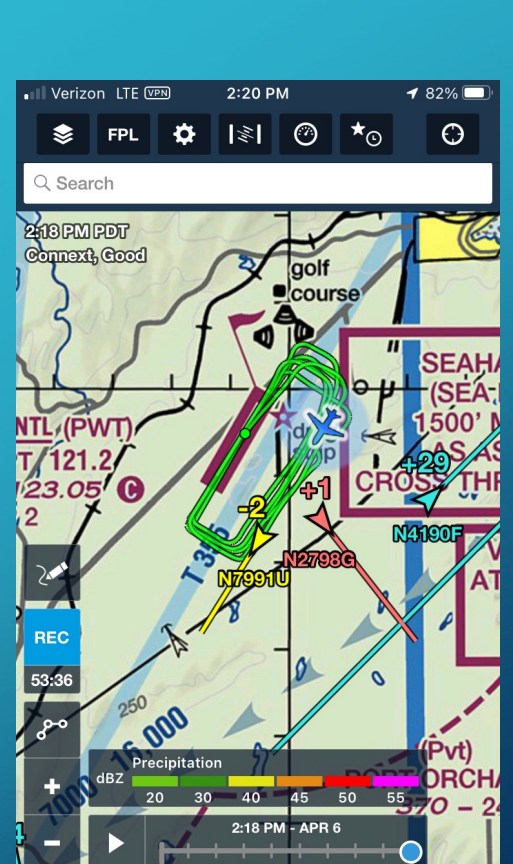
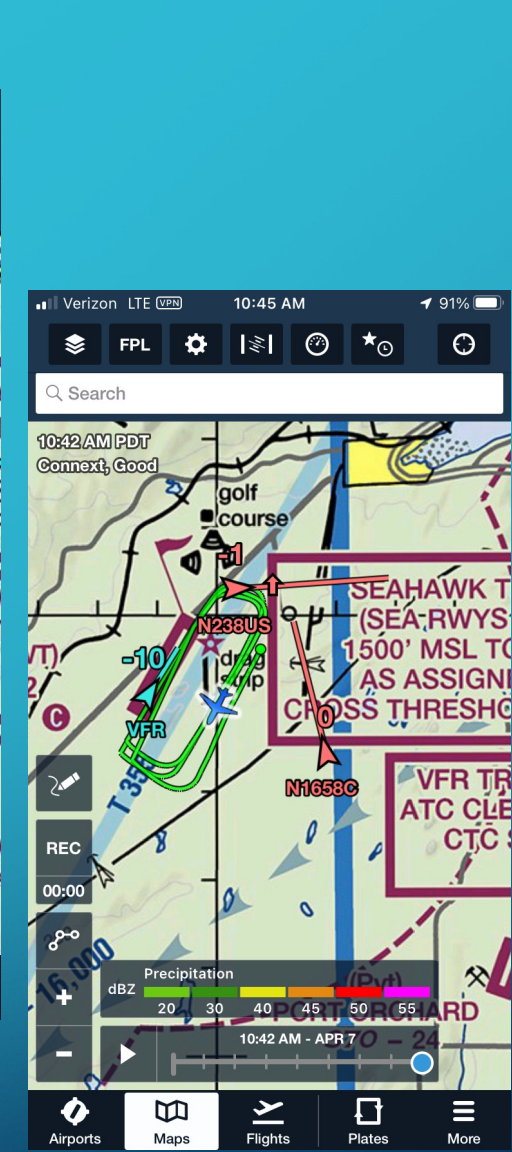
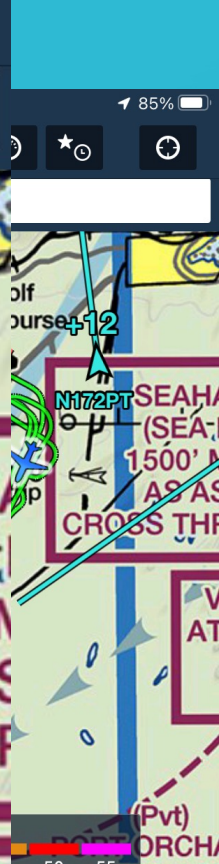
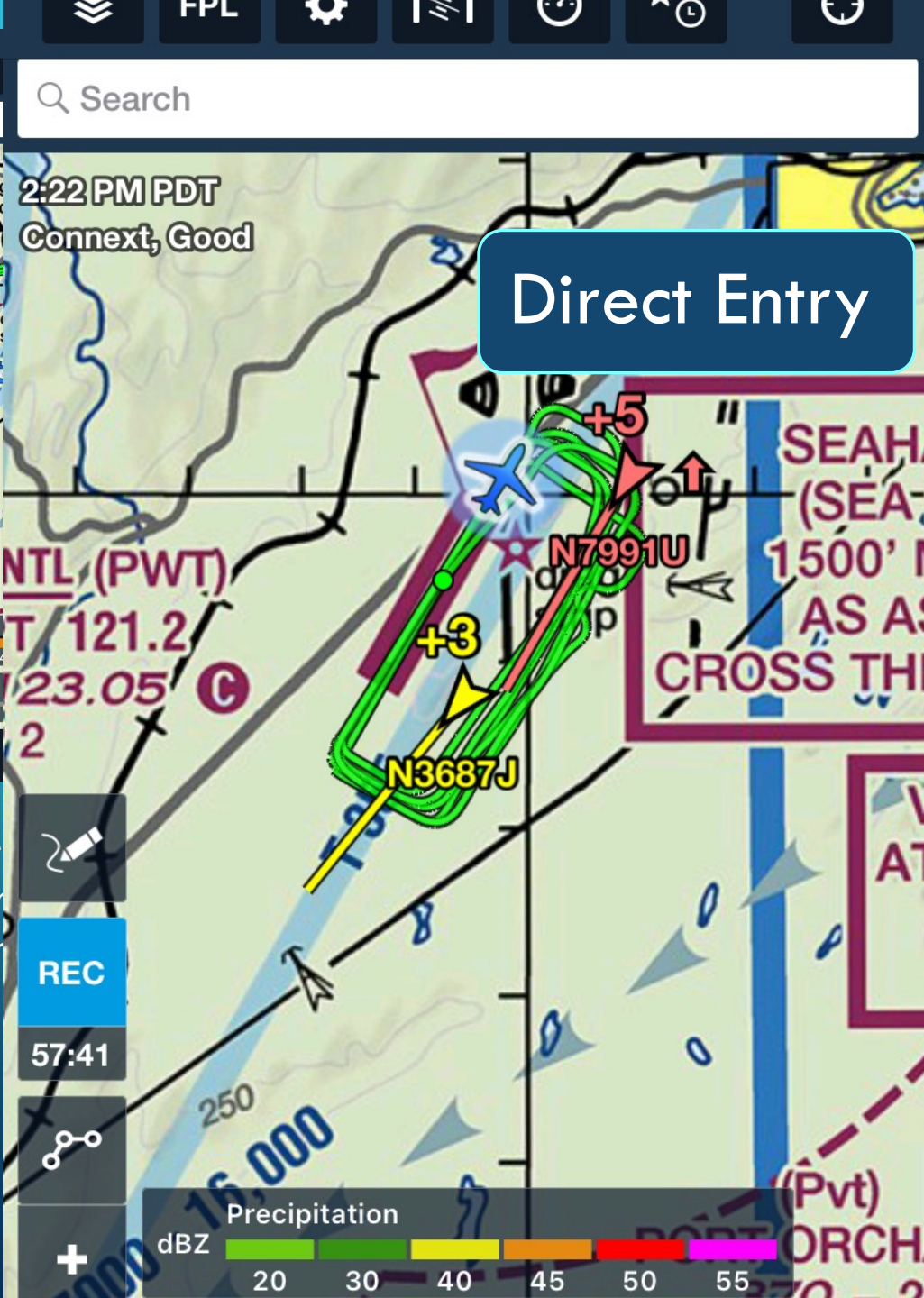


135 Degree "45" entry



Descending through Downwind for "teardrop"





180 Degree  
Descending  
to down

le &  
gh

135 Degree "45" entry

Descending through  
Downwind for  
"teardrop"

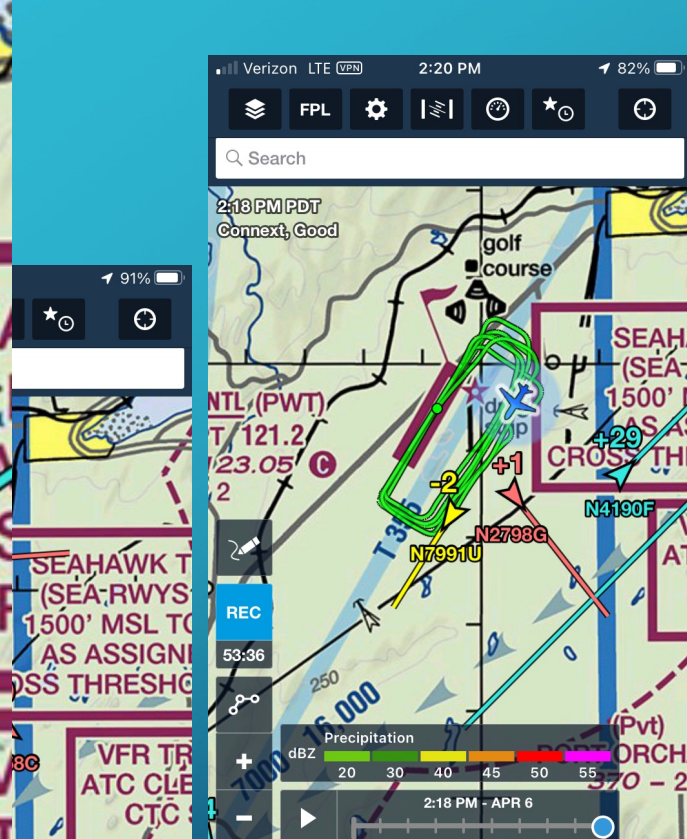




180 Degree  
Descending turn  
to downwind



Wrong Side &  
Blow Through



Descending through  
Downwind for  
"teardrop"

"entry

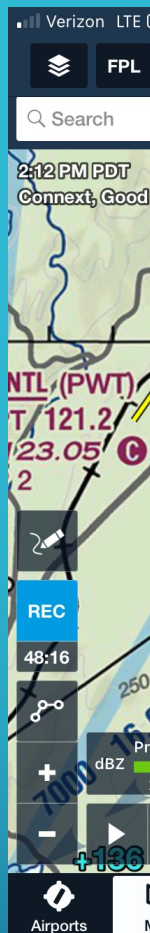




180 Degree  
Descending turn  
to downwind



Direct Entry



135 Degree "45" entry  
or Turn Wrong way to  
Abort



through  
and for  
rop"





180 Degree  
Descending turn  
to downwind



Direct Entry



Wrong Side &  
Blow Through



Descending  
through Downwind  
for teardrop entry





The way CFIs Teach Regulations and FAA Guidance leads directly to the idea that if it isn't a regulation "I don't have to do it".

### The Law of Primacy

The Law of Primacy holds that the first exposure to knowledge often creates a strong, almost unshakable impression.

This is critical and is why an instructor must teach from a position of confidence and knowledge. How you learn something first is the easiest way to remember it going forward. Changing that (if it was wrong) takes significant effort.



**THE  
= ACCIDENT  
RATE**

# LAWS, REGULATIONS, RULES, AND BEST PRACTICES



**91.126 Operating on or in the vicinity of an airport in Class G airspace.**

**91.127 Operating on or in the vicinity of an airport in Class E airspace.**

**91.111 Operating near other aircraft.**

**91.113 Right-of-way rules: Except water operations.**





Displaying title 14, up to date as of 1/05/2023. Title 14 was last amended 12/27/2022. [view historical versions](#)

There have been changes in the last two weeks to Title 14. [view change](#)

Go to CFR Reference  [Go](#)

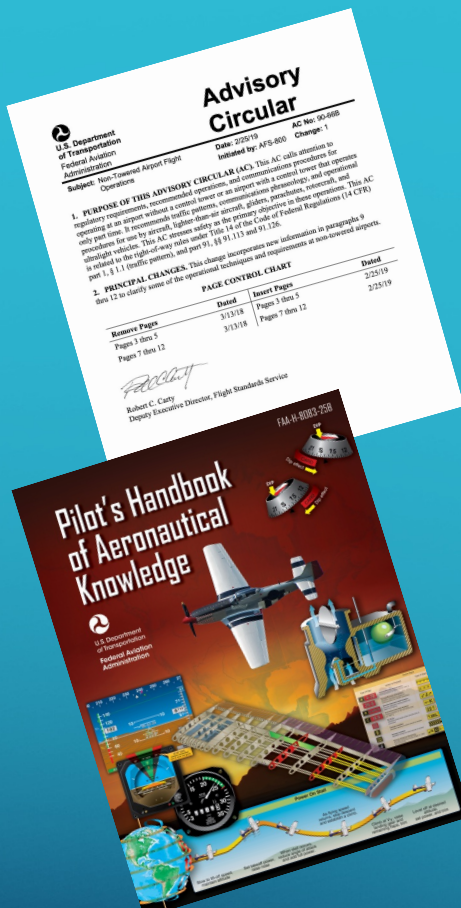
ECFR CONTENT


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SIMPLY SAID the regulations are:

1. Make left turns unless published for right.
2. Helicopters must avoid fixed wing pattern.
3. Aircraft in traffic pattern Have ROW over aircraft not in the traffic pattern.
4. Don't overtake aircraft in pattern or fly close.
5. BE NICE! Don't Cut Off aircraft in front or take advantage of "Lower", or force aircraft off runway that just landed.







**Federal Aviation Administration**

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## Regulations & Policies

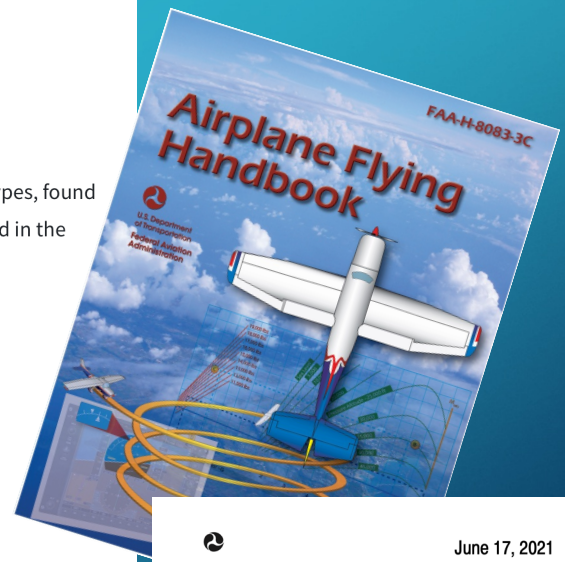
### Introducing the Dynamic Regulatory System (DRS)


DRS is a comprehensive knowledge center that combines more than 52 aviation safety guidance document types, found in a dozen or more different repositories, into a single searchable application. It includes all information found in the Flight Standards Information System and the agency's Regulatory Guidance System.

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U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation Administration**

June 17, 2021

# Aeronautical Information Manual

Official Guide to  
Basic Flight Information and ATC Procedures

An electronic version of this publication is available online at  
[http://www.faa.gov/air\\_traffic/publications](http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications)

Referred to as best practices, policies, and guidance, they are  
**NOT OPTIONAL**

1. During Investigation of your actions, if not following these policies, you'll be "wrong".
2. Insurance Companies will not back you up if not using Best Practice.
3. If you do not follow guidance during a check ride for a certificate or rating, you will not pass.



