DC-3 Airlines Training Division
VFR Pattern at South Lakeland Airport, Runway 32

South Lakeland airport is 3.5 nautical miles southwest of Lakeland (KLAL) airport. It is a grass strip, 100 feet wide and 4,025 feet in length and has an elevation of 111 feet. It is difficult to spot from the air. Although it is grass, Microsoft Flight Simulator (FS2004) has "painted" threshold indicators.

The easiest way to orient yourself to the airport is to use WIREY NDB (LA 227.0), which is 1.7 nm west of South Lakeland. If you are approaching the NDB on a heading between 090 degrees and 200 degrees you will be able to enter downwind directly. If you are outside these parameters, I suggest you overfly the NDB and proceed on a westerly heading for several minutes. Execute a 180-degree turn and return to the NDB before entering downwind.

Use 1,100 MSL for a pattern altitude, which puts you approximately 1,000 feet AGL. As soon as you have indication of station passage (Marker beacon audio), start timing and turn to 140 degree heading for downwind. Fly 2 minutes beyond station passage, lower gear and 1/4 flaps, with an airspeed of 100 to 120 knots.

At the end of the 2-minute downwind leg, begin a left 180-degree turn to final approach heading, which is 320 degrees. During the turn, and on an approximate heading of 070 degrees, you should see a dark gray road coming toward you from a large town. The road will bend to your left. Turn inside the road and keep it on your right.

As you near a heading of 320 degrees, you should pick up the "painted" runway threshold markings. The runway is just right of the intersection of the roadway and a string of power line towers.

Execute a full stop or touch and go landing.

Have a ball :-)