

FAA Requirements to fly Gobosh 700S light-sport aircraft

This document addresses pilot training and certification requirements stipulated by the FAA for those wishing to operate a Gobosh 700S aircraft. It does not address checkout and experience requirements for rental or insurance approvals.

The Gobosh 700S is a light-sport aircraft in the airplane category, single-engine-land class (ASEL), and with a V_H greater than 87 knots. V_H means maximum speed in level flight with maximum continuous power.

Part 61 FARs pertaining to sport pilots were significantly changed effective April 2, 2010. Be sure to reference current information -- see www.faa.gov and select "Regulations & Policies," and then "Federal Aviation Regulations." You may have been aware of the "set of aircraft" concept that was part of the original sport pilot rule. The "set of aircraft" concept was removed with the April changes.

Each pilot must operate within the limitations associated with his/her grade of pilot certificate and any limitations placed on that pilot certificate. When operating as a sport pilot with a valid US driver's license and not a valid FAA medical certificate, a recreational, private, commercial, or ATP pilot must operate within the limitations associated with a sport pilot certificate. See FAR 61.315.

Each pilot must hold either a valid FAA medical certificate or a valid US driver's license. If the pilot holds a valid FAA medical certificate, he/she must comply with limitations on that certificate, if any. If the pilot does not hold a valid FAA medical certificate, he/she must comply with limitations on that driver's license. See FAR 61.23 and 61.53.

Student pilot seeking sport pilot certificate in Gobosh

A student pilot seeking a sport pilot certificate must:

- a. Prior to training
 - TSA US Citizenship evaluation by instructor/school.
- b. Prior to solo
 - Must have either a valid FAA medical certificate or valid US driver's license
 - Must have a Student Pilot certificate (either as part of a FAA medical certificate, or obtained from a FSDO or DPE)
 - Must meet eligibility requirements of FAR 61.83 (Be at least 16 years of age; and be able to read, speak, write, and understand the English language or waiver from the Administrator.)
 - Must meet the solo requirements of FAR 61.87 (b), (c), and (d)
 - Must have endorsements on student pilot certificate and logbook per FAR 61.87 (n)
- c. Prior to Cross Country
 - Must meet the pre cross-country training requirements of 61.93 (e). See notes 5 and 6.
 - Must have endorsements on student pilot certificate and logbook per FAR 61.93 (c)

- Pre cross-country training in the Gobosh 700S must include instrument training per FAR 61.93 (e) (12) because this airplane has V_H greater than 87 knots.
 - Pre cross-country training in the Gobosh 700S must include training in use of the radio because a radio is installed in this airplane.
 - A cross country flight for sport pilot experience must include a landing at a point more than 25 nautical miles from the original point of departure.
- d. Prior to practical test
- Must have successfully completed the Sport Pilot Airplane knowledge test within the preceding 24 calendar months
 - Meet the aeronautical experience requirements for airplane single-engine in FAR 61.311 summarized below;
 - > At least 20 hours flight time
 - > At least 15 hours flight training in a single engine airplane
 - > At least 5 hours of solo flight time in areas of operation listed in FAR 61.311
 - > Which must include at least:
 - >> 2 hours of cross-country flight training
 - >> 10 takeoffs and landing.
 - >> One solo cross-country flight of at least 75 nautical miles total distance with full-stop landings at a minimum of 2 points and one segment at least 25 nautical miles
 - >> 2 hours flight training on those areas of operation specified in FAR 61.311 within preceding 2 calendar months from the month of the practical test
 - Complete FAA Form 8710-11 (Airman Certificate and/or Rating Application for Sport Pilot)
- e. Practical test
- Take the test with a FAA examiner or Designated Pilot Examiner with Sport Pilot Examiner authority.
 - Upon successful completion of the test, the examiner will issue a Sport Pilot certificate with no ratings, and an endorsement in the pilot's logbook for Sport Pilot with Airplane Single-Engine Land ratings and V_H greater than 87 knots. (See FAR 61.317.)

Sport pilot with ASEL endorsement and without V_H -greater-than-87 endorsement

In order to fly the Gobosh 700S, you must receive and log ground and flight training in an aircraft with V_H greater than 87 knots, and receive a logbook endorsement from the instructor providing this training certifying that you are proficient in the operation of light-sport aircraft with V_H greater than 87 knots. (These requirements are stated in FAR 61.327.)

Sport pilot without ASEL endorsement

In order to fly the Gobosh 700S, you must (as stated in FAR 61.321):

- a. Receive ground and flight training outlined above for sport pilot with airplane single-engine land ratings

- b. Receive a logbook endorsement from the instructor who trained you certifying that you have met the aeronautical knowledge and flight proficiency requirements for rating.
- c. Complete FAA Form 8710-11
- d. Successfully complete a proficiency check from an instructor other than the instructor who trained you.
- e. Receive a logbook endorsement from the instructor who conducted the proficiency check certifying you are proficient in applicable areas and that you are authorized to the additional privilege.

Pilot, other than a sport pilot, with ASEL ratings wanting to fly Gobosh

A Recreational, Private, Commercial, or ATP pilot with airplane category and single-engine-land class ratings needs no additional training or certification to fly the Gobosh 700S. He/she may operate the Gobosh as a sport pilot (while holding a valid US driver's license) without any additional training, certification, or endorsements. He/she may also operate the Gobosh as a recreational or higher certificated pilot while holding a valid FAA medical certificate) within the limitations of the pilot, medical, and aircraft certificates. This pilot must meet the flight review requirements of FAR 61.56 and recent flight experience of FAR 61.57, as applicable.

Pilot, other than a sport pilot, with other than ASEL ratings wanting to fly Gobosh

A recreational, private, commercial, or ATP pilot without airplane category or without single-engine-land class ratings wishing to fly light-sport aircraft like the Gobosh as a sport pilot must follow the same process as does a sport pilot without ASEL endorsement. In other words he/she must take training in the aircraft, meet experience requirements, successfully complete a proficiency check from another instructor, and receive a logbook endorsement.

This document was prepared by Craig Brown, CFI, on June 25, 2010. Please address any questions or comments to me at AvSafety@verizon.net.