# ACS explicitly requires compliance with non-regulatory procedures during a Practical Test:

## PRIVATE PILOT ACS (FAA-S-ACS-6B)

### III. Airport and Seaplane Base Operations

#### B. Traffic Patterns

PA.III.B.S2 *Comply with recommended traffic pattern procedures.*

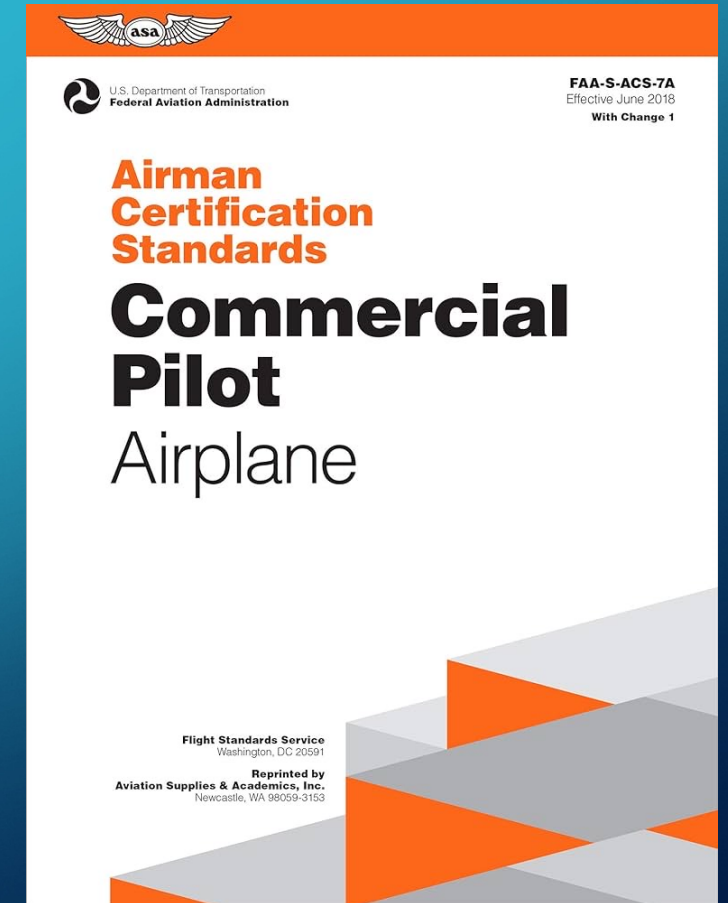
## COMMERCIAL PILOT ACS (FAA-S-ACS-7A)

### III. Airport and Seaplane Base Operations

#### B. Traffic Patterns

CA.III.B.S2 *Comply with recommended traffic pattern procedures.*

**Why do we CFIs teach a distinction between Regulations and Guidance?**





# YET MORE GUIDANCE

Captain Tom is the Chart Supplement regulatory?

YES

Reviewed and published by the FAA just like a Sectional Chart. It is as mandatory as other information on a sectional Ref 14CFR 73

**ARLINGTON MUNI** (AWO)(KAWO) 3 SW UTC-8(-7DT) N48°09.65' W122°09.54'

142 B TPA—See Remarks NOTAM FILE AWO

**RWY 16-34:** H5332X100 (ASPH) S-114, D-150, 2S-175, 2D-270

MIRL

**RWY 16:** REIL. PAPI(P2L)—GA 3.0° TCH 40'. Tree. Rgt tfc.

**RWY 34:** MALS. PAPI(P2L)—GA 3.0° TCH 36'.

**RWY 11-29:** H3498X75 (ASPH) S-32, D-34, 2D-59

**RWY 11:** REIL. PAPI(P2L)—GA 3.5° TCH 42'. Rgt tfc.

**RWY 29:** REIL. PAPI(P2L)—GA 4.0° TCH 40'. Tree.

**SERVICE:** S4 **FUEL** 100LL, JET A **LGT** REIL Rwy 11 and 29 opr SS-SR; PAPI Rwy 11, 16, 29 and 34 opr consly. ACTVT MALS Rwy 34; REILS Rwy 16; Rwy 16-34 edge lights; twy lgts—CTAF.

**AIRPORT REMARKS:** Attended Mon-Fri 1600-0100Z±. Fuel, phone 360-435-5700 for after hrs svc. 100LL fuel avbl 24 hr credit card svc. Alternate phone number for arpt: 360-403-3470. Winter wx ops and reporting Monday-Fri 1600-0100Z±. Wildlife on and invof arpt. Rwy 34 calm wind rwy. Glider ops at arpt daily. Ultralight and powered parachute ops daily west of Rwy 16-34. Occasional hot air balloon activity. TPA—1200(1058). TPA for ultralights 542(400). helicopters 642(500). For additional details and rules on local procedures, visit <http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/trafficpatterns>.

**AIRPORT MANAGER:** 360-403-3474

**WEATHER DATA SOURCES:** AWOS-3PT 135.625 (360) 435-8045.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** CTAF 122.725

® SEATTLE APP/DEP CON 128.5

CLNC DEL 121.725

**CLEARANCE DELIVERY PHONE:** For CD when ATCT is clsd ctc Seattle Apch at 206-214-4722.

**RADIO AIDS TO NAVIGATION:** NOTAM FILE PAE.

**PAINE (L) (L) VORW/DME** 110.6 PAE Chan 43 N47°55.19' W122°16.67' 358° 15.2 NM to fld. 669/20E.

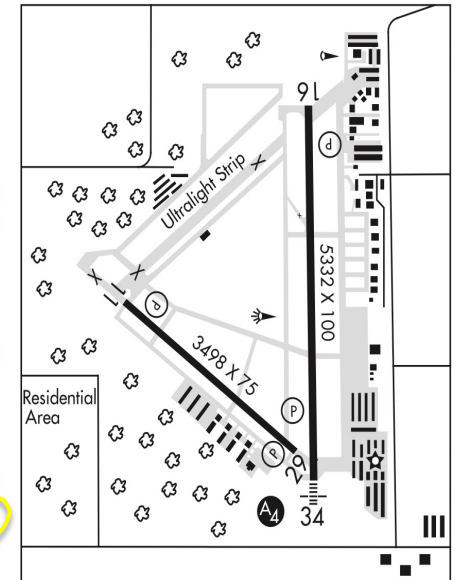
**WATON NDB (LOMW)** 382 AW N48°04.57' W122°09.23' 342° 5.1 NM to fld. 65/16E. NOTAM FILE AWO.

**LOC** 111.5 I-AWO Rwy 34. LOM WATON NDB. LOC unmonitored cont.

SEATTLE

H-1B, L-1E

IAP





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Noise Abatement Map (PDF)

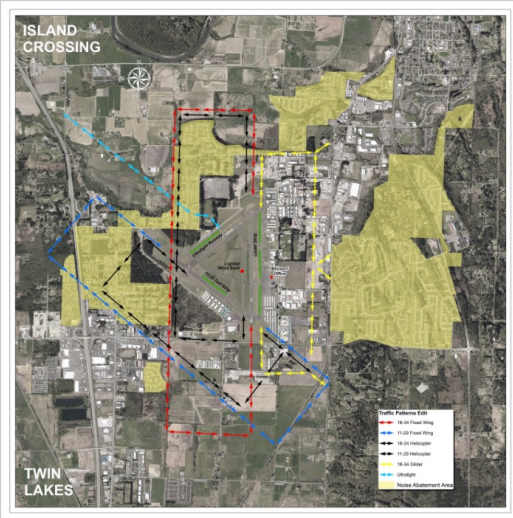
Rules & Regulations

Traffic Patterns

## Traffic Patterns

Disclaimer: Reference all flight operations to the current FAR/AIM.

- o Avoid overflight of noise sensitive areas.
- o Practice IFR approaches during visual meteorological conditions.
- o Follow published missed approach procedures.
- o Fly airport traffic pattern rectangle as outlined in the AIM and Arlington air traffic pattern maps.



### Gliders

- o Traffic pattern east of airport.
- o Glider and tow plane designated turf runways are located parallel and adjacent to eastern taxiway for Runway 16-34 (taxiway Alpha).
- o Tow planes and gliders allowed midfield takeoffs on turf glider runway.
- o After glider release, tow planes should use standard traffic pattern entry.
- o Tow planes land on designated asphalt or turf runways.

### Ultralights

- o Enter and exit traffic pattern as shown on map at or below 400 feet AGL (542 feet MSL).

# Chart Supplement Graphic Depictions

## RENTON AIRPORT

### 2021/2022 PILOT INFORMATION

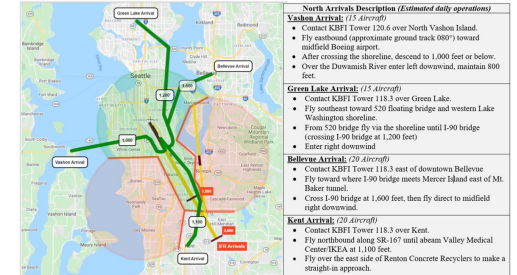


**FLY FRIENDLY** Please adhere to our VFR Voluntary Noise Abatement procedures to help limit aircraft noise in Renton and our neighboring communities.

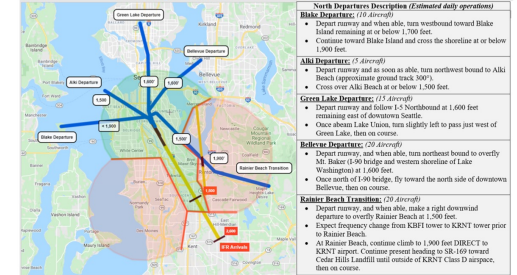


MAP NOT SUITABLE FOR NAVIGATION

### Arrivals in a RWY 32 Configuration

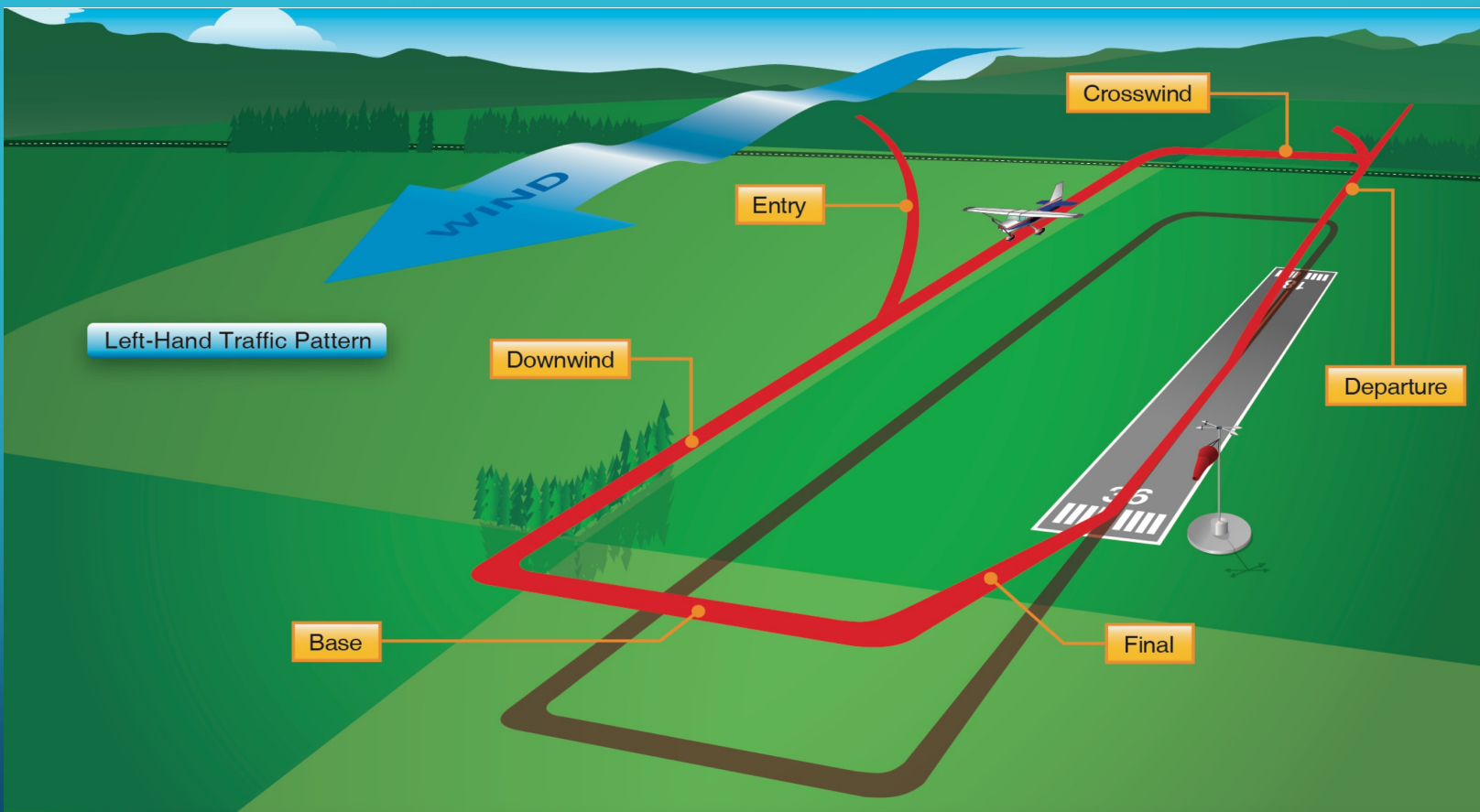


### Departures in a RWY 32 Configuration





# TRAFFIC PATTERN DEFINED



## PART 1 - DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

*Traffic pattern* means the traffic flow that is prescribed for aircraft landing at, taxiing on, or taking off from, an airport.

### Preamble to AFHB

“ Airport traffic patterns are developed to ensure that air traffic is flown into and out of an airport safely. Each airport traffic pattern is established based on the local conditions, including the direction and placement of the pattern, the altitude at which it is to be flown, and the procedures for entering and exiting the pattern...”

Best Practices from PHAK and AFHB  
Downwind leg is 1 mile to ½ mile from landing runway.



