



Louisville Soaring Club

The **Louisville Soaring Club** has been in operation since October 1971 as an educational, non-profit organization dedicated to exploring and experiencing soaring flight. As a club, it is owned and operated by the members.



Where we fly

LSC operates from the municipal airport in Bardstown, Kentucky (KBRY), with three club owned sailplanes, one tow plane, and several member owned sailplanes.

How we fly

The LSC employs a launch system known as aerotow, which utilizes a powered tow plane with a tow rope to pull the sailplane to altitude where it releases for free flight.

Typical release altitudes are 2,000 or 3,000 feet above the airport. Once free of the tow plane, the sailplane pilot searches for thermals (rising columns of air) that allow the sailplane to remain aloft for extended periods.



When we fly

As a club, the LSC is a casual, relaxed operation, flying on weekends and national holidays from May through November, when the weather is suitable, with flying beginning around mid day.



More Information

If you would like to learn more about flying with the Louisville Soaring Club including membership, club aircraft, and flying details, go to:

LSC Website - www.soarky.org

LSC President - Mike Carlson
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Frequently Asked Questions

I already have a Glider rating, how do I get checked out?

For insurance reasons, you must be a LSC member and SSA member to fly club owned sailplanes. After joining the LSC you can be checked out by one of our member instructors. It is always best to contact the instructor to make sure he is available the day you want to fly, as the LSC instructors are professional pilots with varied work schedules.

What is required to obtain my private glider pilot license if I do not have a powered license?

Typically a student can solo in 30-35 flights, with a typical training flight of usually 20 minutes or less. Following solo, another 20-25 flights, including at least 10 solo flights are needed to be ready for the private pilot checkride.

A FAA written test must be also passed prior your checkride. The checkride for the glider rating is given by an FAA designated examiner.

What if I already have a private license for powered aircraft?

A typical transition to gliders can take from 20 to 30 flights, including 10 solo flights. A FAA written test is not required (aside from a pre-solo quiz). A checkride with an FAA designated examiner is required.

Can I get this training at Bardstown through the LSC?

It would be difficult, time consuming and frustrating. At present we have two active instructors that are not available every weekend. Our insurance company requires the instructors to be on the field for all solo flights made by a non glider-rated pilot. Also, we do not have a designated glider examiner in Kentucky.

So what is the best way to obtain my glider rating?

Many club members fly with our instructors for several flights, and then finish at a commercial glider school. If you already have a power plane license and a handful of glider flights, you can probably transition in five full days of soaring.

What are the flying fees?

The latest rates are on the LSC web site, and consist of a combination of a tow fee plus an hourly rate for the sailplane. For example, a typical tow to 3000 feet including the glider charge in the SGS 2-33 would be approximately \$30. Sailplanes offer some of the most fun and inexpensive flying that you will find.

How does this compare to a commercial operation?

That same flight in a 2-33 with a 3000 foot tow would run anywhere between \$60 and \$90 depending on the location in the country.

How do I schedule glider time?

There are no reservations. The LSC is not run like commercial operations or big flying clubs. We are very informal, and do not operate on a rigid schedule.

Members start by checking the weather and the website bulletin board to determine if there will be flying that day, and see who is planning to be at the field.

The gliders go out on a first come, first serve basis. We fly on weekends and usually begin flying around noon (a little later on Sunday). We usually put the gliders and equipment away around five to five thirty.

Members who want to fly on a given day come out early to assist in pulling the gliders from the hanger, then spend the day alternating flights with other members, socializing, and helping to move the gliders as needed.

Each flying day an assigned crew chief facilitates the day's operations. At the end of the day, those who have the time help put the gliders and equipment away.

How much does it cost to be a member?

Initiation Fee	\$450 to join
Monthly Dues	\$20 per month
Quarterly Assessment	\$30 credited against any flight fees during the calendar year

How can I make a visit to check out the operation?

You are welcome to join us on any flyable weekend. Before traveling to Bardstown, go to the LSC bulletin board at www.soarky.org to make sure that we are flying that day.



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