# VII.H. Go-Around / Rejected Landing

References: Airplane Flying Handbook (FAA-H-8083-3), POH/AFM

Objectives The student should develop knowledge of the elements related to a Go-Around/Rejected

Landing. The student will understand the importance of a prompt decision and have the ability to quickly and safely configure the airplane and adjust its attitude to accomplish a go-around.

The student will perform the maneuver to the standards prescribed in the ACS/PTS.

Key Elements 1. Power

2. Attitude

3. Configuration

Elements 1. Situations When a Go-Around may be Necessary

2. Promptly Deciding to Go-Around

3. Cardinal Principles

4. Climb Out

5. Communication

Schedule 1. Discuss Objectives

2. Review material

3. Development

4. Conclusion

Equipment 1. White board and markers

2. References

IP's Actions 1. Discuss lesson objectives

2. Present Lecture

3. Ask and Answer Questions

4. Assign homework

SP's Actions 1. Participate in discussion

2. Take notes

3. Ask and respond to questions

Completion Standards The student shows the ability to recognize when a go-around is needed and promptly configures the airplane and adjusts its attitude to safely execute the rejected landing.

#### **Instructor Notes:**

#### Introduction:

#### **Attention**

Interesting fact or attention-grabbing story

There will be times when we have to discontinue a landing and set up for another one. This may be a result of a dangerous situation or may just be necessary to re-establish an approach. Either way, we definitely want to know what we're doing as we're getting closer and closer to the ground.

#### Overview

Review Objectives and Elements / Key ideas

#### What

A go-around is the discontinuance of a landing approach in order to make another attempt to land under more favorable conditions (it is an alternative to any approach or landing). The go-around is a normal maneuver that may at times be used in an emergency situation. It is warranted whenever landing conditions are not satisfactory and the landing should be abandoned or re-setup.

# Why

The need to discontinue a landing may arise at any point in the landing process and the ability to safely discontinue the landing is essential, especially due to the close proximity of the ground.

#### How:

# 1. Situations When a Go-Around may be Necessary

- A. There are many factors which can contribute to unsatisfactory landing conditions. Situations such as:
  - i. Air traffic control requirements
    - a. Low approach only request
    - b. Told to go-around due to traffic, obstruction, etc. on the runway
  - ii. Unexpected appearance of hazards on the runway
    - a. Another airplane, vehicles, animals, etc.
  - iii. Overtaking another airplane
  - iv. Wind Shear
  - v. Wake Turbulence
  - vi. Mechanical Failure
    - a. Gear Issues
  - vii. Unstable Approach
    - a. Too low or too high
      - Can't get established (on glide slope or on centerline)
    - b. Airspeed control
    - c. Rate of descent
  - viii. Whenever safety dictates a go-around
- B. Common Error Failure to recognize a situation where a go-around/rejected landing is necessary

# 2. Promptly Deciding to Go-Around

A. The go-around is not inherently dangerous, it becomes dangerous only when unnecessarily delayed or executed improperly

- B. Delaying the Initiation of a Go-around
  - i. Stems from two sources:
    - a. Landing Expectancy
      - The anticipatory belief that conditions are not as threatening as they are and that the approach will surely end with a safe landing
    - b. Pride
      - The mistaken belief that the act of going around is an admission of failure
- C. The earlier we recognize a situation that warrants a go-around, the safer the go-around/rejected landing will be
  - i. It is therefore, important to make a prompt decision
    - a. Do not provide any extra time for the airplane to descend closer to the ground, or for the hazardous situation to magnify
  - ii. If there's a question as to whether or not to go-around, it's probably safer and smarter to execute the go around
    - a. Don't hesitate, and stick to your decision. Safety first, always!
- D. Common Error Hazards of delaying a decision to perform a go-around/rejected landing
  - i. Delaying the go-around could result in recovery and a safe landing, but the chance that the situation escalates and ends poorly is considerably higher than during a safe, stabilized approach
  - ii. Do not delay the decision to go-around, simply go-around and set up for another landing

# 3. Cardinal Principles – Power, Attitude, Configuration

- A. The improper execution of the go-around procedure stems from a lack of familiarity with the three cardinal principles of the go-around
- B. Power
  - i. Power is the pilot's FIRST concern
    - a. The instant the pilot decides to go-around, full or maximum takeoff power must be applied smoothly and without hesitation
      - Full power must be held until flying speed and controllability are restored
      - Use a smooth and positive power input
        - a Abrupt movements of the throttle in some airplanes can cause the engine to faulter
        - b Carb heat should be off for maximum power
    - b. Applying partial power is never appropriate
    - c. Common Error Improper power application
  - ii. Inertia
    - a. The pilot must be aware of the degree of inertia that must be overcome
      - It takes tremendous power before an airplane settling towards the ground can regain sufficient airspeed to become fully controllable and capable of turning or climbing safely
        - The downward inertia of the airplane must be slowed, stopped, then reversed
        - b Newton's 1<sup>st</sup> Law A body in motion wants to stay in motion (inertia)
  - iii. Controlling Power
    - a. When takeoff power is applied:
      - The airplane's nose will rise suddenly
        - a If the airplane has been trimmed for the approach, the nose is likely trimmed up due to low power and low airspeed
        - b It will likely be necessary to hold forward pressure to maintain a safe attitude