# TRAFFIC PATTERN DEFINED

## ➤ What is **NOT** Included in a “Traffic Pattern”.

### ❖ Straight In Approaches

- Per Interpretations, Until After Touch and Go or low Appr. with intent to enter pattern

### ❖ Instrument Approaches

- Per Interpretations, Until After Touch and Go or low Appr. with intent to enter pattern

### ❖ Overhead Military Style Approaches Sometimes referred to as “The break”

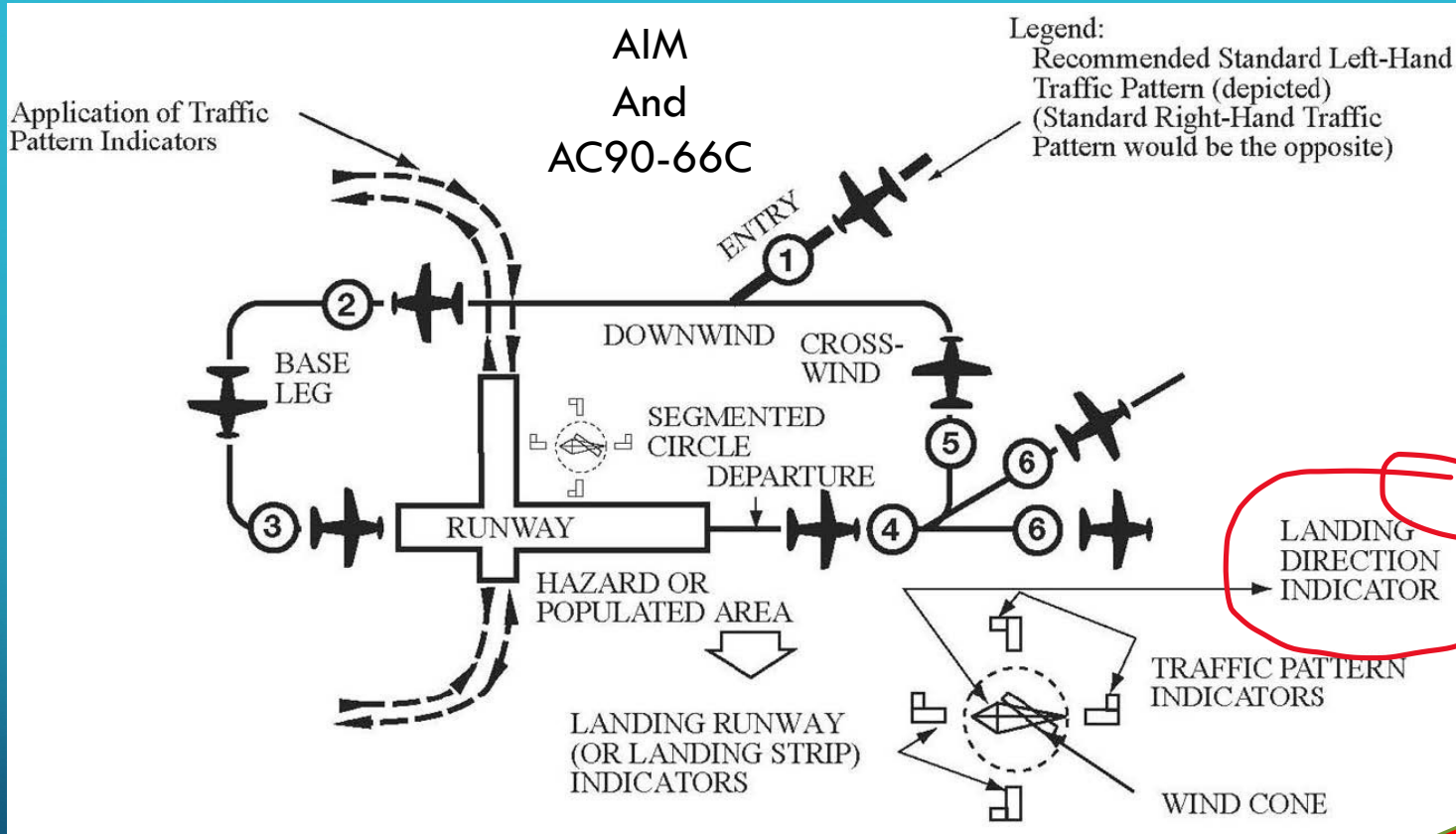
- Until established on Downwind.

We haven't fully developed this with references but will do so in ROW section ahead.





# ENTRY AND EXIT



From Notes below:  
Enter in level flight,  
At TPA,  
on a 45 degree to  
mid-field downwind.  
**WELL CLEAR** of Pattern  
Traffic

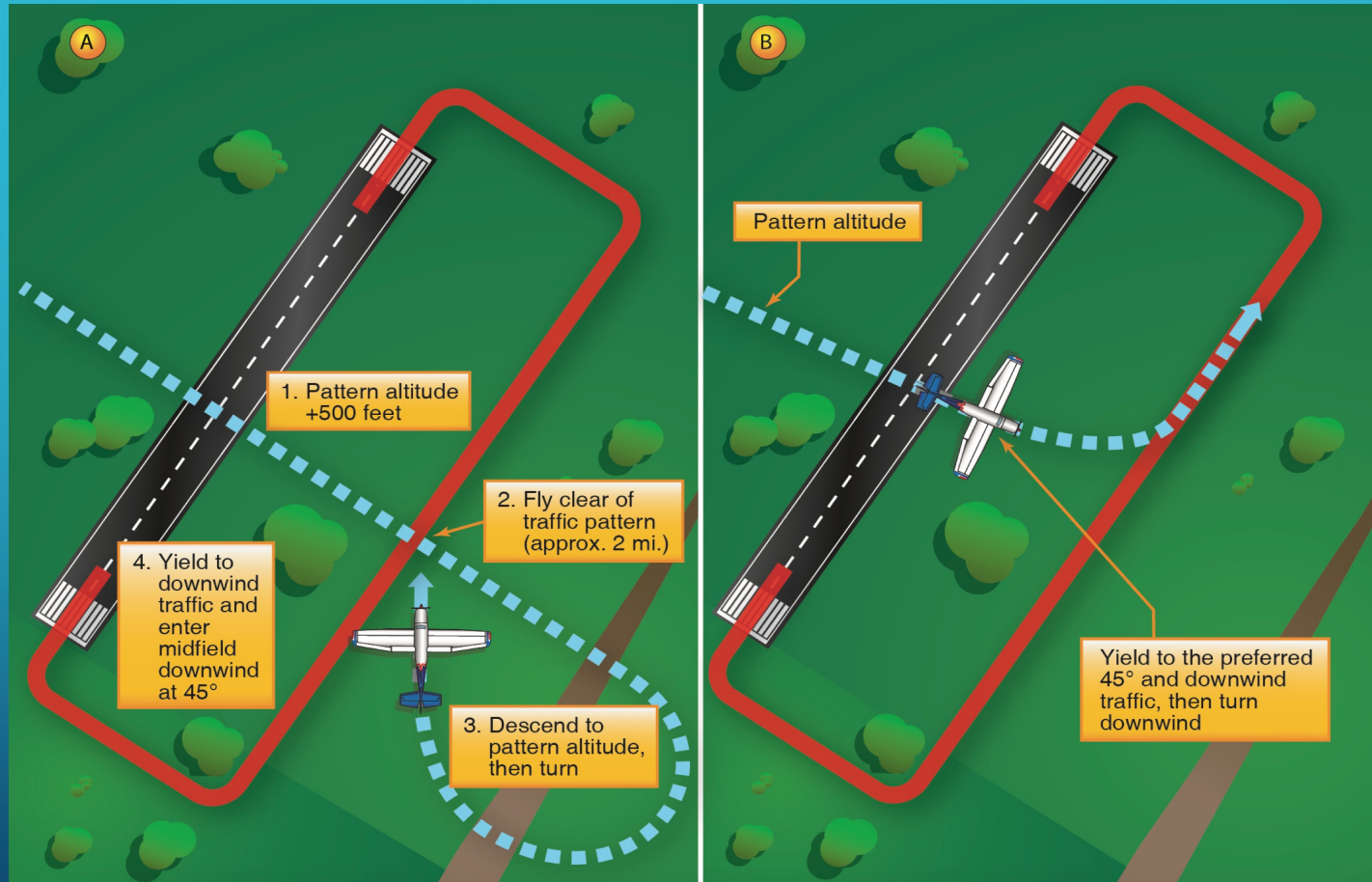
Remember for later

1. Enter pattern in level flight, abeam the midpoint of the runway, at pattern altitude.
2. Maintain pattern altitude until abeam approach end of the landing runway on downwind leg.
3. Complete turn to final at least  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile from the runway.
4. Continue straight ahead until beyond departure end of runway.
5. If remaining in the traffic pattern, commence turn to crosswind leg beyond the departure end of the runway within 300 feet of pattern altitude.
6. If departing the traffic pattern, continue straight out, or exit with a 45 degree turn (to the left when in a left-hand traffic pattern; to the right when in a right-hand traffic pattern) beyond the departure end of the runway, after reaching pattern altitude.

NOTES tell it all



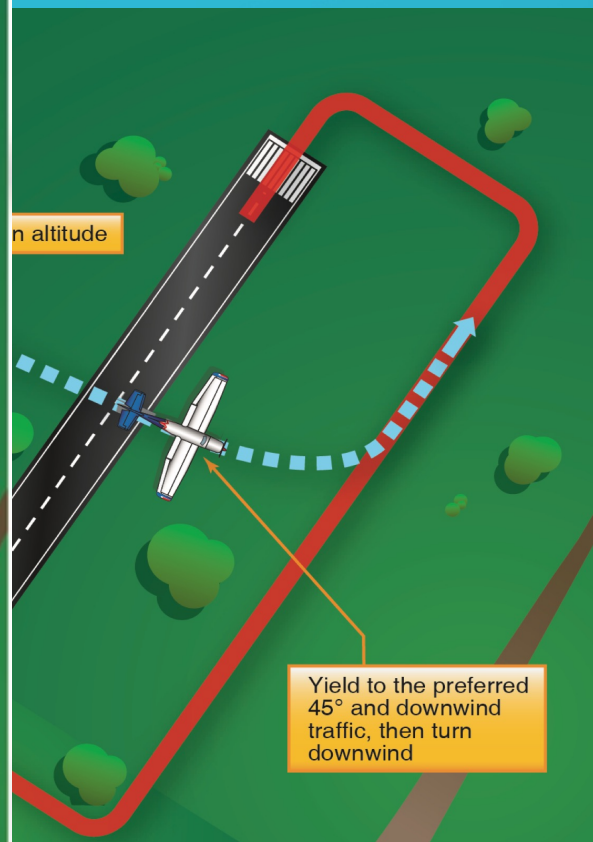
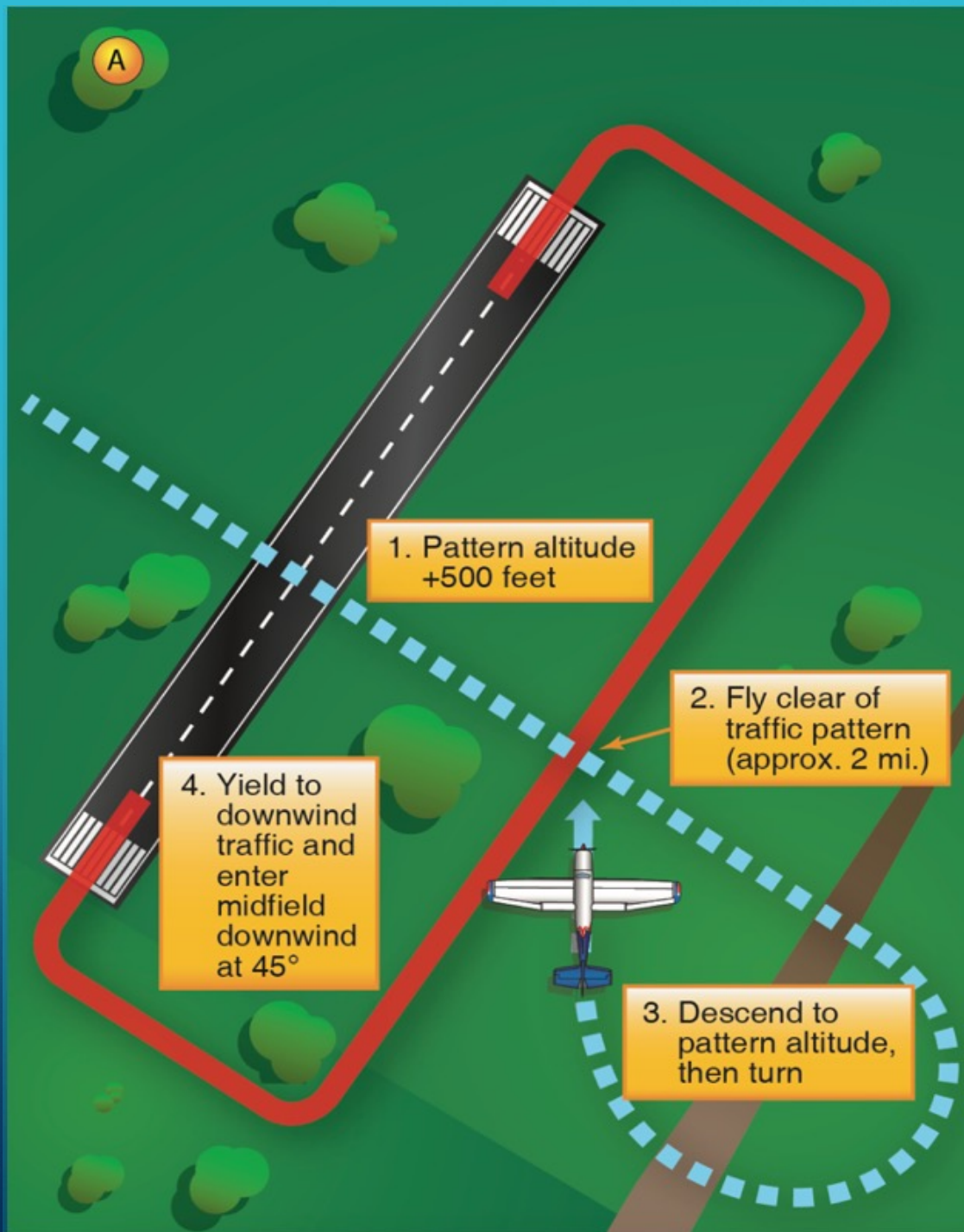
# ENTRY AND EXIT



“An alternate method is to enter on a midfield crosswind at pattern altitude, carefully scan for traffic, announce your intentions and then turned down downwind. [Figure 7-4B] This technique should not be used if the pattern is busy.”

Two Alternate entries Figures 7A & 7B are described in AC90-66C, APHB, and AHAK.





“An alternate method is to enter on a midfield crosswind at pattern altitude, carefully scan for traffic, announce your intentions and then turned down downwind. [Figure 7-4B] This technique should not be used if the pattern is busy.”

