

NAFI 2026 - Forget the Ball - Manage the Yaw

Despite an encouraging downward trend in fatal accident rates, loss-of-control in flight remains general aviation's leading causal factor in fatal accidents. Current stall and spin prevention training emphasizes procedural rules like "step on the ball" and "maintain airspeed in the pattern" without building the aerodynamic literacy that makes those rules meaningful. When the airplane behaves unexpectedly, pilots who understand procedures but not principles freeze or respond incorrectly. This session reframes LOC-I prevention as a language problem. The airplane communicates continuously and unambiguously through its behavior but only to pilots who have been taught to listen. Drawing on aerodynamic first principles and recent accident data, this session gives flight instructors a structured framework for teaching pilots to develop an intuitive understanding of what the airplane is doing and why at every phase of flight.

Event Details

Tue, Jul 21, 2026 at 11:00 CDT
NAFI Professional Development Center
Wittman Regional Airport
Booth 354
Oshkosh, WI



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Booth 354, east of hangar B - just behind the Garmin booth, white tent with a huge NAFI logo.

A message from the National FAASafety Team Manager

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