- 1. "Rough trim" should be used to relieve adverse control pressures and assist in maintain the proper attitude (more info below)
- c Common Error Failure to control pitch attitude
- The nose will veer to the left
  - a Right rudder pressure will be necessary to counteract the left turning tendencies, just like during takeoff
  - b Common Error Failure to compensate for torque effect

# C. Attitude

- i. Attitude is always critical when close to the ground
  - a. Too much nose up or nose down can create problems
- ii. When adding power, it is very important to keep the nose from pitching up prematurely
  - a. An attitude must be maintained that will allow the airplane to build airspeed before any effort is made to gain altitude or turn
    - Pitch attitude must slow/stop the descent
    - Airspeed must be built up well above the stall speed
  - b. Raising the Nose Too Early
    - The natural tendency is to immediately pull the nose up
      - a Raising the nose too early could result in a stall from which the airplane could not be recovered if the go-around is performed at a low altitude
    - The pilot must accept that an airplane will not climb until the airspeed has reached a safe speed
      - a In some situations, it is desirable to lower the nose briefly to gain airspeed

#### iii. Pitch for V<sub>Y</sub>

- a. As soon as the appropriate climb airspeed and pitch attitude are attained the pilot can climb out
  - Pitch for and climb at V<sub>Y</sub> (V<sub>X</sub>, if necessary)
    - a Common Error Failure to maintain recommended airspeeds
  - "Rough trim" the airplane
    - a A considerable amount of control pressure can be removed
    - b Quick relieving of the control pressures
      - 1. Trim more precisely when stabilized
    - c Common Error Improper trim procedure
- iv. Common Error Failure to control pitch attitude
  - a. Do not leave the nose pitched down in a descent, especially while applying full power
    - This will greatly increase the rate of descent
    - Add power, adjust pitch to slow and/or stop the descent, accelerate to a safe speed, then climb
  - b. Do not let the nose pitch up aggressively or prematurely
- v. Summary: Increase power to max, stop the descent, and when able (safe airspeed) pitch the nose to climb at  $V_Y$  (or  $V_X$ )
- D. Configuration
  - i. Cleaning Up the Airplane
    - a. 1<sup>st</sup> Concern: Landing Flaps
    - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Concern: Gear (if retractable)
    - c. 3<sup>rd</sup> Concern: Takeoff Flaps
  - ii. Flaps

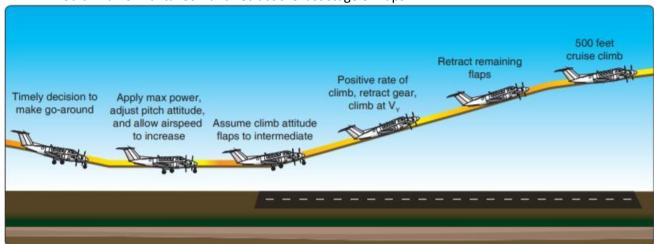
- a. \*In the DA20, after adding full power and establishing a climb attitude, the landing flaps should be retracted
  - It is wise to retract the flaps intermittently in increments to allow time for the airplane to accelerate as they are being raised
    - a A sudden and complete retraction of flaps could cause a loss of lift resulting in the airplane settling into the ground

#### iii. Gear

- a. After a positive rate of climb is established the gear can be retracted
  - Only retract the gear after the initial rough trim has been established and when it is certain the airplane will remain airborne
  - Do not retract the gear in a descent
    - a During the initial part of an extremely low go-around, it is possible for the airplane to settle onto the runway and bounce
    - b This is not particularly dangerous provided the airplane is kept straight and a constant, safe pitch attitude is maintained
- iv. Retract Takeoff Flaps
  - a. At this point, treat the situation like a normal takeoff
  - b. Retract the flaps as you normally would (after reaching  $V_Y$  and at a safe altitude)
- v. Flaps Before Gear
  - a. Two reasons:
    - In most aircraft full flaps produce more drag than the landing gear
      - Retracting flaps first, reduces the most drag immediately
    - In the case the airplane should inadvertently touchdown it is desirable to have the gear down and locked
- vi. Common Error Improper wing flaps or landing gear retraction procedure

# E. Summary

i. Summary: Increase power to max, stop the descent, and when able (safe airspeed) pitch the nose to climb at  $V_Y$  (or  $V_X$ ). Retract the flaps from the landing position to the takeoff position. Once established in a positive rate of climb, retract the gear. Continue as you would in a normal takeoff and retract the last stage of flaps.