Alternate Entry A,  
The Tear Drop Entry

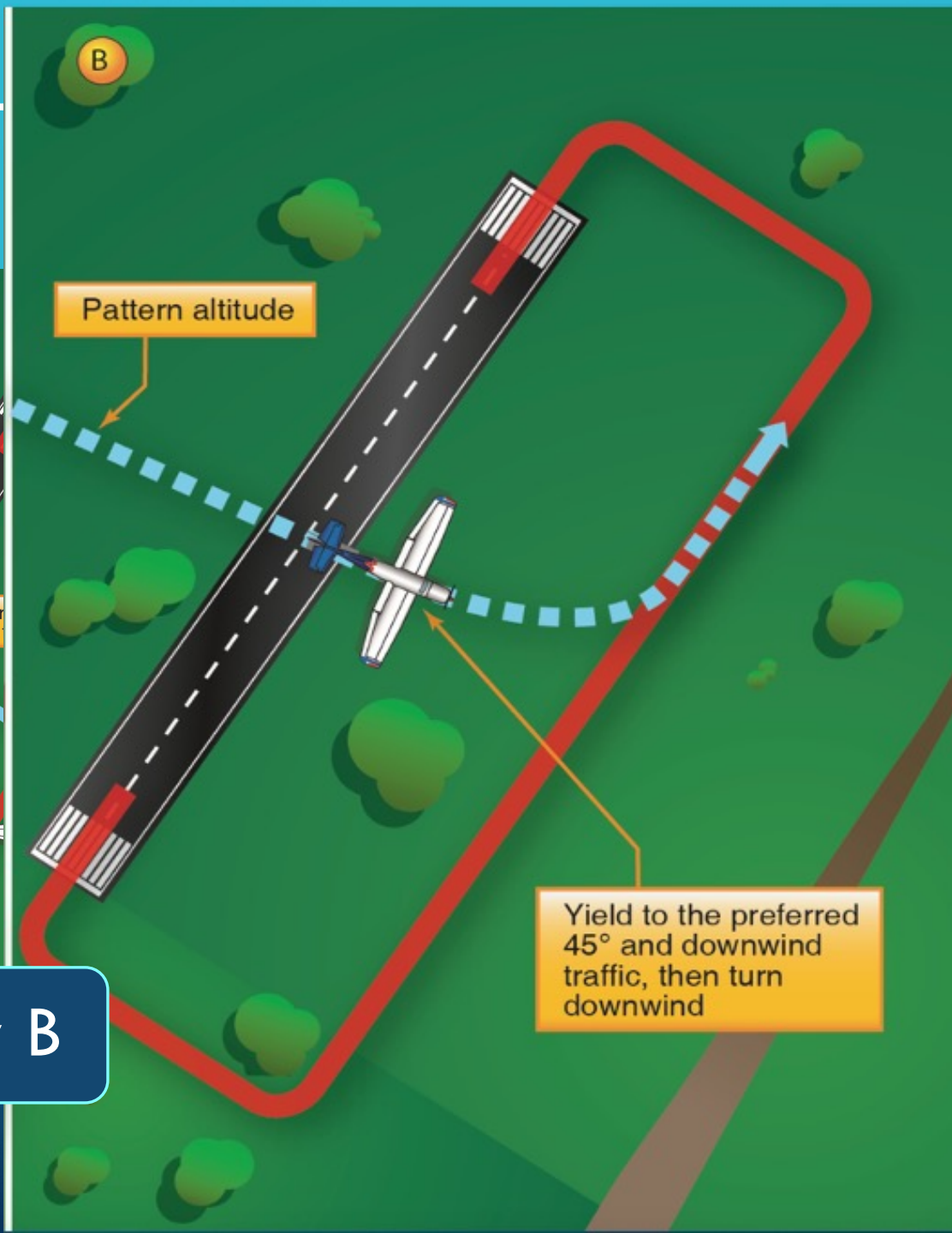


AND HERE IS HOW THAT  
DESCENDING 270 LOOKS





# ENTRY AND EXIT

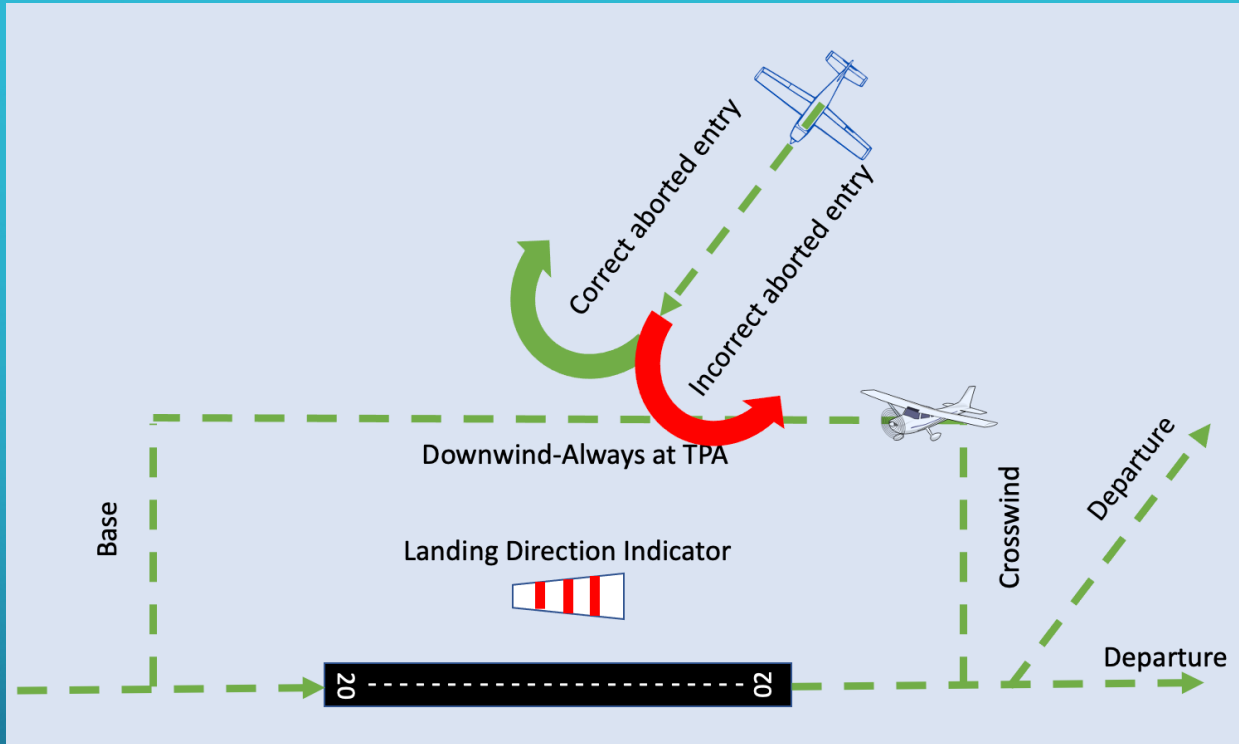


Alternate Entry B

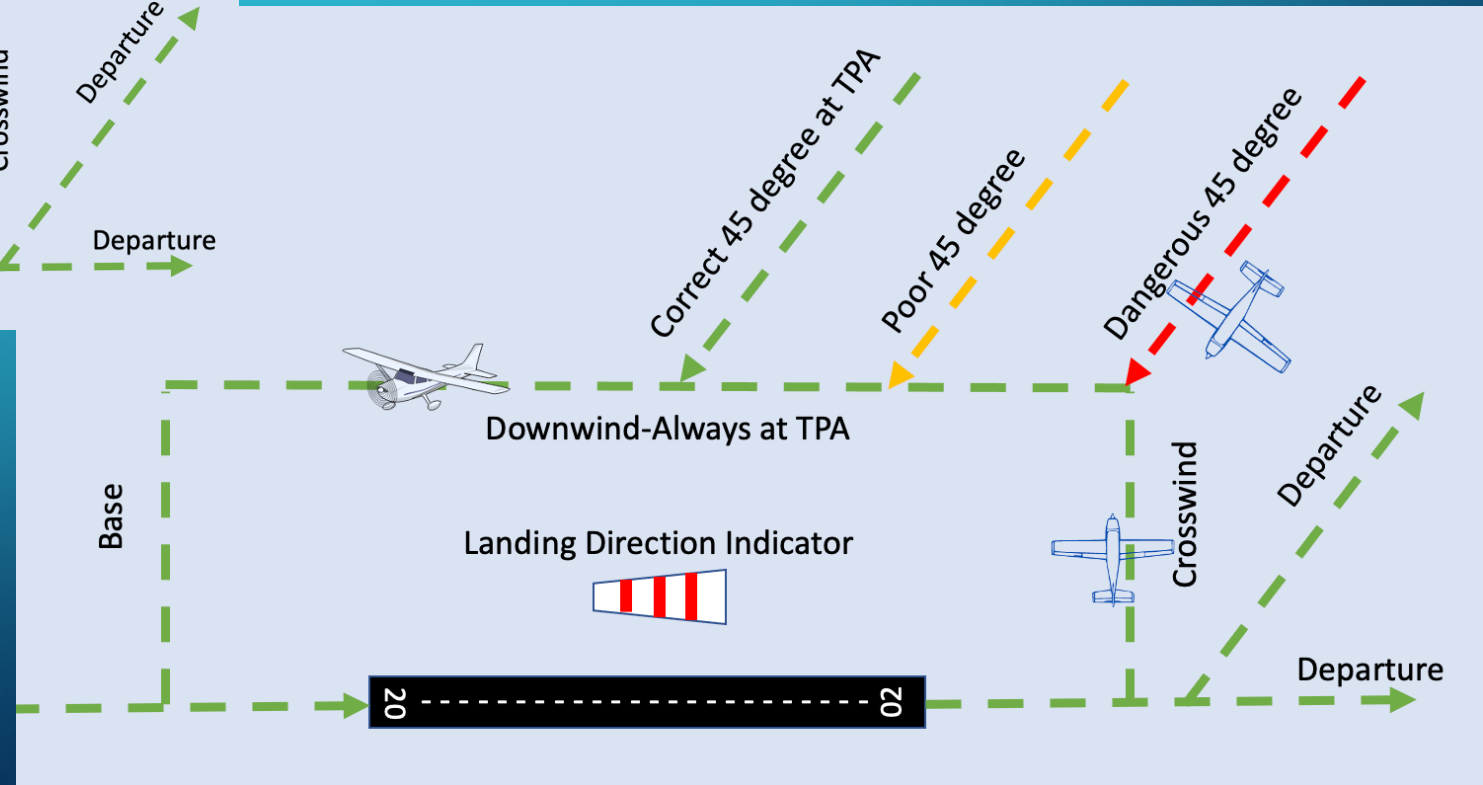
“An alternate method is to enter on a midfield crosswind at pattern altitude, carefully scan for traffic, announce your intentions and then turned down downwind. [Figure 7-4B] This technique should not be used if the pattern is busy.”



