

LGB Business Partner Spotlight: Aces High Aviation

This month we'd like to highlight Sam Raymond, co-owner and operator at Aces High Aviation. Aces High Aviation carries out Long Beach Airport's long tradition of being a great place to learn how to fly. Sam completed his private pilot's license at Long Beach Airport back in 2009, when he was only 19 years old, in a "wonderful little Cessna 152," which he considers his favorite aircraft in the world.



Q: Can you tell us about your operations at Long Beach Airport (LGB)?

A: Aces High Aviation has been in operation since 2010 here at Long Beach Airport. We aim to provide high-quality flight instruction in a friendly and engaging manner. I make it a personal responsibility to ensure every one of my customers has a first-class experience and that I know where they are in their training at all times and how they are doing. In addition to flight training, we also offer a pilot store and logbook conversion services.

Q: How has COVID-19 affected your business?

A: At the beginning, COVID-19 was a huge hit to our business. We dropped about 80-90% of our customers almost overnight at the end of March 2020. It was very quiet for about two months and then I started getting phone calls from parents whose kids had everything cancelled and were looking at a summer with nothing to do. Within two weeks we were back to 80% full!

Q: What do you like best about being part of the LGB community?

A: LGB has always been the best airport to train at in the entire Los Angeles Basin. There's a mixture of absolutely everything here, in terms of different types of aircraft, helicopters and commercial flights, along with the surrounding airports and airspace. We highly appreciate everyone involved in the community here, especially the friendly control tower with wonderful staff and Airport Ops, as they always do an outstanding job with a smile on their faces.