

Hood River Soaring Tow Pilot Requirements/Application

* Any training, flights, checkouts, demonstration of flying experience etc. etc. listed below needed to obtain any of these requirements is to be done at the applicant's expense.*

1) Basic Minimum Requirements

- a. If you currently have the below, then you are welcome to fill out the application and submit it:
 - i. Private Pilot License, **Commercial Pilot License preferred or working towards Commercial.**
 - ii. **250 hours total time SEL power.**
 - iii. Tail Wheel Endorsement with a minimum of 25 hours of tail wheel, 100hrs **preferred**
 - iv. High performance endorsement
 - v. Join the club as HRS Member which automatically enrolls you into SSA.

HRS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/PATMENT DATE COMPLETED _____

- b. If a pilot meets the above requirements then s/he can fill out an application for an interview and depending upon the Club's need for additional tow pilots an interview will be granted or the TP Applicant will be placed on a wait list.
- c. Preference to move from the wait list to the interview stage may be given to TP Applicants with greater relevant experience; otherwise, preference will be given to those that have been on the wait list the longest.
- d. Be prepared to bring your Pilot Log Book for inspection.

2) Tow Pilot Interview & Flight Review Process

- a. Fill out HRS Tow Pilot application:

Name _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address _____

FAA Pilot License: Private/Commercial Number# _____

Date of your last flight Review and Name & Phone number of the CFI that signed your flight review (Be prepared to bring your log book for inspection.) _____

Please list all Accidents, Incidents, or Mishaps in any balloon, airship, glider, airplane, and or rotorcraft that you were in or were the pilot of: Please provide the date, the FAA investigation number, all details as to the event, and the causative action and the results of any action against you.

Have you ever towed for any person, or organization prior to Hood River Soaring? _____

If yes who? _____ Please provide the name and phone number for us to contact and check this reference _____

- i. Once these items are verified and the Tow Pilot Steering Committee (HRS CTP, HRS CFG, and a HRS Directors) review the application for approval to proceed or not to proceed. If approval is granted, the TP Applicant MAY schedule a tail wheel flight review with the HRS CTP at the applicant's expense.

BOARD of DIRECTORS APPROVE/NOT APPROVE

TOW PILOTS APPROVE/NOT APPROVE

Comments _____

- b. Demonstration of Tail Wheel Flying Skills in a Suitable Tail wheel Airplane with HRS CTP
 - i. The applicant is required to demonstrate to the HRS CTP competency in a tail wheel aircraft operation using an approved dual control tail wheel aircraft. The HRS CTP must be in the airplane – ground observation of demonstrated skills is not approved. The applicant may provide their own airplane deemed suitable to the CFI or they may rent one at the applicant’s expense. The applicant must also pay the CTP or designee for his/her time.
 - ii. Tail wheel flying skills to be evaluated are:
 - 1. **Gusty Crosswind ground and air handling**
 - 2. Use of checklist
 - 3. Emergency procedure awareness
 - 4. Radio Communication Skills
 - 5. Slow flight
 - 6. Stalls
 - iii. HRS CTP may designate another CFI to verify these skills.
 - iv. If the TP Applicant proves satisfactorily to handle the tail wheel plane safely and confidently, the TP Applicant MAY schedule an interview with the Tow Pilot Steering Committee. If the TP Applicant does not demonstrate satisfactory tail wheel skills then we will stop the process and thank them for interest in being a Tow Pilot for Hood River Soaring and offer them to become or remain a member for soaring purposes. They may work on their skills and reapply.

PROFICIENT

NOT PROFICIENT

Comments _____

- c. The interview process will take place with TP applicant and HRS club members to include:
 - i. HRS Chief Tow Pilot
 - ii. **Any 2 Directors of HRS**
- d. The interview will focus on the TP applicant’s ability to be a team player, have strong communication skills, professionalism, time management skills, aeronautical knowledge and experience, and safety awareness.
- e. The interview will be scored by the above HRS members and if a TP applicant passes the interview they will become a “TP Candidate” and encouraged to proceed with the process. If a “TP applicant” does not pass the interview we will thank them for their interest in being a Tow Pilot for Hood River Soaring and offer them to become or remain a member for soaring purposes.

RECOMMEND TO CONTINUE PROCESS

RECOMMEND TO DISCONTINUE PROCESS

Comments _____

- 3) Additional Requirements before starting the HRS Tow Pilot Checkout Process
 - a. Glider Ground & Flight training with CFI-G per FAR 61.69:
 - i. Glider license is a plus before towing, but as a minimum before training commences applicant must have had three flights in a glider with ground training. Glider experience and currency will

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be determined on a case by case basis in terms of meeting this requirement. The TP Candidate is responsible for setting this up and paying all related expenses.

DATES COMPLETED & NAME of CFIG _____

- b. 3 Real or Simulated Tows with a CFI in a tail wheel plane per FAR 61.69
 - i. Provide proof in Log Book to HRS Chief Tow Pilot. If you do not have the HRS CTP or another CFI can help the TP Candidate applicant with this requirement at the TP Candidate’s expense.

DATES COMPLETED & NAME of CFI ENDORSING _____

- c. Provide the HRS Chief Tow Pilot with a copy of the Certificate of Completion of the SSA Tow Pilot Safety Course

DATE COMPLETED _____

- d. Field Ops Checkout with HRS Safety Officer
 - i. It is important that the TP Candidate know firsthand what it feels like to be on the other end of the rope, pulling it out amidst the tow plane prop wash, and knowing where ground personnel can and cannot stand for safety. The TP Candidate can schedule this with the HRS Safety Officer.
 - ii. Learn the hand signals

DATE COMPLETED _____

- e. Read “Towpilot Manual” by Burt Compton and take quiz/Complete Discussion. The TP Candidate is responsible for obtaining and reading this book at their expense. The TP Candidate is responsible to the CTP know when this is complete and are ready to take the quiz/discuss.