# ENTRY AND EXIT

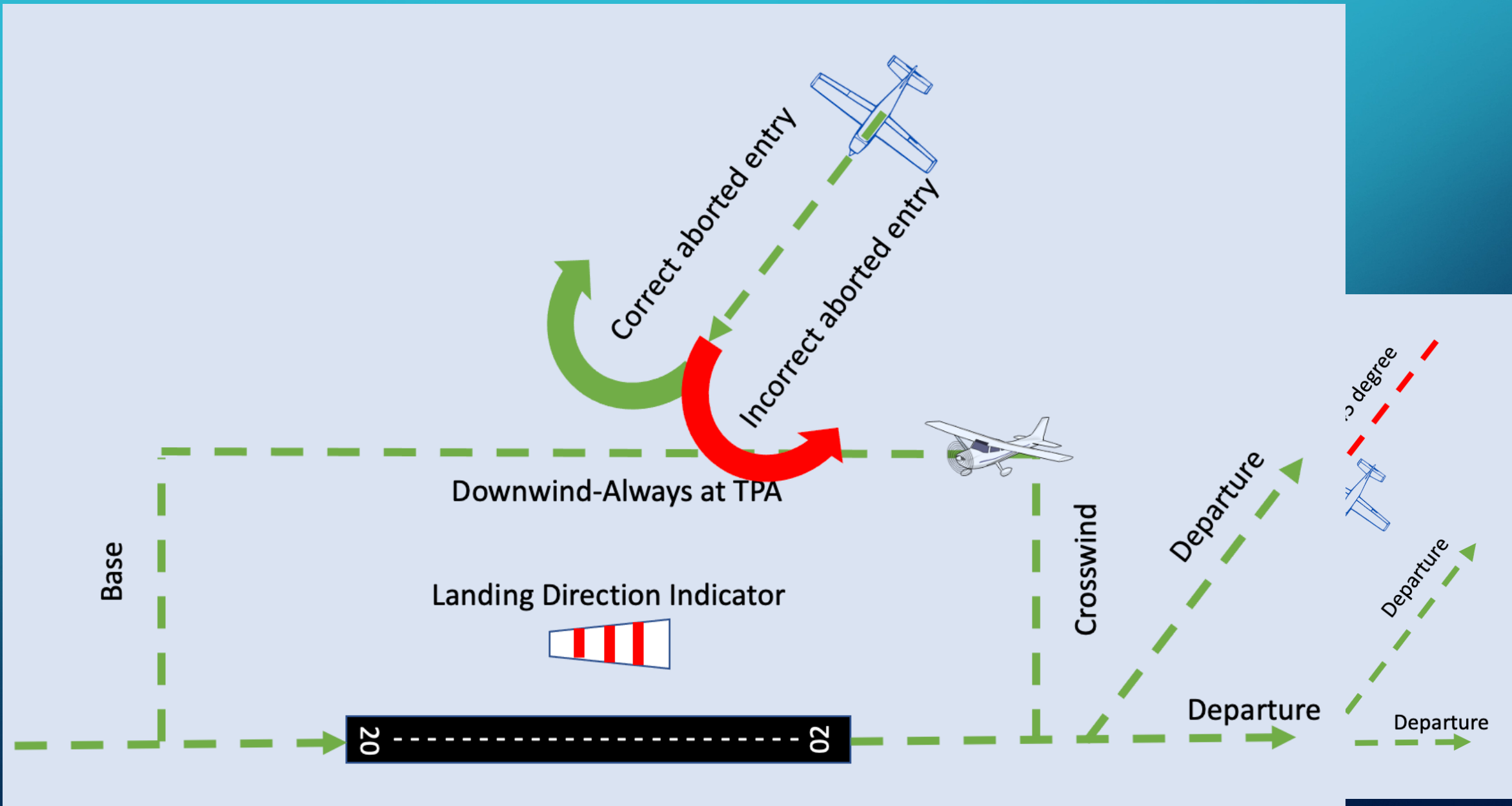


## Back to the 45 Entry

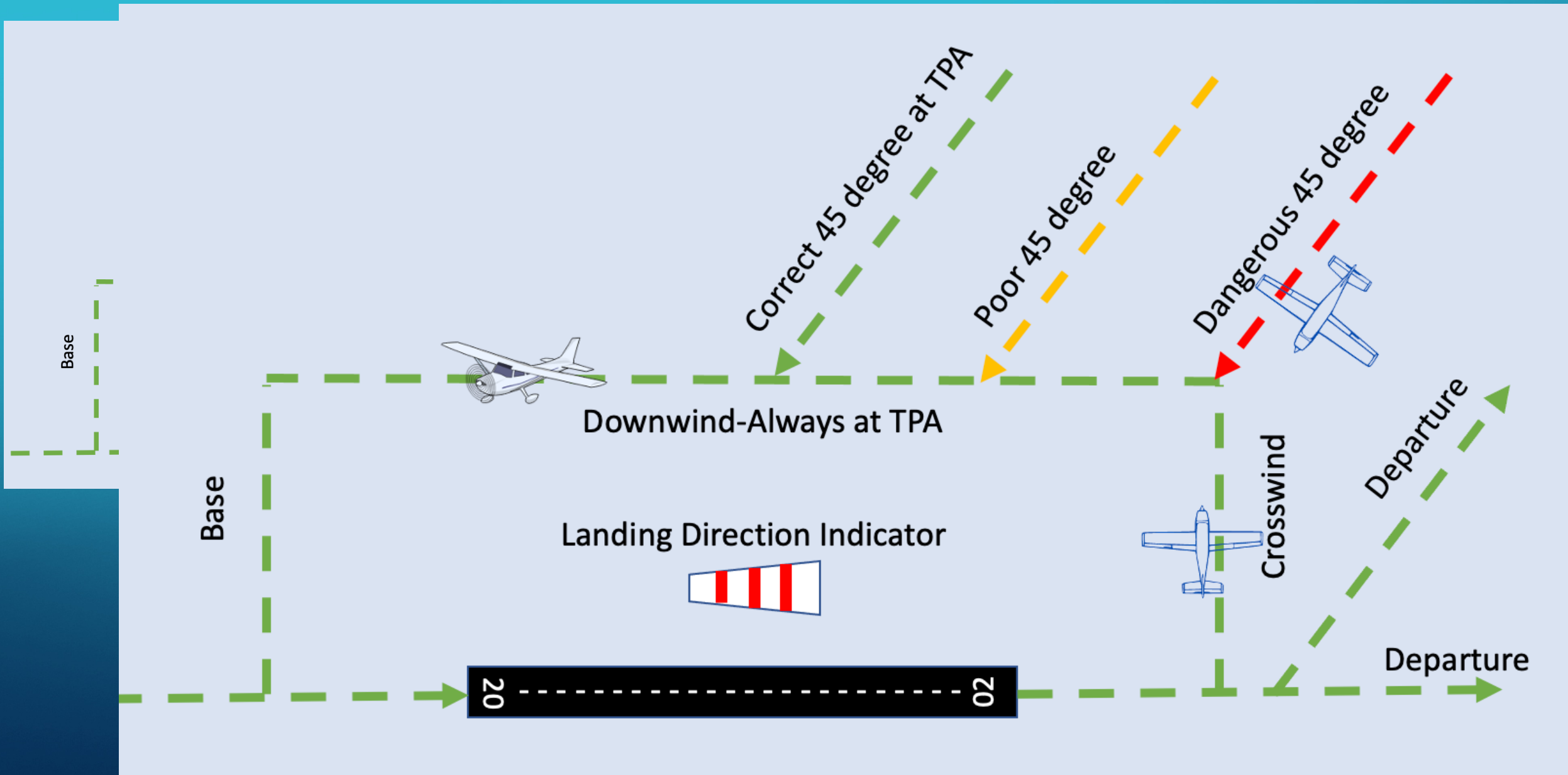




# ENTRY AND EXIT



# ENTRY AND EXIT

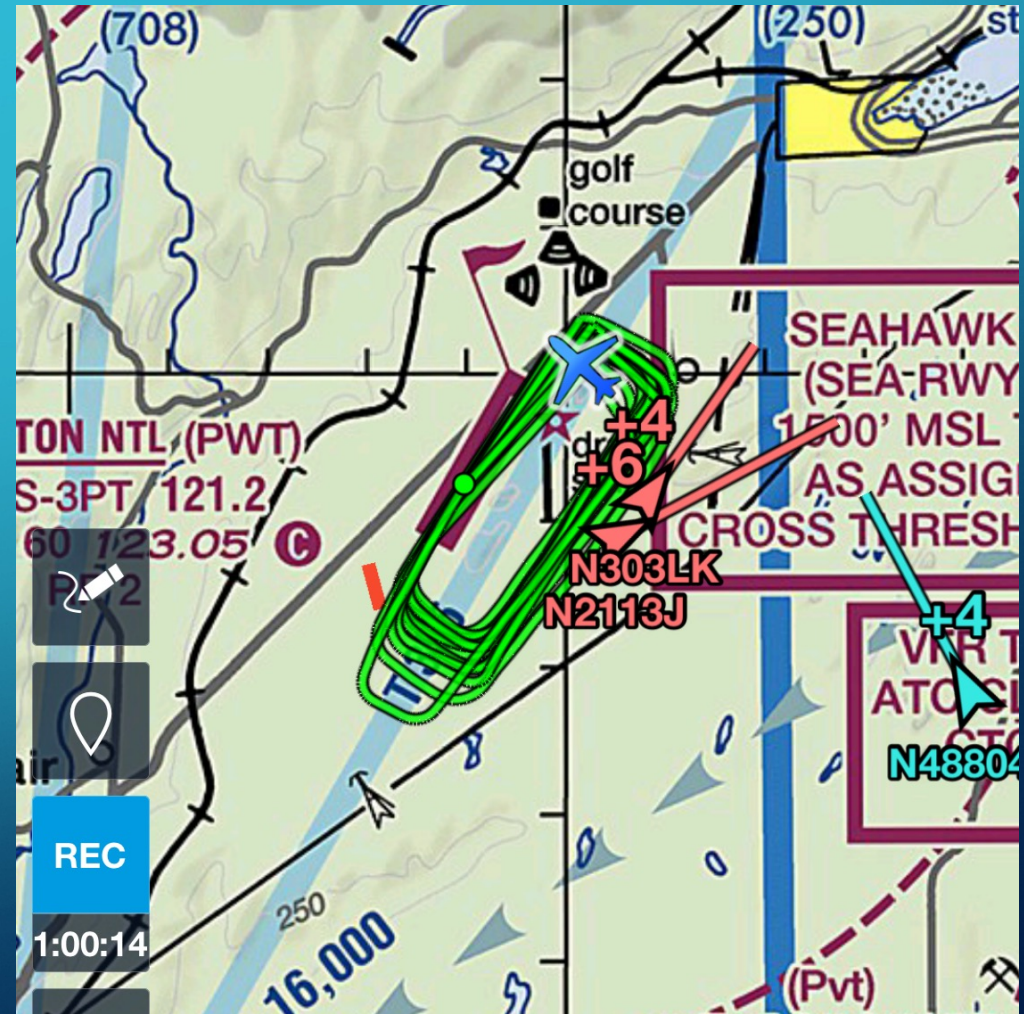




HERE IS WHAT  
THE INCORRECT  
45 LOOKS LIKE



THIS IS HOW IT  
TURNS OUT

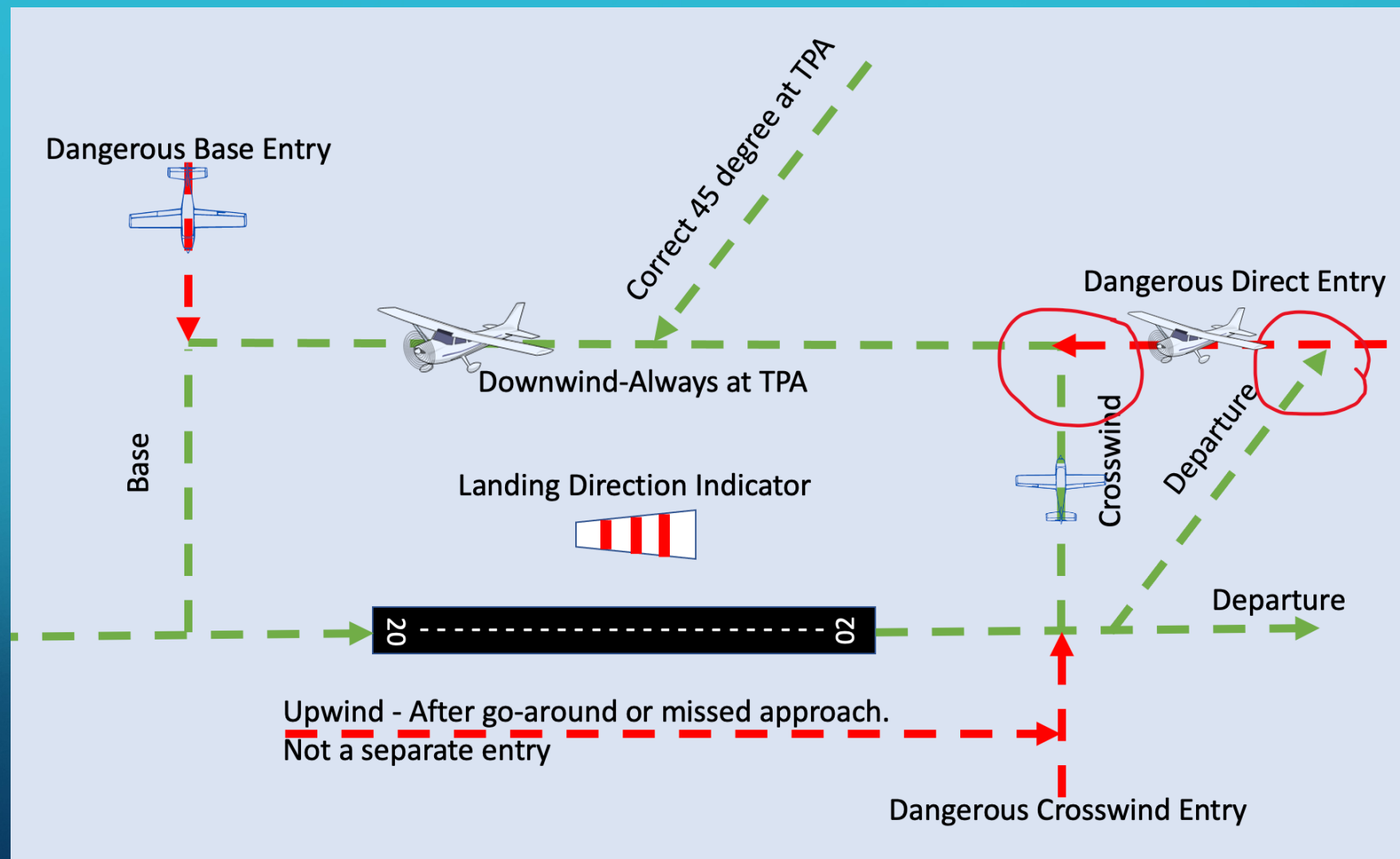


# ENTRY AND EXIT

ONLY FIVE Entries described or mentioned in FAA Guidance

1. 45 Degree
2. Alternate A
3. Alternate B
4. Touch and Go or Low approach after straight-in
5. Military Overhead

- ALL OTHER ENTRIES ARE:
- BROUGHT FROM TOWERED AIRPORTS.
  - DANGEROUS
  - CAUSE MID-AIRs
  - NOT AUTHORIZED





# ENTRY AND EXIT

## ONLY FIVE Entries described or mentioned in FAA Guidance

1. 45 Degree

2. Alternate A

3. Alternate B

4. Touch and Go or Low approach after straight-in

5. Military Overhead

Upwind - After go-around or missed approach.  
Not a separate entry

Dangerous Crosswind Entry

- DANGEROUS
- CAUSE MID-AIRs
- NOT AUTHORIZED

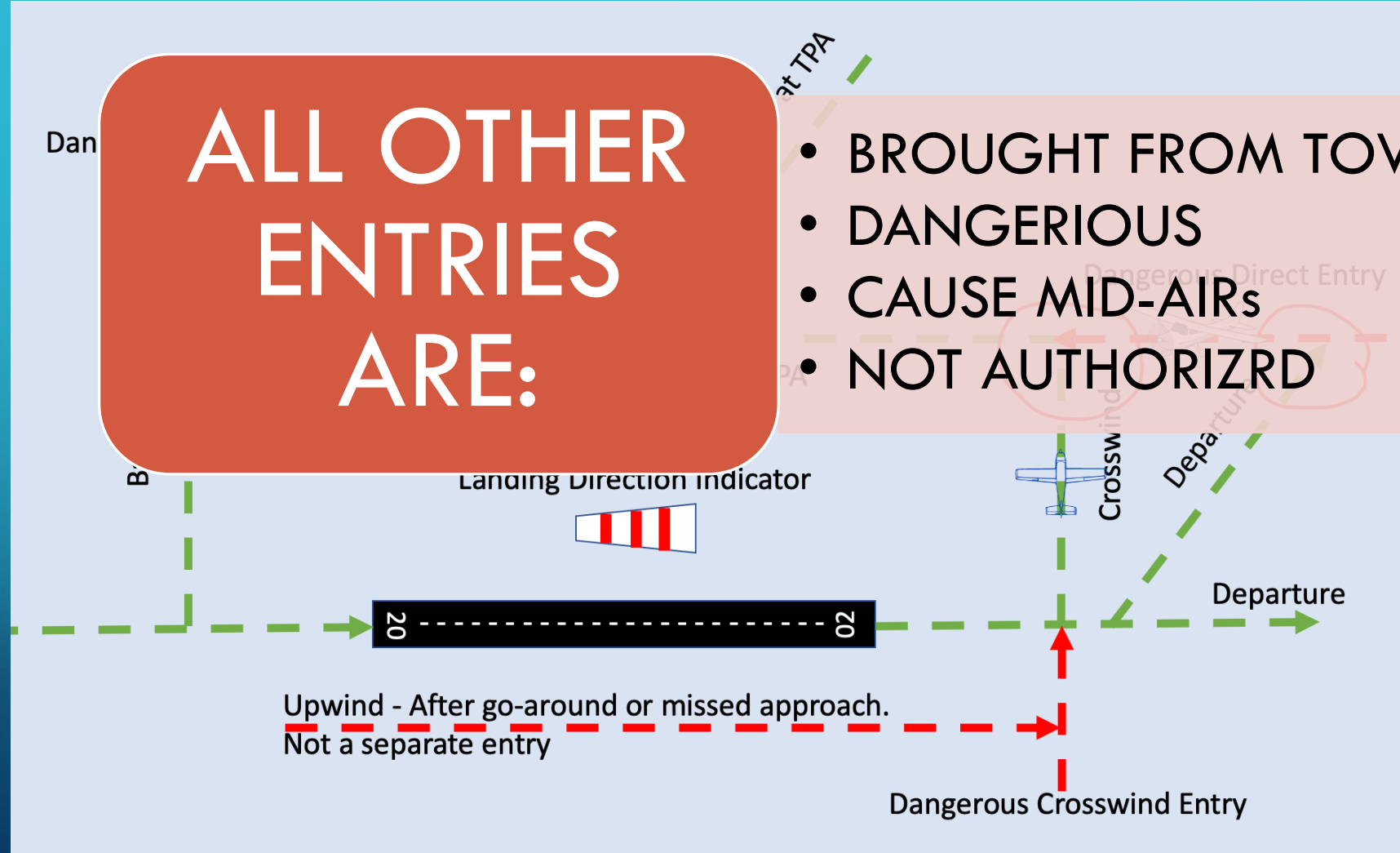
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- BROUGHT FROM TOWERED AIRPORTS.
- DANGEROUS
- CAUSE MID-AIRs
- NOT AUTHORIZED

1. 45 Degree
2. Alternate A
3. Alternate B
4. Touch and Go or Low approach after straight-in
5. Military Overhead



Upwind - After go-around or missed approach.  
Not a separate entry

Dangerous Crosswind Entry



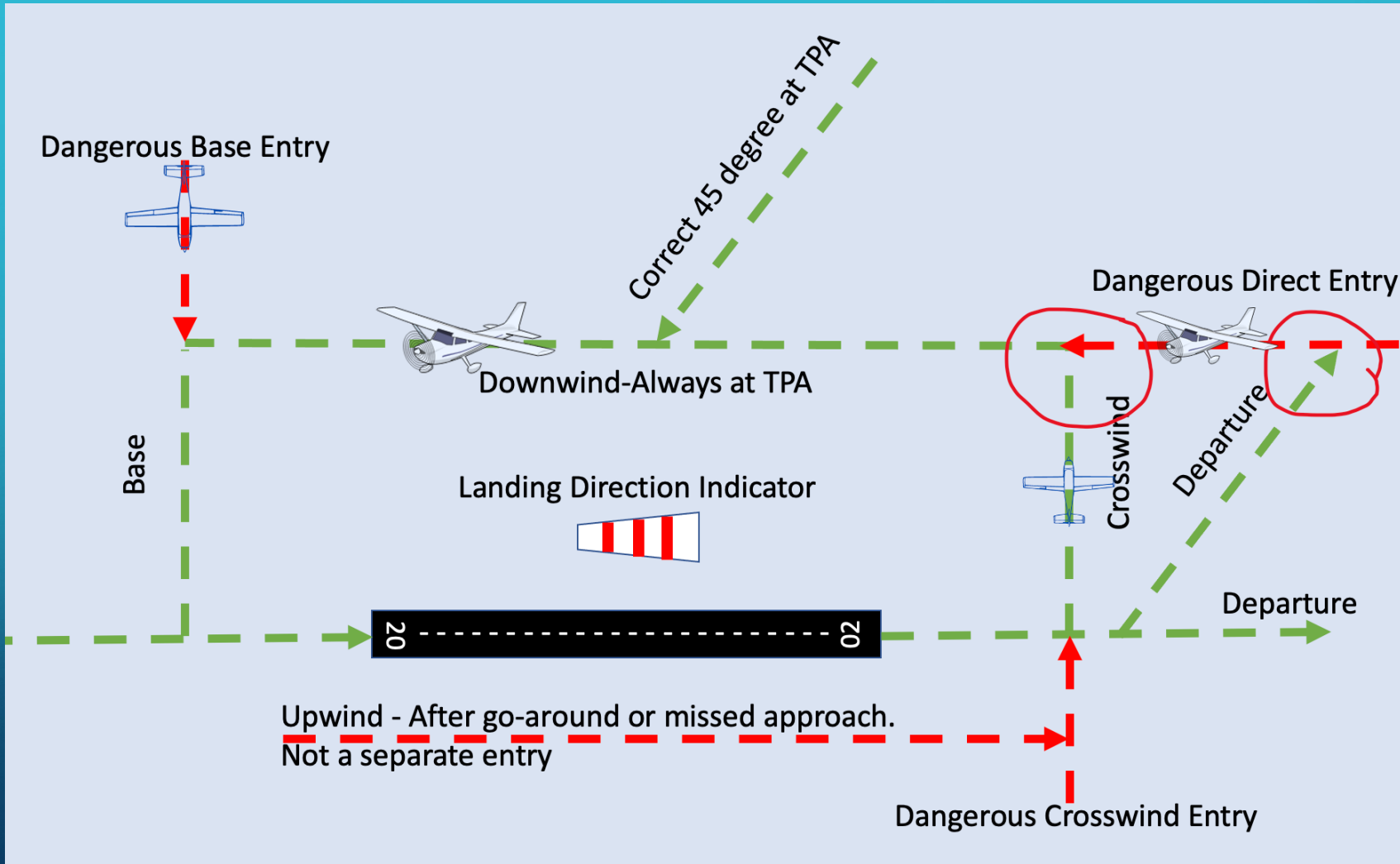
# WHAT ARE SOME OF THOSE OTHER ENTRIES?

