

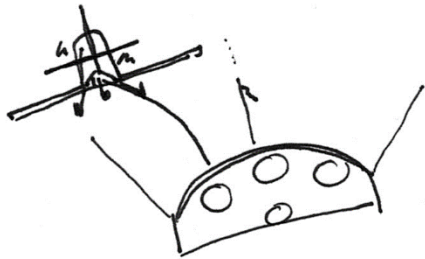
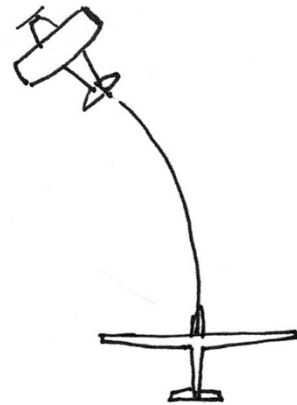
# Turning with the Towplane

It is important to maintain the proper position during tow.

## Proper Position in the Turn

When turning our objective is to follow the towplane. With a 200-foot tow rope and a 60 mph tow speed, the towplane is about 2 seconds ahead of the glider. If we initiate a turn at the same time as the towplane, we'll end up on the inside of the towplane's turn arc and risk creating a slack tow rope.

When the towplane starts a turn, wait 2 seconds then match the towplane's bank angle. At this time the glider's nose should be pointing just outside of the towplane's outer wing tip. Vary your bank to maintain that relative heading.



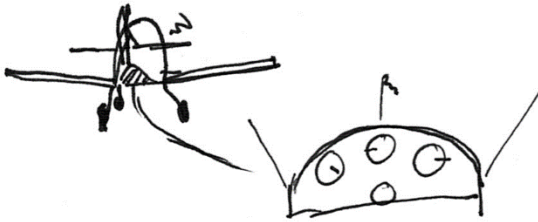
## Steering Turns

When the towplane is not going where you would like it to, you need to perform a steering turn to tell the tow pilot to turn.

Reasons for doing a steering turn might include:

- You've changed your mind on where you want to go.
- You're getting too far away for the altitude you're at and you need to stay closer to the airport.
- You want to go back to some good lift you found earlier in the tow.
- The tow pilot isn't going where you thought you told him to go.

To signal the tow pilot to turn, position the glider on the opposite side of the intended turn direction. This will put you just outside of a normal tow position in the turn – which will be the signal to continue turning. Position the glider so that the towplane's tail wheel lines up with its main wheel. This is the same distance out used in boxing the wake.



You'll have to maintain this position for a few seconds (perhaps a 5 count) so that the tow pilot can be sure that you're there on purpose. Then, the turn will commence. Maintain this outer position (tailwheel and mainwheel lined up) until the towplane approaches the desired heading. When the towplane is headed in the desired direction, move back in behind the towplane. That is the signal to stop the turn.

Now that you have initiated a steering turn the tow pilot abandons your original plan and now awaits your commands for any further steering. Accordingly, any subsequent steering turns will be reacted to quicker.