

# **Endorsements and Pilot Qualifications**

**Sport Pilots, 61 Subpart J**

## **61 Subpart J: Sport Pilots**

### **61.301 Eligibility**

- Must be 17 years old
- Be able to read, speak, write, and understand the English language
- Pass a knowledge test and practical test
- US driver's license, FAA medical, or BasicMed

## **61 Subpart J: Sport Pilots**

### **61.309 Aeronautical Knowledge**

- Must receive and log ground training OR follow a home-study course for the areas listed 61.309
- Must take a written test on these areas
  - A.17 endorsement

## **61 Subpart J: Sport Pilots**

### **61.311 Flight Proficiency Requirements**

- Preflight/Post-flight preparation/procedures
- Airport operations
- Takeoffs, landings, and go-arounds
- Performance maneuvers
- Ground reference maneuvers
- Navigation
- Slow flight
- Stalls
- Emergency operations

## 61 Subpart J: Sport Pilots

### 61.311 Aeronautical Experience Requirements

- 20 hours total flight time
  - 15 hours flight time in single-engine airplane
    - 2 hours XC flight training
    - 10 takeoffs and landings to a full stop
  - 2 hours of flight training within 2 calendar months for checkride preparation
  - 5 hours of solo flight time
    - One solo XC flight of at least 75nm with full-stop takeoffs and landings at three points, one segment is at least 25nm
- No exceptions for training on small islands

# Light Sport Airplane

- 14 CFR 1.1
- An airplane, since its original certification, has continued to meet the following:
  - Takeoff weight of < 1320 lbs.
  - $V_H < 120$  knots CAS (maximum airspeed in level flight)
  - $V_{S1}$  of < 45 knots
  - No more than two seats
  - Single, reciprocating engine
  - Fixed-pitch propeller (ground-adjustable ok)
  - Non-pressurized cabin
  - Fixed landing gear

## **61 Subpart J: Sport Pilots**

### **61.315 Privileges & Limitations**

- Act as pilot in command of a light-sport aircraft
  - Or, a certified aircraft that meets the gross weight requirement for light sport
- Share a pro-rata share of expenses

## 61 Subpart J: Sport Pilots

### 61.315 Privileges & Limitations (cont.)

- Cannot fly:
  - For compensation or hire
  - In the furtherance of a business
  - With more than 1 passenger
  - At night (end of civil twilight to morning civil twilight)
  - In Class A airspace
  - In Class B, C, D airspace, unless endorsed
  - Outside of the US
  - Demonstrate as a salesperson



## **61 Subpart J: Sport Pilots**

### **61.315 Privileges & Limitations (cont.)**

- Cannot fly:
  - In a passenger-carrying capacity for a charitable organization
  - At altitudes higher than 10,000 MSL or 2000 AGL, whichever is higher
  - With surface visibility less than 3 s.m.
  - Without visual reference to the surface

## 61 Subpart J: Sport Pilots

### 61.315 Privileges & Limitations (cont.)

- Aircraft restrictions:
  - $V_H$  must be less than 87 KCAS (max speed in level flight with max continuous power)
  - Contrary to any operating limitations
  - Contrary to any restriction on their driver's license
  - Can't tow anything
  - Can't be a crew member on an airplane that requires more than one crew member

## 61 Subpart J: Sport Pilots

### 61.317-321 Category and Class Ratings

- Sport pilots aren't granted category/class ratings
- Instead, all authorizations are done by endorsement
- Training for an additional category or class:
  - Receive a logbook endorsement from your primary instructor
    - A.18 endorsement from your primary instructor to take the proficiency check
  - Complete a proficiency check with a *different* sport pilot instructor
    - They will complete an 8710-11 and send it to the FAA
    - They will give the A.19 endorsement if you pass



## **61 Subpart J: Sport Pilots**

### **61.325 Flight in Class B, C, D Airspace**

- One-time endorsement to operate in Class B, C, or D airspace, the A.22 endorsement
- This is good for all Class B airspace (not a specific one, like student pilot)
- The "dirty dozen" Class B airports still a private pilot certificate

## 61 Subpart J: Sport Pilots

### 61.327 Flight in an Aircraft with Different $V_H$

- Flying a sport aircraft with a  $V_H$  less or equal to 87 KCAS requires an endorsement
  - A.23 endorsement
- Flying a sport aircraft with a  $V_H$  greater than 87 KCAS requires an endorsement
  - A.24 endorsement