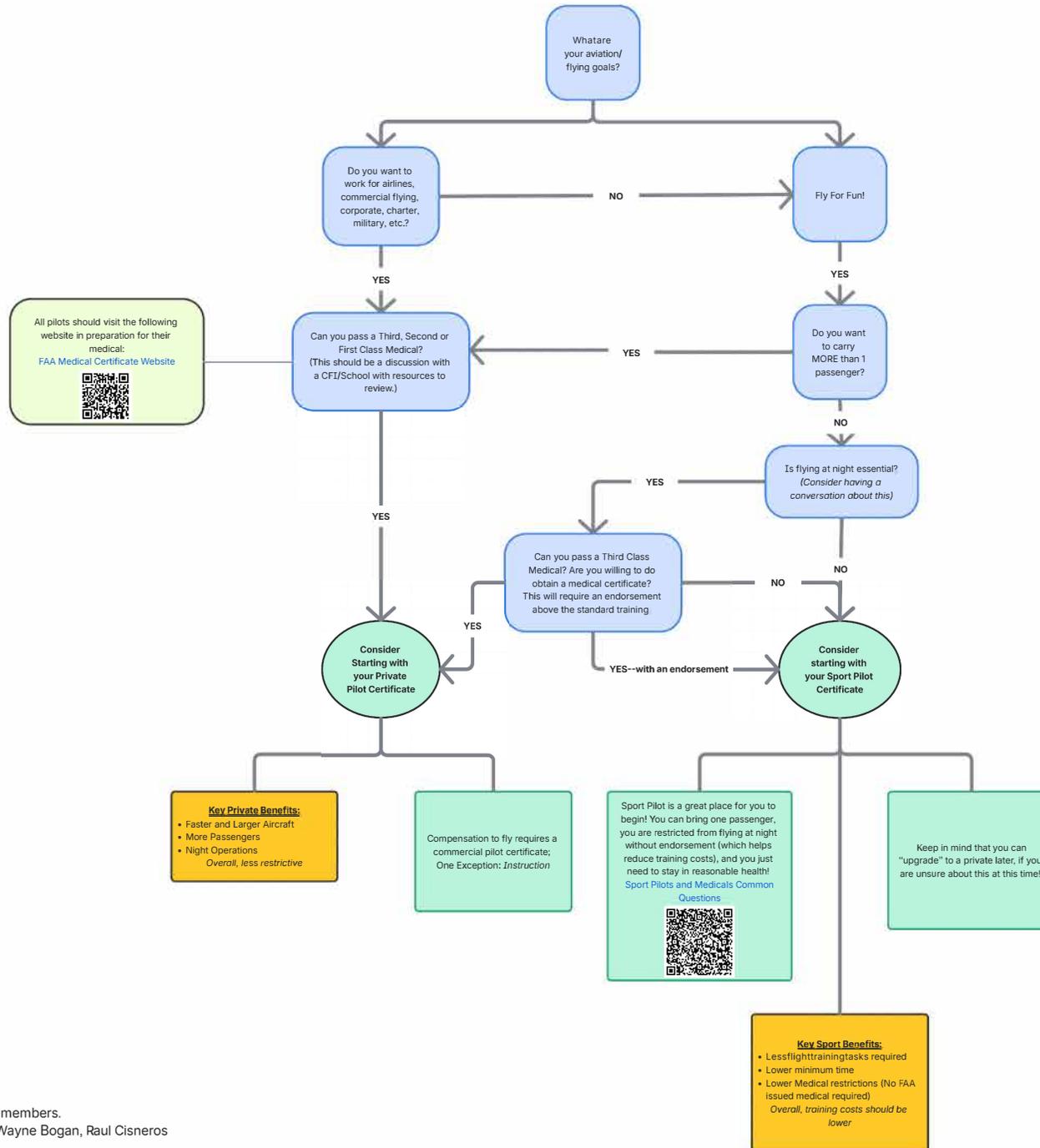




Should I start with Sport or a Private Pilot Certificate?

Purpose of this tool:
Help Certified Flight Instructors lead a discussion with a prospective learner on whether they should become a Sport Pilot or a Private Pilot as their first steppingstone into their pilot journey.



All pilots should visit the following website in preparation for their medical:
[FAA Medical Certificate Website](#)



Sport Pilot is a great place for you to begin! You can bring one passenger, you are restricted from flying at night without endorsement (which helps reduce training costs), and you just need to stay in reasonable health!
[Sport Pilots and Medicals Common Questions](#)



Key Sport Benefits:

- Less flight training tasks required
- Lower minimum time
- Lower Medical restrictions (No FAA issued medical required)

Overall, training costs should be lower

Key Private Benefits:

- Faster and Larger Aircraft
- More Passengers
- Night Operations

Overall, less restrictive

Compensation to fly requires a commercial pilot certificate;
One Exception: *Instruction*

Keep in mind that you can "upgrade" to a private later, if you are unsure about this at this time!