# 4. Climb Out

- A. The majority of go-around climb outs will be identical to a normal takeoff climb out
  - i. Adjust for wind and maintain the runway centerline
  - ii. This is especially important if there are parallel runways, or other hazards

- B. Maneuver to the side of the runway or landing area when necessary to clear and avoid conflicting traffic
  - i. For example, if another airplane is attempting to takeoff while you were close to landing
    - a. In a situation like this your aircraft is blocked from their view by the roof their airplane, and their airplane is blocked from your view by the nose of your airplane clearly a very dangerous situation with the potential for a collision
    - b. The pilot should move to a safe position parallel to the runway to keep the traffic in sight
      - If there are parallel runways, or a traffic pattern with other aircraft in it, move in a direction to avoid other traffic
- C. Remain clear of obstacles/obstructions/other traffic
  - i. Climb at  $V_X$ , if necessary to clear any obstructions
- D. Common Error Failure to maintain proper track during climb-out
- E. Common Error Failure to remain well clear of obstructions and other traffic

#### 5. Communication

- A. Once the airplane is under control, then you can communicate with the tower or appropriate facility
  - i. Let them know you're "Going Around"
  - ii. Aviate, Navigate, then Communicate
    - a. Fly first, then deal with the radios

#### **Common Errors**:

- Failure to recognize a situation where a go-around/rejected landing is necessary
- Hazards of delaying a decision to perform a go-around/rejected landing
- Improper power application
- Failure to control pitch attitude
- Failure to compensate for torque effect
- Improper trim procedure
- Failure to maintain recommended airspeeds
- Improper wing flaps or landing gear retraction procedure
- Failure to maintain proper track during climb-out
- Failure to remain well clear of obstructions and other traffic

# **Conclusion:**

Brief review of the main points

The go-around is a very important maneuver that is essential in an emergency situation. Knowing the procedure to properly perform the maneuver will provide a considerably safer situation. The pilot's first concern is power, followed by the establishing the correct attitude, and configuration.

# **PTS Requirements:**

To determine that the applicant:

- 1. Exhibits instructional knowledge of the elements of a go-around/rejected landing by describing:
  - a. Situations where a go-around is necessary.
  - b. Importance of making a prompt decision.
  - c. Importance of applying takeoff power immediately after the go-around decision is made.
  - d. Importance of establishing proper pitch attitude.

- e. Wing flaps retraction.
- f. Use of trim.
- g. Landing gear retraction.
- h. Proper climb speed.
- i. Proper track and obstruction clearance.
- i. Use of checklist.
- 2. Exhibits instructional knowledge of common errors related to a go-around/rejected landing by describing:
  - a. Failure to recognize a situation where a go-around/rejected landing is necessary.
  - b. Hazards of delaying a decision to go-around/rejected landing.
  - c. Improper power application.
  - d. Failure to control pitch attitude.
  - e. Failure to compensate for torque effect.
  - f. Improper trim technique.
  - g. Failure to maintain recommended airspeeds.
  - h. Improper wing flaps or landing gear retraction procedure.
  - i. Failure to maintain proper track during climb-out.
  - j. Failure to remain well clear of obstructions and other traffic.
- 3. Demonstrates and simultaneously explains a go-around/rejected landing from an instructional standpoint.
- 4. Analyzes and corrects simulated common errors related to a go-around/rejected landing.

# **Private Pilot ACS Skills Standards**

- 1. Complete the appropriate checklist.
- 2. Make radio calls as appropriate.
- 3. Make a timely decision to discontinue the approach to landing.
- 4. Apply takeoff power immediately and transition to climb pitch attitude for  $V_X$  or  $V_Y$  as appropriate +10/-5 knots.
- 5. Configure the aircraft after a positive rate of climb has been verified or in accordance with airplane manufacturer's instructions.
- 6. Maneuver to the side of the runway/landing area when necessary to clear and avoid conflicting traffic.
- 7. Maintain  $V_Y +10/-5$  knots to a safe maneuvering altitude.
- 8. Maintain directional control and proper wind-drift correction throughout the climb.

### **Commercial Pilot ACS Standards**

- 1. Complete the appropriate checklist.
- 2. Make radio calls as appropriate.
- 3. Make a timely decision to discontinue the approach to landing.
- 4. Apply takeoff power immediately and transition to climb pitch attitude for  $V_X$  or  $V_Y$  as appropriate  $\pm 5$  knots.
- 5. Configure the airplane after a positive rate of climb has been verified or in accordance with the airplane manufacturer's instructions.
- 6. Maneuver to the side of the runway/landing area when necessary to clear and avoid conflicting traffic.
- 7. Maintain  $V_Y \pm 5$  knots to a safe maneuvering altitude.
- 8. Maintain directional control and proper wind-drift correction throughout climb.