DATE COMPLETED _____

- f. Once the above items are complete and all fees/expenses are paid then the TP candidate can proceed with the checkout process.
- g. **At any time during the TP candidate process, if the TP candidate is not making satisfactory progress, shows elements of unacceptable risk, they may be dismissed from the process.**

RECOMMEND TO CONTINUE

RECOMMEND TO DISCONTINUE

Comments: _____

4) HRS Towing Operations Ground School with HRS Chief Tow Pilot:

- a. Ground instruction of tow pilot regulation and responsibilities. The TP Candidate will schedule this with the HRS CTP and the TP Candidate is responsible for the ground training expense.
 - i. HRS Expectations
 - ii. PAVE
 - iii. FAR 91.3 PIC
 - iv. FAR 91.151 Visual Flight Rules – Fuel Requirements
 - v. Daily Tow Record
 - 1. Fuel Management
 - 2. Tow Fee Management
 - vi. Particular airport procedures
 - vii. Ground Operations
 - viii. Air/Towing Operations: Consistent patterns

- 1. AC 90-66A
- 2. FAR 91.126
- 3. Emergency Procedures
- 4. Ropes and dual towing
- ix. Maintenance logging and notification/communication to the club
- x. Daily Safety Huddle:
 - 1. WAAAM Schedule (Hard to see L-Birds)
 - 2. TA daily schedule
- xi. Daily Operational Considerations including safety
- xii. Learn to use Google Documents to record Time/Tows/Fuel/Oil for the Pawnee
- xiii. Tow Pilot Scheduling
- b. Flight with HRS CTP in a dual control tail wheel airplane to review all air towing work.
 - i. Pattern Tows
 - 1. Including Rope Break Tows
 - ii. Ridge Tows
 - iii. 30' Training Tows
 - iv. Rope Break Tows
 - v. Scenic Tows
- c. Written/Oral Exam with HRS CTP
 - i. Once this is satisfactorily completed "TP Candidate" can move to the next step

RECOMMEND TO CONTINUE

RECOMMEND TO DISCONTINUE

Comments: _____

- 5) Pawnee Check out with HRS CTP: The TP Candidate is responsible for scheduling this and for all related expenses.+++++
- a. Review of POH
 - b. Cockpit checkout
 - i. Preflight
 - c. Written/Oral Exam
 - d. Self Check Out
 - i. Steep turns
 - ii. Power on/Off Stalls
 - iii. 5 Take off and Landings
 - e. Your first 15 Tows cover your cost of your self-checkout flight.

RECOMMEND TO CONTINUE

RECOMMEND TO DISCONTINUE

Comments: _____

- 6) Three Training Tows: The TP Candidate is responsible for scheduling this and for all related expenses.
- a. Execute three tows with either a CFI-G, or a Commercial Pilot, towing the 2-33, or 2-32.
 - b. The two tows are to be a 2000-3000 foot training tow and will include the following maneuvers by the glider pilot.
 - c. Tow #1
 - i. Rope Slacks
 - ii. Steering Turns
 - iii. Box the wake
 - d. Tow #2
 - i. Glider Speed up
 - ii. Glider Slow Down

- iii. Tow pilot to wave off the glider pilot (Rocking your wings left and right) to simulate Tow pilot emergency.
- e. Tow #3
 - i. Any items the training tow check out group or “TP Candidate” feel needs some additional work.
- f. To complete this part you need to have the minimum ground personnel observing/participating to see the whole operation and have a safety briefing and debrief afterwards. The personnel you will need are:
 - i. HRS CTP
 - ii. A HRS Commercial or CFI-G Pilot for the Glider
 - iii. An experienced HRS ground personnel so you see the correct hand signals for launch (Preferably Paul, Ron, Brett, Bill)
- g. There is to be a safety briefing before and an evaluation debrief after the tows with all involved.

RECOMMEND TO CONTINUE

RECOMMEND TO DISCONTINUE

Comments: _____

- h. Once completed you are a “Probationary Tow Pilot” or a “Tow Pilot in training” until you reach 100 Tows for Hood River Soaring (Tows from other organizations do not count).
 - i. **It is a privilege to fly the Pawnee for HRS, not a right, Tow Pilots that violate FARs, do not fly according to club policies or Chief Flight Instructor or Chief Tow Pilot Instructions, complain, leave the plane in poor condition will lose this privilege. We want positive contributing members on the Tow Team.**
 - ii. Learn how to use TeamUp, HRS Website Logs, and Tow Logs.
- i. Once you completed 100 Tows safely. Then you are a TOW PILOT for Hood River Soaring! YEAH!

RECOMMEND TO CONTINUE

RECOMMEND TO DISCONTINUE

Comments: _____

7) In special circumstances such as a shortage of Tow Pilots or a Special Event when required the basic minimum requirements above may be waived based on an assessment by the Chief Pilot.

- a. A pilot with 100 tows from another organization is still a “Probationary Tow Pilot” or a “Tow Pilot in training” until you reach 100 Tows for Hood River Soaring

RECOMMEND TO CONTINUE

RECOMMEND TO DISCONTINUE

Comments: _____

- 8) The HRS tow schedule will be determined by the HRS CTP. Preference may be given to pilots with greater Club towing experience.