# **Attention All Aviation Enthusiasts!**

#### Evan ('evanet')

**BVA Administration Team** 

**B** NATC is seeking 5-10 motivated individuals to become flight mentors. These mentors will take a leadership role in helping members learn more about flying with BVA, operating aircraft safely and smoothly, and flying within the air traffic control system. The role involves working with new pilots (orientation) as well as helping current members learn more about particular procedures or operations.

BVA's Logan Informer

The specific responsibilities of the position include:

- Primary: highly variable commitment to scheduling 1-2 hour blocks of time with students as your availability allows
- Being proactive in assisting all new members of BVATC
- Maintaining currency in both VFR and IFR operations on BVATC
- Cheerfully aiding in the success of all those who ask for it
- Quarterly meetings with the Chief CFI to evaluate progress and training programs

After passing a comprehensive checkride, the applicant will receive a new title, rank, and formal recognition within this community. Mentors will also have advance access to a new, self-study training program called the Pilot Ratings Program.

Applicants should be familiar and comfortable with BVATC procedures as well as having a general working knowledge of both VFR and IFR flight. Real world pilot's ratings are preferred but not necessary.

To apply, submit a one-paragraph e-mail to Stephen (jazzcornet) that describes:

- Your reasons for wanting to become a mentor
- Your applicable experience in IMC (real world or sim)
- Your availability to mentor fellow members of the community on an ad-hoc basis

The deadline to apply is Friday, December 9. Applications and questions about the position should be sent to Stephen at: jazzcornet@bostonvirtualatc.com.

## Vacating the Runway

#### Dan ('SoloWingDemon')

**BVA Administration Team** 

Raccident that the FAA, NTSB, and other governmental regulators are trying to prevent. The most common denominator in incursion accidents (where an unauthorized vehicle or airplane is on a runway) is human performance and, more specifically, pilot error.

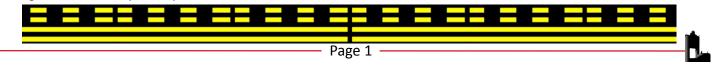
What we'll discuss today is just one contributing factor to runway incursions: clearing the runway after you've landed.

Have you ever been ending a flight and as you were switching to ground after landing, you hear the controller asking you to clear the runway? You've landed and pulled off the runway, you're clear of the active, so why is the controller yelling at you now?

The answer lies in the wide yellow marking at the side of every runway with taxiways connecting to it, called the hold short line.

The hold short line is the last line of defense for the runway environment. And as such, it marks the boundary between the active runway and the taxiway. The hold short line is a taxiway marking found at taxiway-runway intersections, and somewhat less commonly at runway intersections where Land and Hold Short (LAHSO) operations are used. The solid double-line on one side of the marking indicates the side on which aircraft need to hold short to receive ATC clearance to cross. The dashed doubleline on the other side of the marking indicates the side of the hold short facing the runway, and also the side which aircraft can cross without an ATC clearance to do so.

So what does this mean to you as a pilot? Well, what we didn't tell you yet, is the rule which governs these hold short lines in the active runway environment. An aircraft is not considered "clear" of the active runway until all parts of the aircraft have crossed over the hold short line and are on the taxiway side of the line (i.e. if you looked outside the plane at your tail, you would be able to see the two solid lines closest to you). When pulling off the runway, many pilots think that as long as their plane isn't covering part of the runway, they're OK. This is not true! Make sure you pull your aircraft forward enough so that it is on the other side of that hold short line; this includes the tail, wing struts, etc. Pilots who fail to do this risk delaying other pilots waiting to land or depart. As long as you are not "clear" of the active, you are still on the runway, and landing aircraft behind you may need to wait for clearance. If you are unsure whether to proceed across because of a traffic conflict, call the tower and ask before stopping.



## **Regional Circuit**



#### Tuesday, December 6 (8-11pm ET)

#### KPHX (Phoenix) & KTUS (Tuscan)

Our controllers fully staff two airports and provide complete ATC coverage for flights between the two; pilots are encouraged to file preferred routes and can expect multiple handoffs and busy frequencies throughout the event

## Pack the Pattern



# Wednesday, January 18 (8-10pm ET)

KBDL (Bradley)

Pilots are encouraged to fly into the event or fly IFR or VFR circuits of a busy Class Bravo airport, with full ATC coverage for the entire evening (including Clearance, Ground, multiple Tower and Approach controllers, and maybe even a Center!)

#### European Tour



To Be Determined

We're taking our popular Regional Circuit concept across the pond to Europe! Our controllers will fully staff two airports 70-200nm apart. Pilots are encouraged to fly between the two airports and enjoy full ATC coverage gate-to-gate.

# Di

Domestic Journey



KBOS (Boston) & CYYZ (Toronto)

The Domestic Journey provides BVA pilots with the opportunity to enjoy medium-haul flights across North America with air traffic control coverage from gate-to-gate.

### Fly-In



Tower (Local) Controllers will feature several small airports designed for General Aviation aircraft. Fly IFR or VFR within controlled airspace; general aviation aircraft (anything from a Cessna to a LearJet) are preferred.

Getaway



BVA's Getaway Event takes pilots and controllers for a change of scenery, and features various airports across North America. Join BVA as we 'Getaway' to explore new airports and destinations

# Controller of the Month

#### **Evan ('evanet')** BVA Administration Team

ach month, one member of our controller community is selected by ATC Instructors for special recognition for outstanding performance and ongoing dedication. As essential frontline service providers, controllers play the most important role in ensuring the satisfaction and enjoyment of our membership.

This month, our controller community is proud to recognize one of our British friends **Josh ('TheNavyReapers')** as the Controller

of the Month. Despite a five-hour time difference, Josh has been able to work his way through Tower and is now training at Class C Approach. And while we can't always see him during our evening events, Josh spends a lot of his time mentoring air traffic control students during daytime hours. He approaches controlling with a consistently positive attitude and is never afraid of new challenges. If you see him online, he'll probably be training for Approach and that means he could use any help (read: traffic) you can throw his way! Congratulations Josh! **B** VA would like to thank its members for the awesome turnout this past week during the High Five (+30) birthday celebration. These screenshots of Tuesday's Regional Circuit, which was the busiest one in recent memory, do well to sum up just how awesome the event was. Thanks for your support!

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# Cape Air Virtual >> Pilot of the Month

Each month, Cape Air Virtual recognizes the pilot who has the most hours for the airline. For November, that pilot is Claude ('Treking1'), who has flown a total of 44.7 hours. Congratulations Claude!

#### Pilot Tip of the Month

# STAR Descent Planning

ost STARs (Standard Terminal Arrival Routes) contain some form of descent planning instruction. This is primarily to help aircraft with fuel and descent planning. The key word there is planning; in most cases, aircraft are expected to wait for ATC instructions before beginning a descent. In the snippet of the ORW3 arrival into KBOS below, you can see two types of information: expect to cross altitudes as well as the minimum enroute altitude (MEA) for different route segments.

Neither piece of information allows aircraft to descend until given instructions by ATC. The MEA means nothing for descent planning except that you are not able to descend below 11,000

on that segment. ATC will not give you descent instructions lower than that.

The expect to cross altitude means that you are likely to receive an instruction from ATC that sounds like "Cross Providence at and maintain one one thousand, two five zero knots". From that point, you can begin descending whenever you calculate necessary to meet that restriction. It's also good practice to report as you leave your last assigned altitude when you begin a descent.

In pretty much all cases, you should not begin descending without a specific ATC instruction to do so.

