

2019 Ben Lowell Aerobatic Contest – Guide for Drive-ins

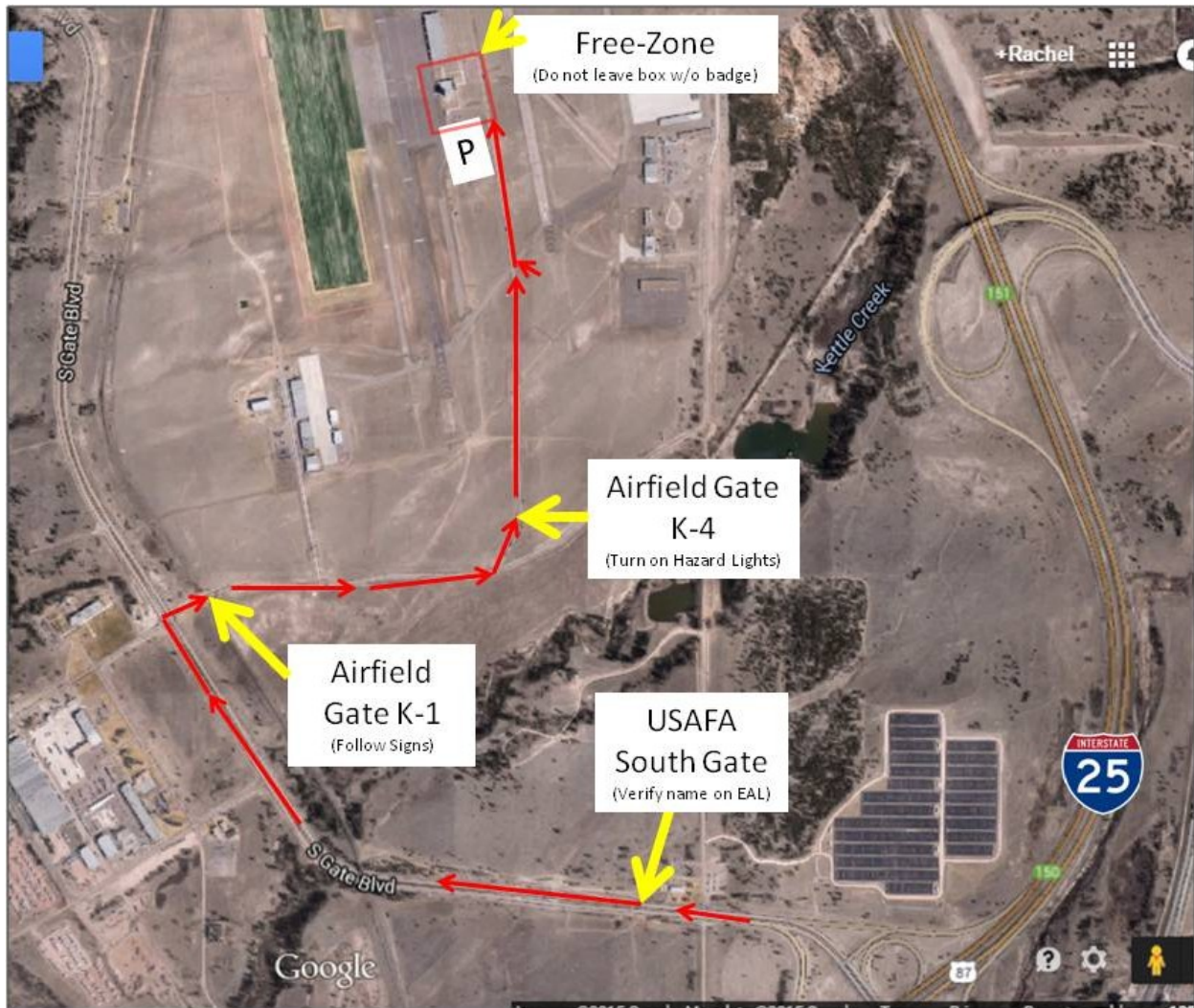
May 28, 2019

Thank you for your interest in our contest. Here's a guide to getting on the base and around the airfield.

Base Entry

As of Thursday, May 30, 2019: If you have provided personal information to include name, dob, and either driver's license info or passport, and you did this prior to approximately May 20th, you are PROBABLY on the entry access list. The Air Force was not able to transfer all names I provided to their access list for a variety of reasons, bottom line is that some of us are not on the list (myself included). This is NOT a problem. If you provided info 10 days ago or so, attempt to enter the base at the South Gate (I-25 exit 150B) and if there is an issue with not being on the list, go back north on I-25 and enter via the North Gate and drive the longer way around to the airfield. An academy cadet should be at the K4 gate (see map below) to facilitate access. For the early briefings Sat and Sun only the driver needs to be on the list, and most of us will be shuttled by Academy cadets in Air Force pickups/vans. If you have a military ID you can also gain access via the South Gate. If you encounter difficulties getting on the base, contact Mark Matticola at 719-440-1965.

Once inside, follow the map below and pre-positioned signs to the control tower, and park in the designated area.



Facilities

Restrooms are available in the Midfield Hangar.

Restrictions

Pets, alcohol, grills, and weapons are prohibited.

Schedule

Friday 5/31:

- 0800: The field opens to arrivals
- 1000: Practice begins, goes until approx 1800

Saturday 6/1:

- 0500: Sack breakfasts are available at the Best Western Plus, along with coffee and juice
- 0530: Van pick-up at the Embassy Suites for competitors and volunteers
- 0600: Contest briefing, at the Midfield Hangar

- 0700 (approx): Competition flying begins, goes until 1800
- 1830: Banquet at airfield
- 2100: Vans from banquet to Best Western Plus and other hotels on Commerce Drive

Sunday 6/2:

- 0500: Sack breakfasts are available at the Best Western Plus, along with coffee and juice
- 0530: Van pick-up at the Embassy Suites for competitors and volunteers
- 0600: Contest briefing, at the Midfield Hangar
- 0700 (approx): Competition flying begins, goes until 1500
- 1530: Awards ceremony
- 1600: Competitors begin to depart
- Field closes at 1800

The Contest Itself

We are expecting a very large turnout, with over 40 powered competitors and 17 glider competitors. Pilots compete against others in the same category ranging from Primary (a handful of introductory figures) through Advanced (difficult figures with multiple roll components, and negative Gs).

Competitions are beautiful to watch, particularly Gliders which can be particularly graceful. But aerobatic contests are different than airshows; maneuvers are performed well above the ground and are designed to test a pilot's skills rather than impress a crowd.

The first flight program is called the Known sequence, and all competitors in a given category will fly the same set of maneuvers. On their second flight, the Intermediate and Advanced competitors will fly a Freestyle program of their own design. The Primary and Sportsman competitors fly the Known sequence on every flight. If we have time for a third flight, that flight will be an Unknown sequence that the Intermediate and Advanced pilots will be shown for the first time on Saturday evening.