

information for our website:

A FLYING START

This 7-day beginner's course provides accelerated learning so that you will quickly develop the skills to fly on your own. The course does not guarantee a solo flight, but it provides the most affordable and quickest way towards achieving it.

You should be able to learn to fly a glider which is a similar skill set to driving a car., provided you have suitable training and practice. Some people learn quicker than others depending on previous experience and age but rapid or slower progress does not impact the final outcome. Our experienced instructors/coaches will manage your training to match your learning style and progress.

The Flying Start Course has two Components:

Weekend Induction

Our weekend volunteer instructors are all longstanding GCV members who will provide your induction into the sport of gliding over the first weekend.

You will learn about the structure of our club and be introduced to the aircraft and how we typically conduct our weekend operations throughout the year, with volunteer members working as a team to make the sport affordable and broadly accessible.

You will be involved in the day-to-day operations and learn about safety protocols around the airfield and ground handling of our gliders. You will be shown the basic controls and instrumentation of our sturdy training two-seater gliders and conduct your first couple of flights with an instructor **on each day during** which you are able to familiarise yourself with the surroundings and will have sufficient "stick time" to end the weekend with a reasonable feel for the controls.

Midweek Instruction

The weekend induction gives you a good head start to jump into 5 days of more intensive training with one of our experienced international volunteer instructors. You will be given some theory training and then a series of flights each day to develop the handling and feel and judgement.

The midweek instructor will utilize the 26 pre-solo training units developed by Gliding Australia and combine theory with practical exercises, to gradually take you through all the exercises and competencies which are required before going solo. This is where pre-course reading will prove to be an advantage.

Progress Expectations

The Flying Start Course is set up to teach all the learning units which are required to be cleared for the first solo flight. Experience shows that around 30% of our students achieve this milestone during the week long course. Most others follow suit during the next couple of weekends or, in some cases, over the next couple of months. We all learn at different rates and sometimes inclement weather plays a big role. The first solo flight should only be seen as a first stepping stone in a long journey of gliding adventures. How long you take to achieve this stepping stone has no bearing on how successful and enjoyable the subsequent journey will be for you.

You can continue to fly solo on weekends following your course, with an option of attending our Flying Further Course to help secure your Glider Pilot Certificate.

What is provided for your journey?

- Flying Membership of GCV through to the end of the financial year
- Flying Membership of Gliding Australia for 3 months.
- 60,000 feet of aero tows, enough for 30-35 launches
- Glider hire for all these flights,
- Flying instruction and classroom training by our fully qualified team
- Training manuals and Pilot logbook.

All aimed at preparing you for your first solo flight.

Price: Still only \$4,500

Note: if poor weather reduces the amount of flying during your course, don't worry, the remaining launch and flying credit will carry forward to the end of the financial year and can be used for flights on the weekend after your course, or at any later time.

Accommodation is available in town and there is a limited number of inexpensive rooms available at the airfield. Call our office manager on 03 5762 1058 to discuss options available.