ONLY FIVE Entries described or mentioned in FAA Guidance

1. 45 Degree
2. Alternate A
3. Alternate B
4. Touch and Go or Low approach after straight-in
5. Military Overhead

ALL OTHER ENTRIES ARE:

- BROUGHT FROM TOWERED AIRPORTS.
- DANGEROUS
- CAUSE MID-AIRs
- NOT AUTHORIZED

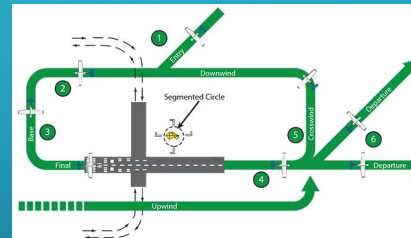


# Where Did Upwind Entry Come From?

From Internet



It has NEVER appeared in an FAA Publication as an Entry.



Assigning a name to the concept of entering the traffic pattern after a straight-in.



# Where Did Upwind Entry Come From?

From Internet



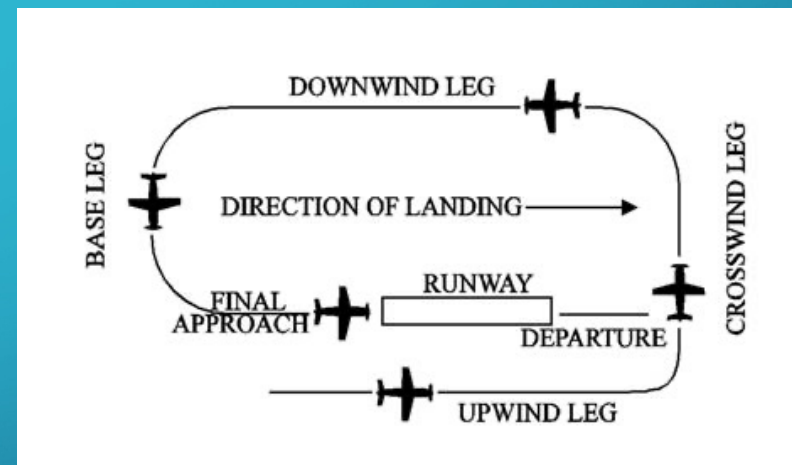
It has NEVER appeared in an FAA Publication as an Entry.

From AIM, AFHB, & AC 90-66C

Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM) Section 3  
Airport Operations  
4.3.2 Airports with an Operating Control Tower

FIG 4-3-1

Components of a Traffic Pattern



Note:

1. Upwind leg. A flight path parallel to the landing runway in the direction of landing.

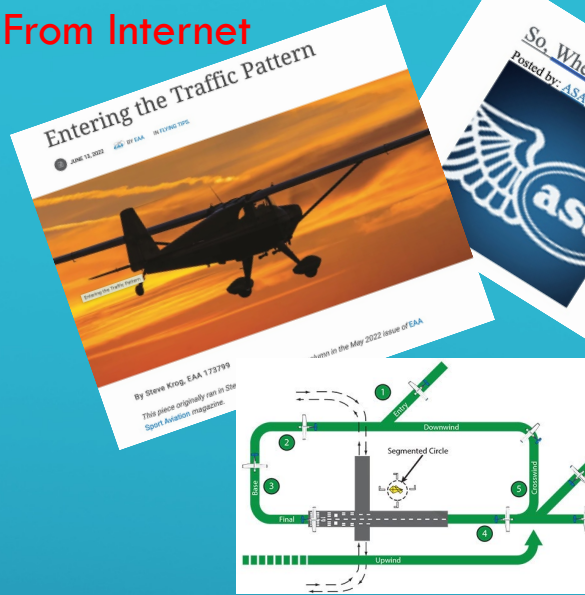
**Airplane Flying Handbook (AFHB) Chapter 7, Airport traffic patterns.**

The upwind leg is a course flown parallel to the landing runway in the same direction as landing traffic. The upwind leg is flown at controlled airports and after go-arounds.

When necessary, the upwind leg is the part of the traffic pattern in which the pilot will transition from the final approach to the climb altitude to initiate a go-around. When a safe altitude is attained, the pilot should commence a shallow bank turn to the upwind side of the airport. This allows better visibility of the runway for departing aircraft.

# Where Did Upwind Entry Come From?

From Internet



So, Where in the Pattern is the Upwind?  
Posted by: ASA on February 5, 2015

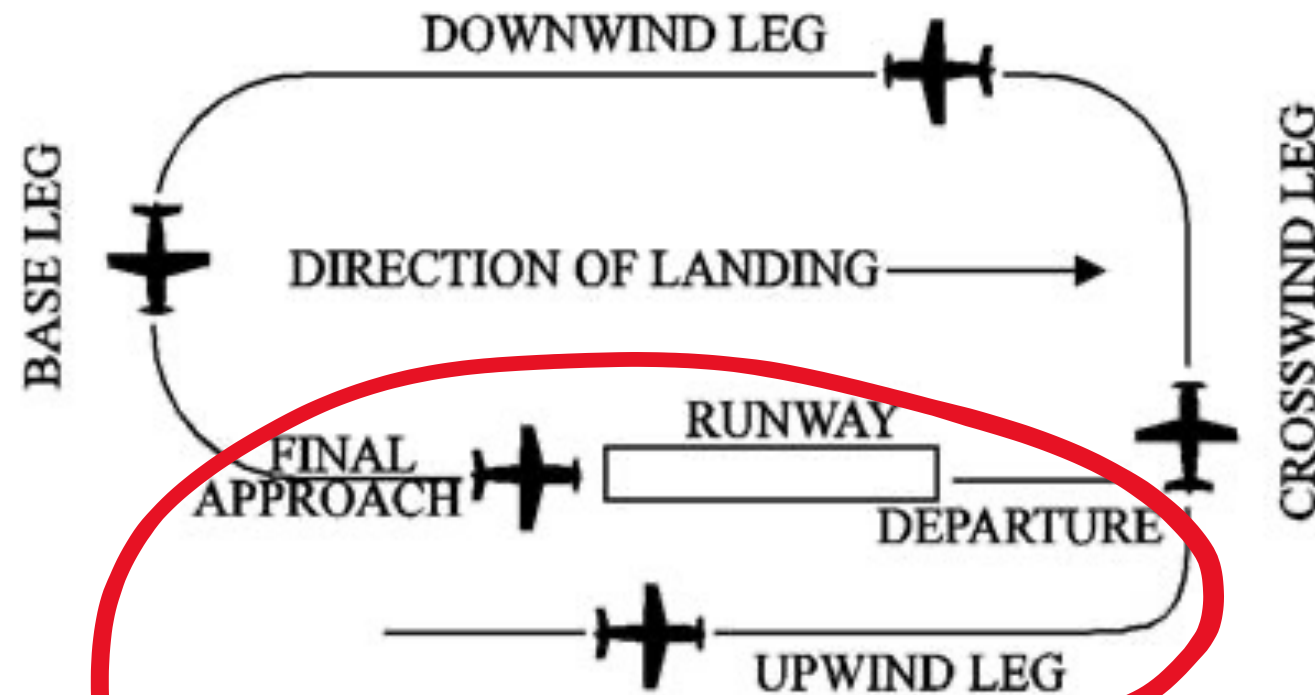
From AIM, AFHB, & AC 90-66B

Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM) Section 3  
Airport Operations  
4.3.2 Airports with an Operating Control Tower

FIG 4-3-1

Components of a Traffic Pattern

It has NEVER appeared in  
Publication as an E



tion of landing.

same direction as  
go-arounds.

the pilot will  
ound. When a  
to the upwind

side of the airport. This allows better visibility of the runway for departing aircraft.



# Where Did Upwind Entry Come From?

From Internet

From AIM, AFHB, & AC 90-66B

From AIM, AFHB, & AC 90-66C

Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM) Section 3  
Airport Operations

4.3.2 Airports with an Operating Control Tower

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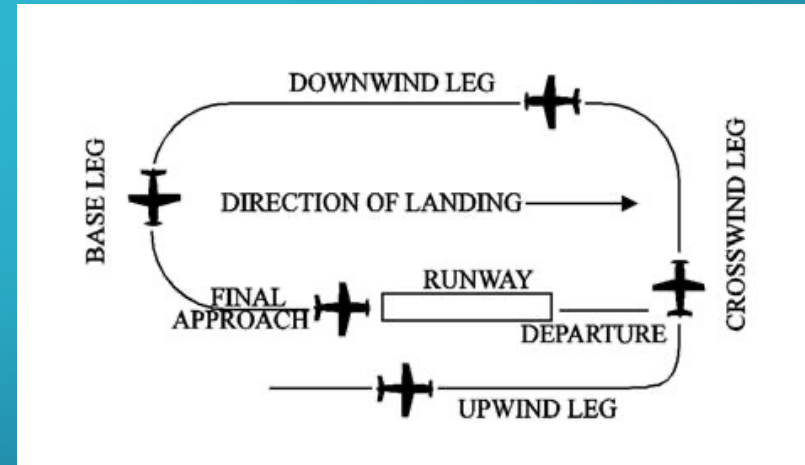
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Airport Operations

4.3.2 Airports with an Operating Control Tower

FIG 4-3-1

Components of a Traffic Pattern



Note:

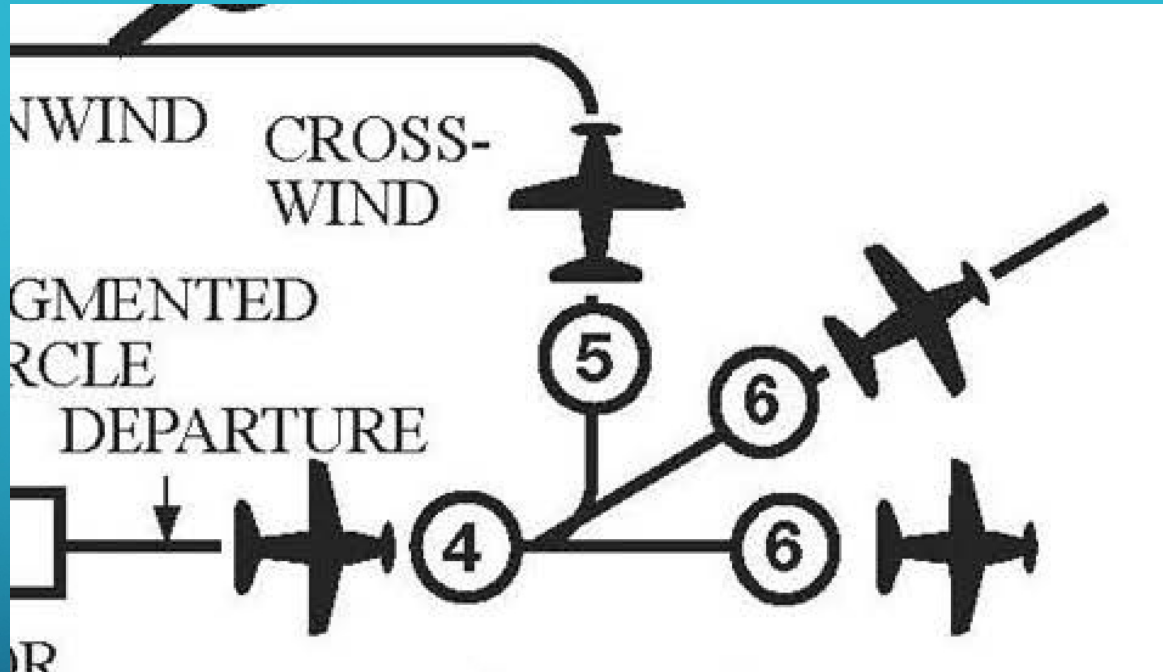
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# ENTRY AND EXIT



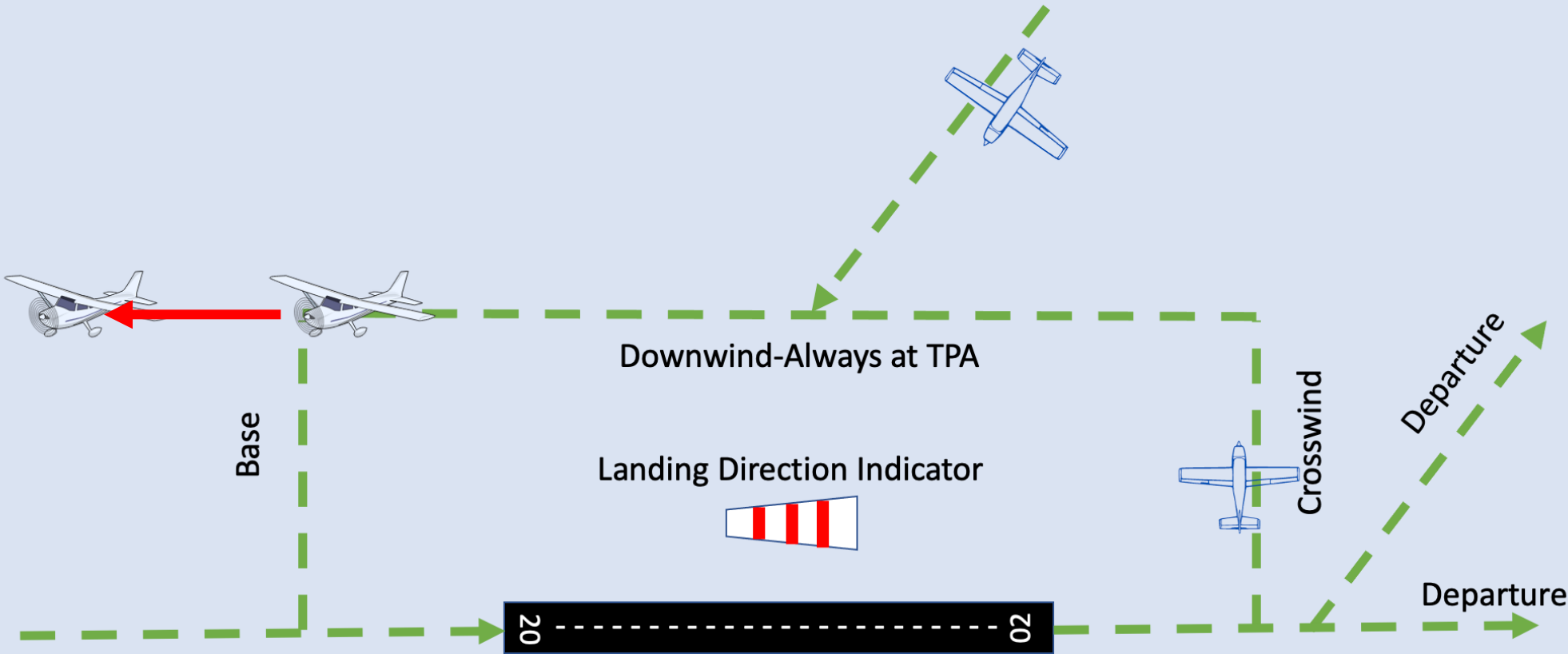
Two Departure paths  
Past the end of the runway  
and at Pattern Altitude

6. Continue Straight Out

6. Make a 45 degree turn  
TOWARDS Traffic Pattern



# There is no such thing as a downwind departure at non-towered airports!



# QUESTION IS THERE AN “ACTIVE” RUNWAY?

## ➤ AIM-4-3-4. Visual Indicators at Airports Without an Operating Control Tower

- **3. The landing direction indicator.** A tetrahedron is installed when conditions at the airport warrant its use. It may be used to indicate the direction of landings and takeoffs.

