



PIRATE FLYER

Spring Flying | Use A Checklist | Risk Management

Safety Culture

Captain's Culture = TRAIL

- Trust** - Safe, Valued, Respect
- Report** - Proactive, Accessible
- Adapt** - Flexible, Innovative
- Inform** - Sharing, Transparent
- Learn** - Safety Intelligence

Women Of Aviation Worldwide

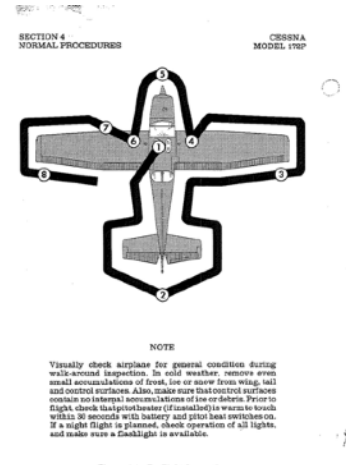
Raymonde de Laroche was a French pilot who became the world's first licensed female pilot on 8 March 1910. She received the 36th aeroplane pilot's license issued by the Aeroclub de France.

Safety Reporting

Use this QR code to share continuous improvement ideas or identify safety hazards.



Use A Checklist - Early spring brings opportunity—and risk. Changing weather patterns, higher training tempo, and renewed operational complexity demand that every member of our aviation community actively identify hazards, manage risk, and demonstrate professionalism before issues arise.



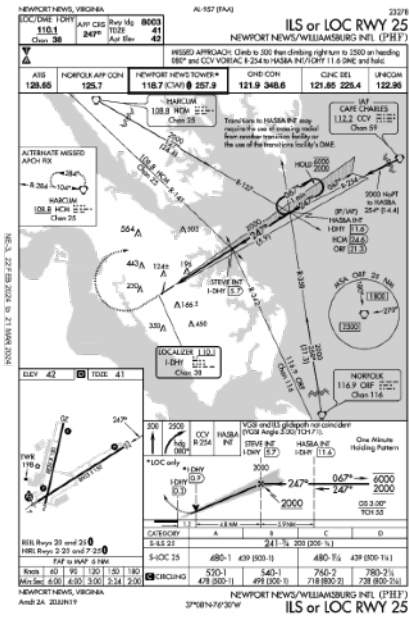
Use a checklist, every time, without exception -

This week's focus is simple and deliberate. Across all programs, disciplined checklist use remains one of the most effective risk-control tools available. Professionalism is not reactive; it is intentional. Whether flying a Cessna Skyhawk, sequencing traffic, managing airports, or operating sUAS, safety is created with leadership, preparation, verification, accountability, mentoring...and checklists.

Checklist Discipline = Risk Mitigation

- Use printed or approved electronic checklists—never rely on memory items alone.
- Slow down during preflight and before-takeoff checks to positively verify aircraft status.
- Verbalize checklist items during instructional flights to reinforce standardization.

Professional Standard: A completed checklist is a documented risk decision.



ATC - Emerging Spring Challenges

- Increased VFR and Training Traffic. More aircraft with different experience levels and expectations. Compressed operations with rapidly changing weather.
- Marginal weather increases holding, missed approaches, and frequency congestion. Warm fronts = runway changes.
- Runway Incursion Risk. Seasonal migration of birds and metal birds raises airborne and ground collision risk.
- Treat position relief briefings as structured checklists, not informal updates. Develop a checklist and use it.
- Use SOP quick-reference checklists during abnormal operations.

Airport Surface Area Risks

- Increased aircraft and wildlife activity on surface and airborne.
- Construction hazards, closures, lighting changes.
- Standing water and soft surfaces after heavy rain.

Checklist Driven Mitigations

- Use standardized inspection checklists—especially after weather.
- Verify lighting, signage, and markings systematically rather than visually assume position.
- Cross-check NOTAM entries prior to publishing or canceling.
- Professional Standard: If it isn't checked, it isn't confirmed.



Seasonal sUAS Hazards



Wind and Gust Spread: Disproportionate effects on small UAS platforms. Cold-Affected Batteries: Reduced performance during early morning operations. Shared Airspace: Increased manned flight activity requires heightened vigilance.

Standardized Checklist Use

- Conduct pre-mission, in-mission, and post-mission checklists for every sortie.
- Confirm airspace authorization, weather limits, and crew roles before launch.

Checklist - one of safety's simplest tools—and its strongest defense. As we move into spring operations, let discipline define our safety culture. Check it. Verify it. Own it.