

Mt. Nebo Novice Pilot

(Unapproved, Revised 3/5/11)

Hang glider pilots have been flying this mountain for over 25 years and it is very important to us. Besides being a great hang gliding site, it is a great State Park. There is a paved road to the top, a visitor center with friendly staff, beautiful cabins to stay in, a convenient campground, a swimming pool and miles of well maintained trails. It has great cross country potential because so many farmers in the area have large pastures to land in. It has a good ridge to soar in south, east or north east winds. The launches are easy to launch from and the landing fields, though not as big as Lookout mountain's landing field are plenty big enough for safe landings.

Despite being such a valuable place to fly and protect, we encourage novice pilots to work towards meeting the requirements and come fly Mt. Nebo while still a novice pilot. The theory is that by carefully limiting the conditions that new pilots can fly in, there will be fewer incidents even though there will be more flights and more people flying from the mountain. We ask that the novice pilots please be respectful to those who have worked hard to let them fly here by being modest and not trying to show off. They should consider it a badge of maturity to merely follow the flight plan and land in the designated field on his feet. The novice pilot must fly safely to the best of his ability every flight.

The novice pilot's mentors will also benefit by allowing him to fly at Mt. Nebo. There will be a lot less stress on them knowing that the novice pilot will be flying one of the safest sites to fly early in the morning or late in the evening in Arkansas. When he is not flying, there will be ample time to spend with his friends doing other things that the Arkansas State Parks are famous for.

It is up to the Region 6 observer to verify the qualifications of the Novice pilots who wish to fly Mt. Nebo. He must personally observe at least 3 of the pilot's flights. He may talk to other knowledgeable pilots to verify some of the tasks completed but he must be sure of his sources. The observer will discuss different aspects of flying with the new pilot and administer the intermediate test which the pilot must pass. For this reason, the pilot may want to consider other options to going through this rigorous process. Oklahoma has a very active pilot population with several mountains which are open to novice pilots. Western Tennessee has an active truck tow group which will welcome new pilots who choose this method of getting into the air. Eastern Tennessee in the Chattanooga area has a professionally run school which can advance the pilot from not knowing the first thing about flying to flying cross country.

REQUIREMENTS TO FLY MT. NEBO (NOVICE PILOTS)

- Pilot must have met all requirements of REQUIRED WITNESSED TASKS FOR INTERMEDIATE PILOT with the exception that only 8 hours is required instead of 10. Only foot launched flights can be counted for witnessed tasks.
- Pilot must have made 20 mountain flights of at least 2 minutes each.
- Pilot's registration will contain a signature from a USHPA region 6 observer stating that the above conditions have been satisfied.

The following requirements must be met every flight!

- Pilot must have flown at least once within the previous month.
- Pilot must have flown previously in the glider/harness combination to be used.
- Glider must have wheels.
- Pilot must have a minimum of 300 feet of dental floss.
- Pilot must be accompanied by an advanced rated pilot.
- Pilot logbook must be available for inspection.
- Pilot must be able to communicate with other pilots. If the pilot has radio authorization sign off then the pilot may use the USHPA frequencies. If the pilot is a ham radio operator then the pilot may use a ham radio frequency. Another pilot must be able to use the same frequency that the pilot uses.
- One of the responsible pilots must have a cell phone.
- You must break down your glider and not fly if anyone objects to your flying. No reason need be given for their concern.

Flight limitations for Novice Pilot Stage 1:

- Must launch before 9:00 am
- Another pilot must launch before you.
- Wind speed must be between 1 and 8 mph.
- Wind must be within 10 degrees of straight in.
- Soaring is not allowed. You must head straight out to the prearranged LZ before making any turns.

Note: If the pilot has 10 flights from Mt. Nebo or Mt. Magazine with at least 5 of those flights from Mt. Nebo then stage 2 flight limitations may be applied.

Flight limitations for Novice Pilot Stage 2:

- Must launch before 10:00 am or within 2 hours of sunset.
- Another pilot must launch before you.
- Wind speed must be between 1 and 15 mph at the time of launching.
- Wind must be within 10 degrees of straight in.
- Soaring is allowed only with site monitor concurrence.