## ➤ Advisory Circular 90-66C Non-Towered Airport Operations, Chapter 11 RECOMMENDED STANDARD TRAFFIC PATTERN. The following information is intended to supplement the AIM, paragraph 4-3-3, Traffic Patterns, and the PHAK, Chapter 14.

- **11.6 Runway Preference.** Landing and takeoff should be accomplished on the operating runway most nearly aligned into the wind. However, if a secondary runway is used (e.g., for length limitations), pilots using the secondary runway should avoid the flow of traffic to the runway most nearly aligned into the wind.

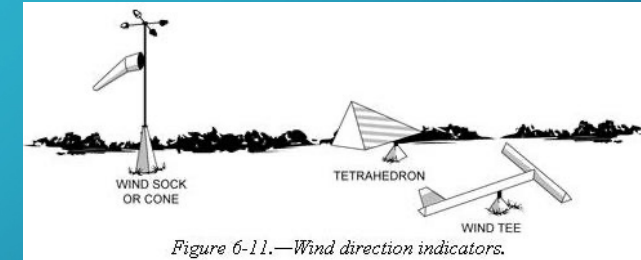
## ➤ AFHB Chapter 7

- When entering the traffic pattern at an airport without an operating control tower, inbound pilots are expected to observe other aircraft already in the pattern and to conform to the traffic pattern in use.

### Back to 90-66C

**10.7 Disagreements.** Do not correct other pilots on frequency (unless it is safety critical), particularly if you are aware you are correcting a student pilot. If you disagree with what another pilot is doing, operate your aircraft safely, communicate as necessary, clarify their intentions and, if you feel you must discuss operations with another pilot, wait until you are on the ground to have that discussion. Keep in mind that while you are communicating, you may block transmissions from other aircraft that may be departing or landing in the opposite direction to your aircraft due to IFR operations, noise abatement, obstacle avoidance, or runway length requirements. An aircraft might be using a runway different from the one favoring the prevailing winds. In this case, one option is to simply point out the current winds to the other pilots and indicate which runway you plan on using because of the current meteorological conditions.

## OLD AIM



## NEW AIM



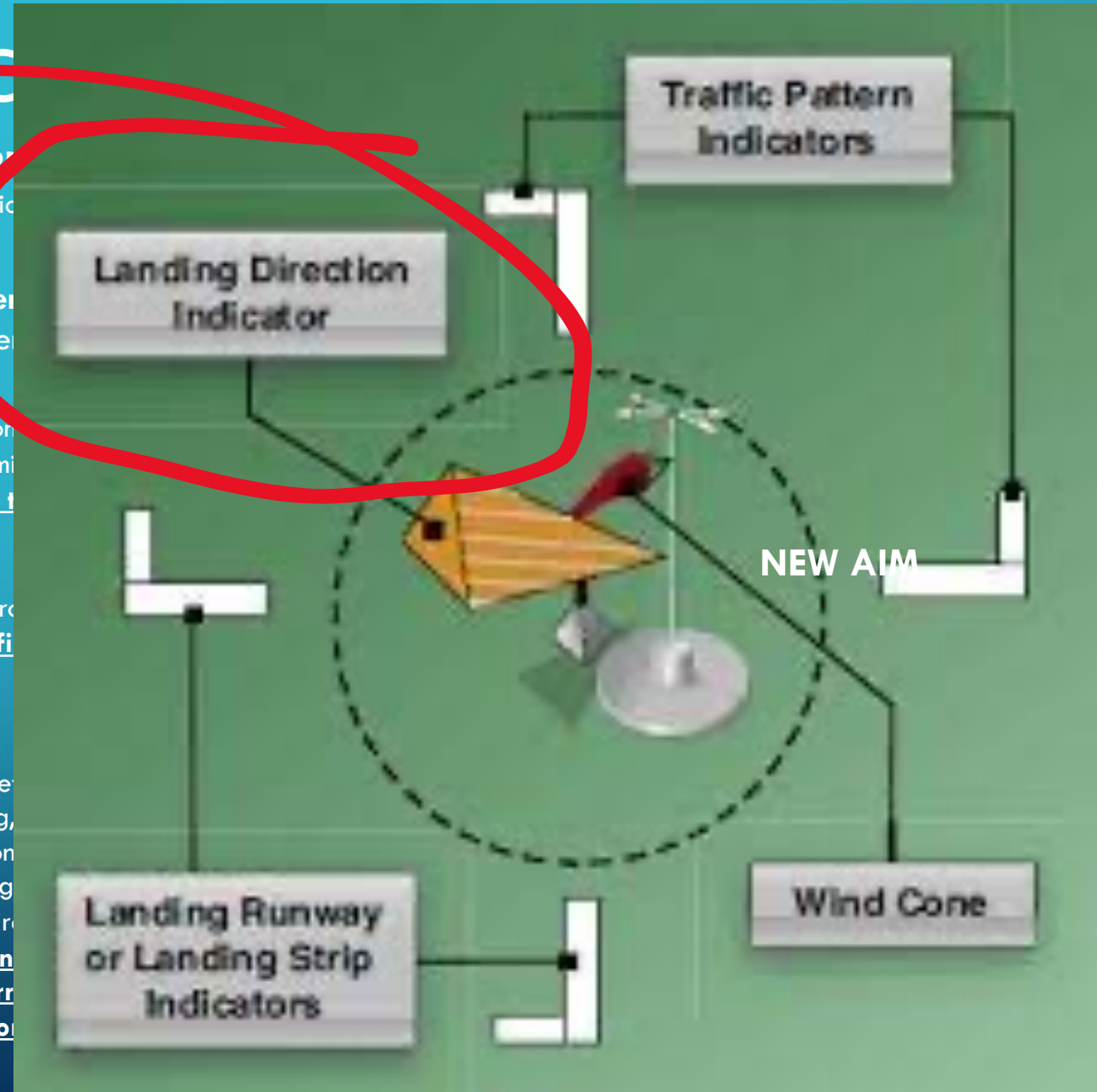


# QUESTION IS THERE AN “AC

- AIM-4-3-4. **Visual Indicators at Airports Without an Operating Control Tower.**
  - 3. **The landing direction indicator.** A tetrahedron is installed when conflicts exist between the runway and the traffic pattern. It is used to indicate the direction of landings and takeoffs.
- **Advisory Circular 90-66B Non-Towered Airport Operations, Chapter 7 TRAFFIC PATTERN.** The following information is intended to supplement the Traffic Pattern, the PHAK, Chapter 14.
  - **11.6 Runway Preference.** Landing and takeoff should be accomplished on the runway that is most nearly aligned into the wind. However, if a secondary runway is used (e.g., for length limitations), the pilot should avoid the flow of traffic to the runway most nearly aligned into the wind.
- **AFHB Chapter 7**
  - When entering the traffic pattern at an airport without an operating control tower, the pilot should observe other aircraft already in the pattern and to conform to the traffic.

## Back to 90-66B

**10.7 Disagreements.** Do not correct other pilots on frequency (unless it is safe to do so). If you disagree with what another pilot is doing, as necessary, clarify their intentions and, if you feel you must discuss operation on the ground to have that discussion. Keep in mind that while you are communicating with other aircraft that may be departing or landing in the opposite direction to your aircraft, you should be aware of obstacle avoidance, or runway length requirements. An aircraft might be using a runway that is not the preferred runway because of the current meteorological conditions. In this case, one option is to simply point out the current weather conditions and which runway you plan on using because of the current meteorological conditions.



# QUESTION IS THERE AN “ACTIVE” RUNWAY?

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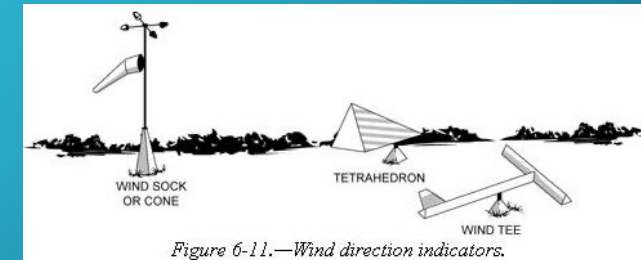
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## OLD AIM



## NEW AIM





# QUESTION IS THERE AN “ACTIVE” RUNWAY?

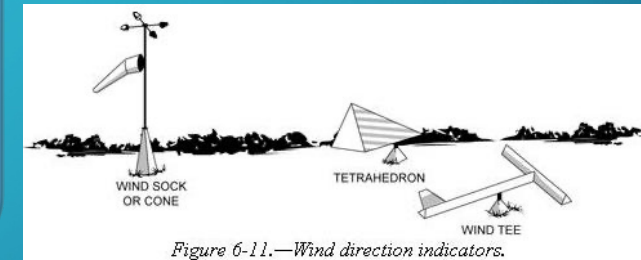
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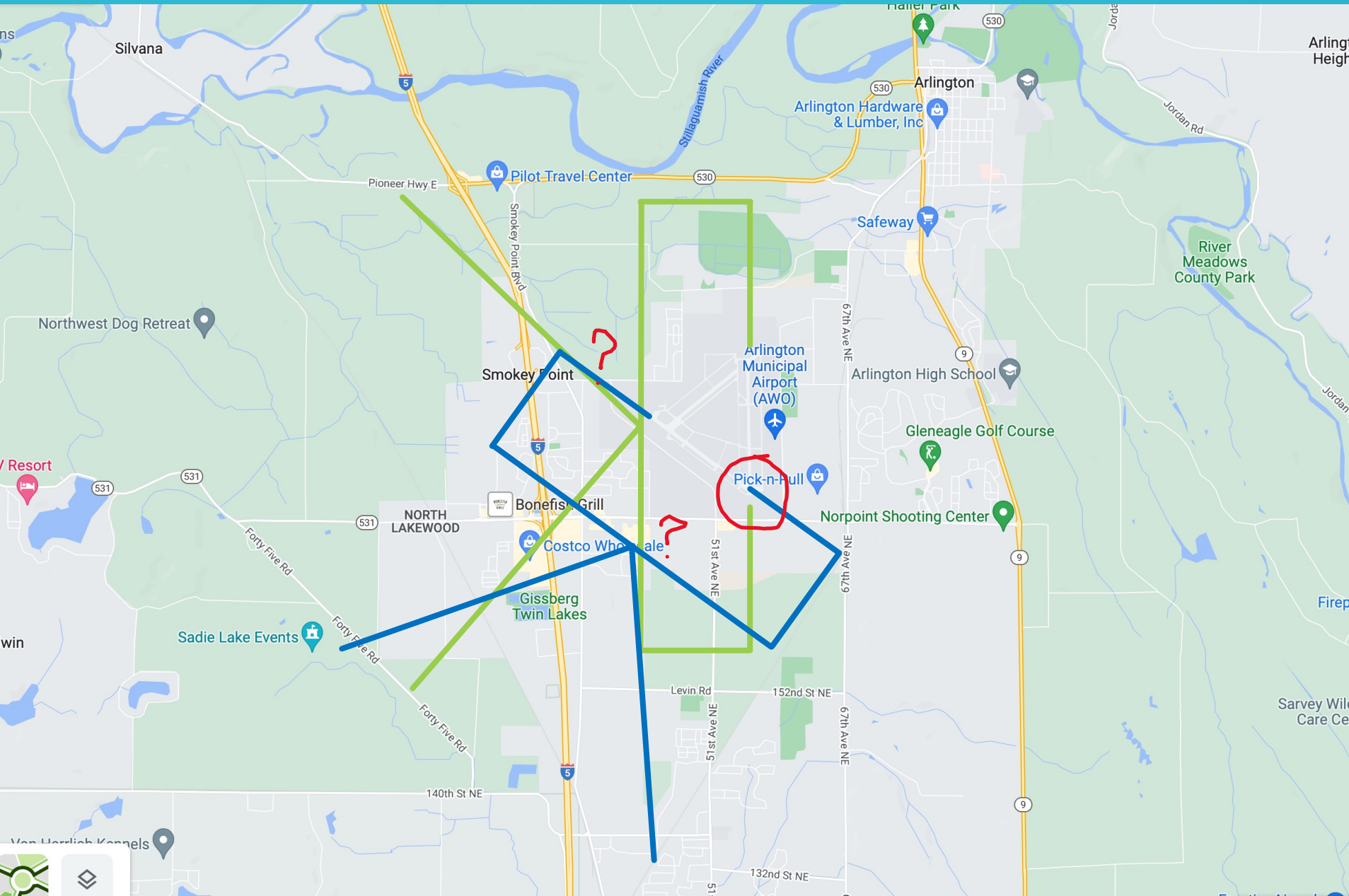
## OLD AIM



## NEW AIM



# EXAMPLE - ARLINGTON KAWO



When pilots try to run ops to both runway 34 and 29 concurrently it is an accident without a date.

Departure 29 opposite 45 degree to runway 34.

Approach of each runway, not “well clear” and is definition of so close as to pose a hazard.

Not to mention crossing downwind.

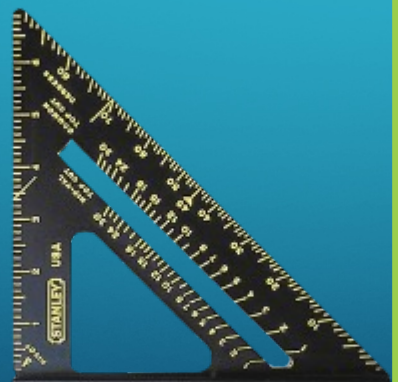


# LAST THOUGHTS ON THE PATTERN

- Turn Base 45 degrees from touchdown point when able.
- Traffic Conflicts: With Wide or Straight-in traffic
  - ❖ Similar type aircraft (70 to 90 kts) and faster turn base abeam traffic on final.



1/2 to 1 NM



If you must extend beyond 45 degrees make a call to advise others.

# Radio Calls Non-Towered Airports

1

Who You are,  
Where you are,  
What you want to do!

