

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
Fort Smith Airport Traffic Control Tower
5100 South 66th St.
Fort Smith, AR 72903

ISSUED: July 6, 2010
Fort Smith Air Traffic Control Tower

EFFECTIVE: July 6, 2010
Letter to Airmen No. 10-1

SUBJECT: Practice Instrument Approaches for VFR Aircraft

CANCELLATION: July 5, 2012

Aircraft, operating under Visual Flight Rules (VFR), requesting practice instrument approaches at Fort Smith Regional Airport (FSM), Fort Smith Arkansas, Drake Field Airport (FYV), Fayetteville, Arkansas, Springdale Municipal Airport (ASG) Springdale, AR, Rogers Municipal Airport (ROG) Rogers, AR, or Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA), Fayetteville/Springdale, AR, will be provided separation services by Razorback Approach Control.

Pilots of VFR aircraft desiring to practice instrument approaches to Fort Smith Regional Airport, Drake Field Airport, Springdale Municipal Airport, Rogers Municipal Airport or Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport should inform Razorback Approach Control of the type approach requested and how the approach will terminate; i.e. full-stop landing, touch-and-go or missed approach. When authorization is granted to practice the instrument approach, the pilot will be instructed to maintain VFR conditions. Standard IFR separation will begin at the point where the approach clearance becomes effective; however, vertical separation of 500 feet may be applied between VFR aircraft and between a VFR and IFR aircraft. Even though the controller is providing separation, pilots are required to comply with basic VFR (FAR 91.155). If the pilot desires to fly the published missed approach procedure, the pilot should specifically request and receive permission from the air traffic controller.

Pilots of VFR aircraft desiring to practice instrument approaches should contact Razorback Approach Control on the frequency, appropriate to their position, as published on aeronautical charts (Memphis or Kansas City sectional).

Pilots requesting to practice instrument approaches under VFR to other satellite airports in the Razorback Approach Control Area will not be provided separation services. These pilots should establish communications with Razorback Approach Control and will be instructed to maintain VFR, provided traffic information, and advised that separation services will not be provided.

Razorback Approach Control will authorize, withdraw authorization, or refuse to authorize practice approaches, as traffic conditions require.

During peak traffic periods, delays can be expected. In order to ensure prompt service, pilots may call the watch supervisor at (479) 649-2416 to coordinate requests for service.

Bruce K. Flipppo
Air Traffic Manager
Fort Smith Airport Traffic Control Tower