2

Only 50% of what you say is heard

- The longer you talk, the less is heard





# RADIO CALLS NON-TOWERED AIRPORTS



Approximately 10 miles out: Announce intention, direction from Airport, and Distance

- Source AC 90-66C

Entry to Traffic Pattern, 2 to 3 miles out

- Source AC 90-66C, AFHB, AIM 4-1-9

Each Position within the Traffic pattern, Downwind, Base, Final, Crosswind, Taking the Runway

- Source AFHB, AC 90-66C, AIM 4-1-9, 4-3-4


NO REQUIREMENT TO ANNOUNCE (Training as desired to build habits)

- Upwind
- Go Around, unless towered airport or a conflict exists
- Extended Taxi Operations. (One call leaving parking recommended)

# RADIO CALLS NON-TOWERED AIRPORTS



## ➤ Dos

- ❖ Keep It Short!
- ❖ Use only One Position in your call 
- ❖ If you forget what to say, get off the radio
- ❖ Use your type and shortened call sign, not color (Per AC 90-66B)
- ❖ If a Jet or you are flying faster than 70-90kts say so. Pilots do not necessarily know specific type is a jet. (AFHB)



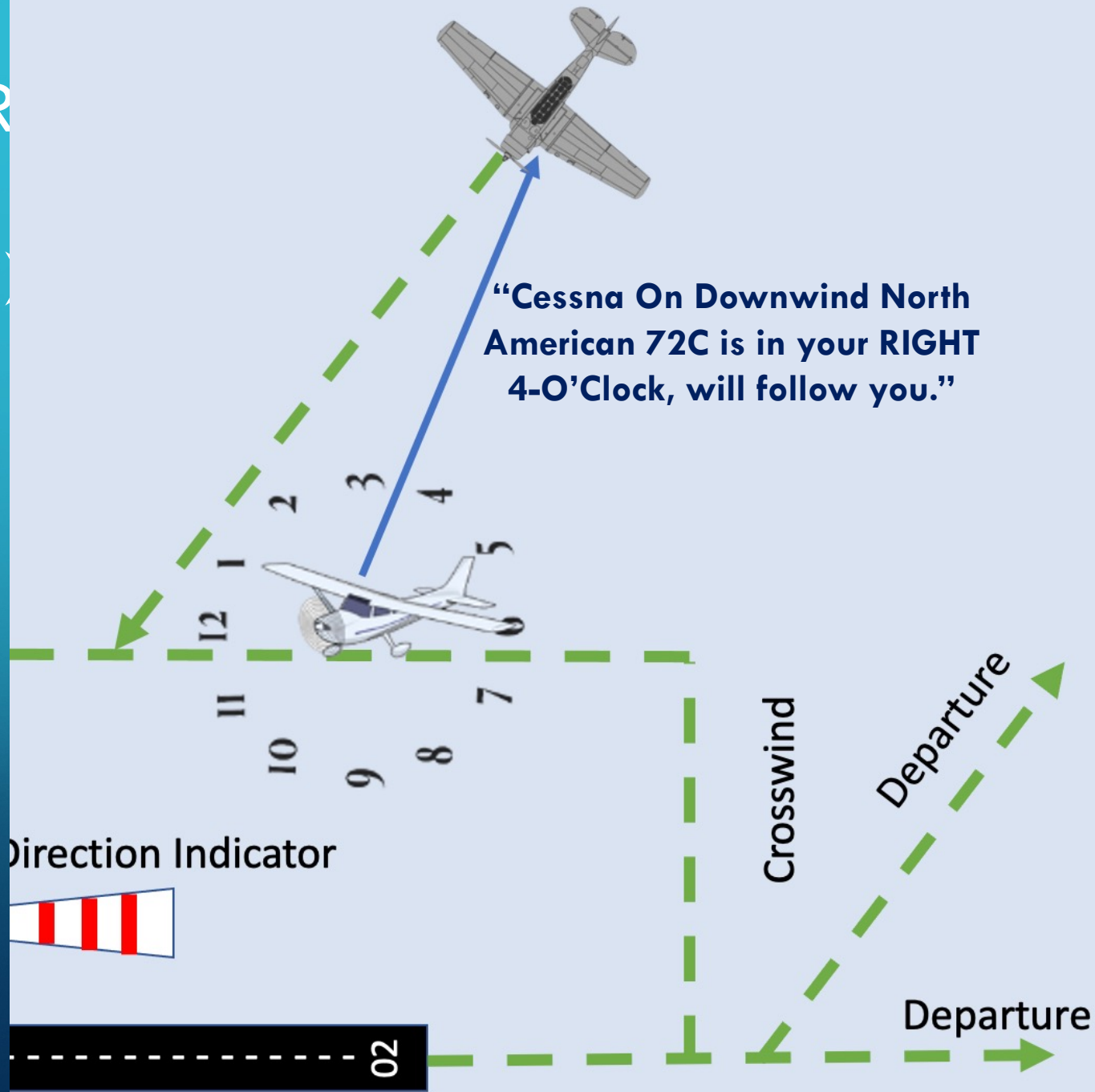
# RADIO CALLS NON-TOWERED AIRPORTS

## ➤ DO NOTs

- ❖ Have conversations on CTAF
- ❖ Tell other aircraft they are in
  - "your Clock Position"
  - If there is a conflict, tell them you are in "their Clock Position"
- ❖ Describe in length how you are going to enter the traffic pattern, instead use standard positions.
- ❖ Do not announce taxi intentions if the radio is busy with multiple aircraft in the traffic pattern. Use judgement.



R



in "their Clock Position"  
enter the traffic pattern, instead

radio is busy with multiple aircraft



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# RIGHT OF WAY REGULATIONS





# RIGHT OF WAY REGULATIONS

## 91.113 Right-of-way rules: Except water operations. (Excerpts)

(b) **General.** ...each person operating an aircraft so as to see and avoid other aircraft. When a rule of this section gives another aircraft the right-of-way, the pilot shall give way to that aircraft and may not pass over, under, or ahead of it unless well clear.

(d) **Converging.** When aircraft of the same category are converging at approximately the same altitude (except head-on, or nearly so), the aircraft to the other's right has the right-of-way.

(e) **Approaching head-on.**

(f) **Overtaking.** Each aircraft that is being overtaken has the right-of-way and each pilot of an overtaking aircraft shall alter course to the right to pass well clear.

(g) **Landing.** Aircraft, while on final approach to land or while landing, have the right-of-way over other aircraft in flight or operating on the surface, except that they shall not take advantage of this rule to force an aircraft off the runway surface which has already landed and is attempting to make way for an aircraft on final approach. When two or more aircraft are approaching an airport for the purpose of landing, the aircraft at the lower altitude has the right-of-way, but it shall not take advantage of this rule to cut in front of another which is on final approach to land or to overtake that aircraft.

## RIGHT OF WAY REGULATIONS

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or to overtake that aircraft.



# RIGHT OF WAY **POLICIES, GUIDANCE, BEST PRACTICES**

## The New AIM with Change 1 & 2, Para 4–3–3. Traffic Patterns

1. *Pilots are encouraged to use the standard traffic pattern.*

*those pilots who choose to execute a straight-in approach, should not disrupt the flow of arriving and departing traffic.*

**AC 90-66C 8.2.1** ...A visual flight rules (VFR) aircraft on a long, straight-in approach for landing never enters the traffic pattern unless performing a go-around or touch and go after landing...

**AC90-66C 9.5 Straight-In Landings.** Pilots should clearly communicate on the CTAF and coordinate maneuvering for and execution of the landing with other traffic so as not to disrupt the flow of other aircraft.

# NOTE: AC90-66C: STRAIGHT-IN NOT RECOMMENDED WHEN OTHER AIRCRAFT ARE IN THE TRAFFIC PATTERN

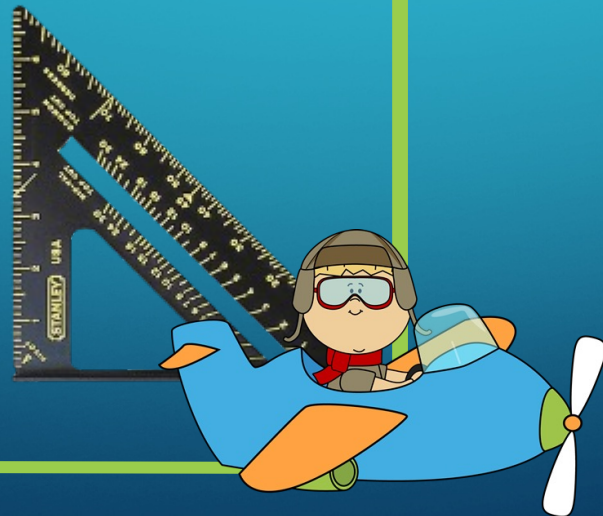
## WHEN CAN YOU TURN IN FRONT OF STRAIGHT-IN

- Similar type aircraft, 70-90Kts, When Straight-in OUTSIDE 3mi
- Faster Jet or Twin, OUTSIDE of 5mi

**NOTE: Based on you flying normal 1/2 to 1 mi base leg!!!!**



1/2 to 1 NM



### FAA v Fekete Ruling

1. Don't fly so close as to cause collision hazard 91.111
2. May not turn base if would cause Straight-in to drastically change flight path or go around 91.113(g)



## RIGHT OF WAY POLICIES, GUIDANCE, BEST PRACTICES

APHB, AHAK, AC90-66C State Regarding Pattern Entry:  
“...inbound pilots are expected to observe other aircraft already in the pattern and to conform to the traffic pattern in use. The pilot should enter the traffic pattern at a point well clear of any other observed aircraft.”

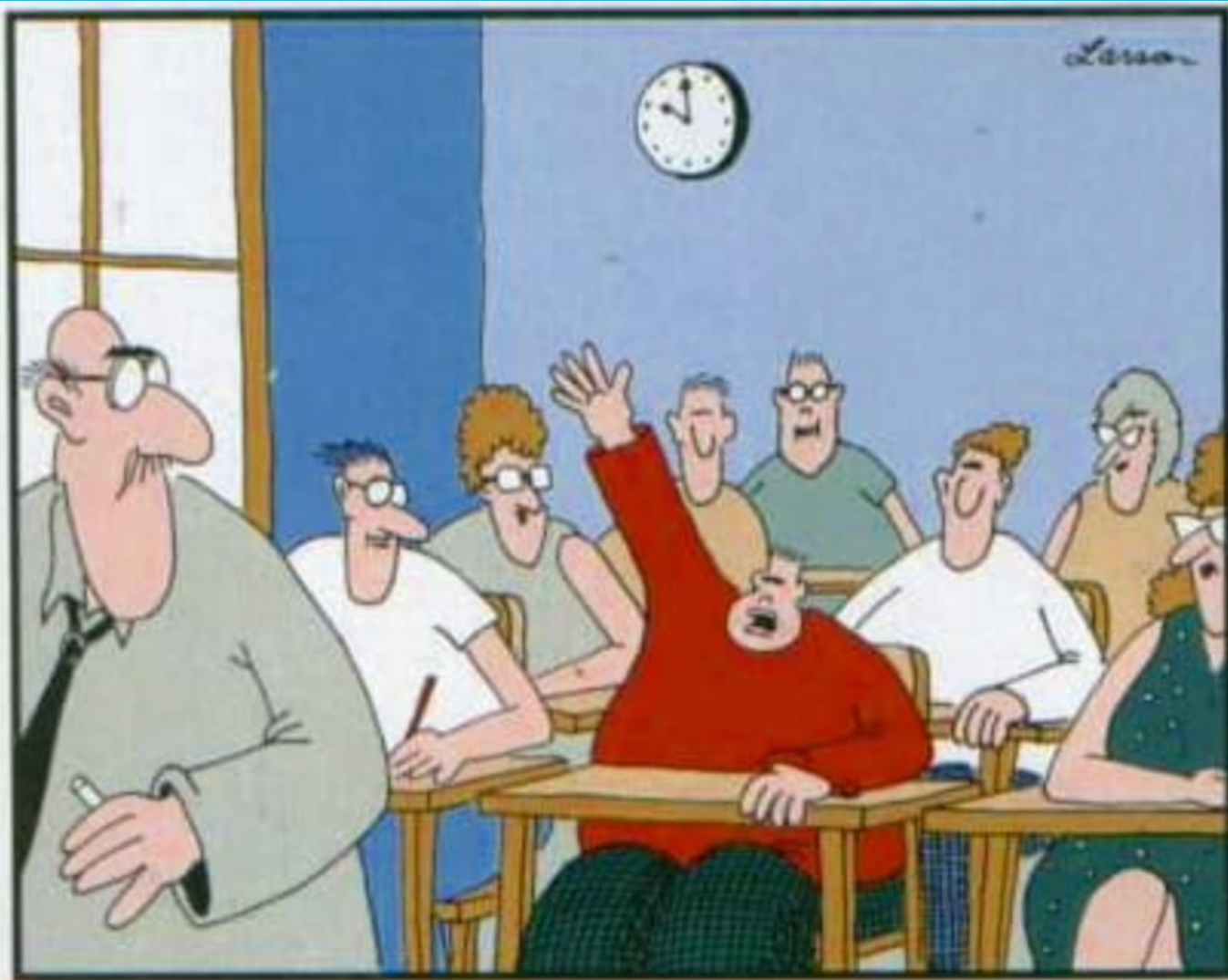
Regarding the Alternate Pattern Entries “...Make course and speed adjustments that will lead to a successful pattern entry and give way to other aircraft on the preferred 45° entry or to aircraft already established on downwind.”

# RIGHT OF WAY

## SUMMARY FROM ALL SOURCES

1. Aircraft lowest on Final except aircraft that just landed and is exiting the runway.
2. Aircraft established in the traffic pattern
3. Aircraft **MAY NOT** pass another aircraft on Downwind unless clear of the pattern. So, this means Aircraft in front of you in the pattern.
4. Aircraft on 45-degree entry
5. Aircraft on alternate entry
6. Aircraft not in the traffic pattern Including Straight-In arrivals and Overhead Military style arrivals.
7. While not ROW, helicopters must **AVOID** fixed wing pattern.





**"Mr. Osborne, may I be excused?  
My brain is full."**

# NON-TOWERED TRAFFIC PATTERNS SUMMARY

- Traffic Pattern only works with understanding and cooperation.
  - ❖ Use standard pattern
  - ❖ Use standard entries
  - ❖ Use Standard departures
- ROW Rules must be understood and accepted.
- Radio calls need to be short, concise, and use standard phraseology.
- Keep your Traffic Pattern within 1nm using the 45% rule for base.

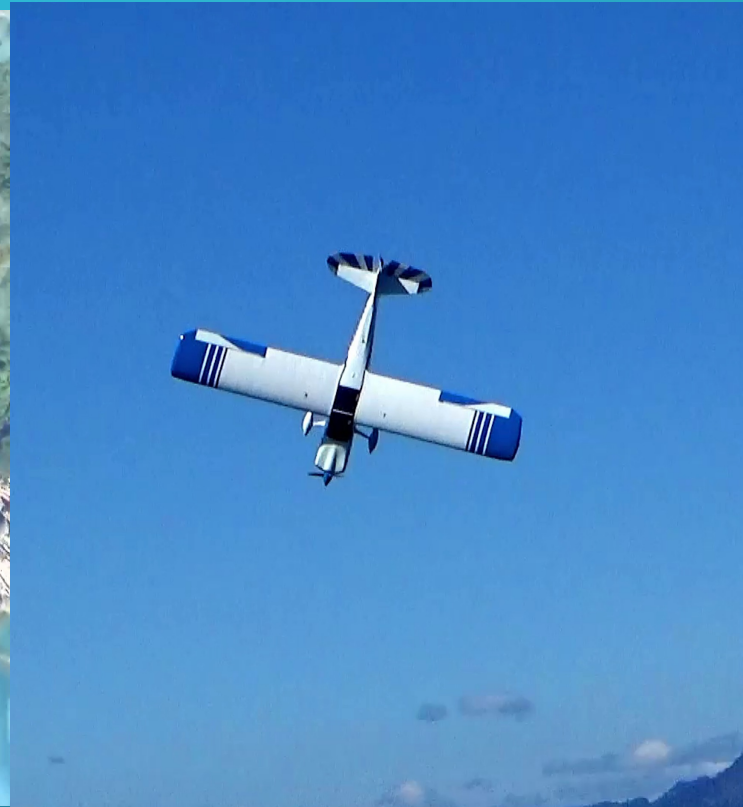




THANKS FOR ATTENDING!

OTHER PRESENTATIONS AND VIDEOS BY CAPTAIN  
TOM MAYBE FOUND AT

*RogersAviationNW.Com*



In Association With:

