

## **WESSEX AML Low-Cost 600RES LEAGUE 2015**

### **Scores after the 3<sup>rd</sup> round at Blandford on Saturday 25 July 2015**

The forecast was correct, plenty of wind with some clouds forming, but thankfully no rain. With an excellent entry of 12 pilots, the weather conditions and the excellent Tarrant Hinton flying site provided the ingredients for an interesting and challenging competition. We were not to be disappointed.

After the pilots briefing, Round 1 got under way with some very close contests: Rick Churchill beat Malcolm McKendrick by one second, similarly Ian Pratt narrowly defeated Chris Hague, and Andrew Fellows just beat Glenn Woodford. These close contests were to set the tone for the day.

Round 2 saw Andrew Fellows, Jeff Fellows, Ian Pratt and Chris Hague all take maximum points with very low flight times. Chris's time of only 3 minutes 37 seconds was the longest flight of the round, which was just enough to beat Glenn by a scant four seconds.

Either the weather improved or pilots improved, I know not which, but flight times improved during Round 3. Malcolm McKendrick, Glenn Woodford and Jeff Fellows all secured maximum points with flights of between five and six minutes, although Malcolm beat Roly Nix by only six seconds. The flight against Jeff Fellows proved to be Ian Pratt's first and only defeat of the day and by only 10 seconds. However, Chris Hague needed to search far and wide to find just enough lift to record a seven minute flight to defeat Andrew Fellows.

Flying in his first Round Robin competition, Dave Ashenden picked up his second point of the day with a good flight to beat Rick Churchill in a slot which was dominated by Jeff Fellows. Ian Pratt narrowly beat Glenn Woodford, Peter Rose found plenty of low level lift and Chris Hague needed to fly for over eight minutes to win the slot. John Taylor suffered elevator servo failure which ruined his flight and gifted points to James Parry and Andrew Fellows.

And so to the fifth and final round when Dave Ashenden won his slot by just four seconds from new entrant to the Round Robin series, John Taylor, who was flying his spare model to gain his first point of the day, at the expense of Roly Nix. At the start of this round Ian Pratt, Chris Hague and Andrew Fellows had only been beaten once. Something was about to change as Ian and Andrew were flying in the same slot. This was to prove to be a low scoring contest, with the third pilot Peter Rose once again exploiting some low level lift with his new design of model. However, he was narrowly defeated by Andrew who in turn was narrowly beaten by Ian. In the other key slot Malcolm McKendrick landed only six seconds before Jeff Fellows, but Chris Hague had found massive lift and was an easy winner.

After five rounds four pilots, Rick Churchill, Peter Rose, James Parry and Roly Nix, all finished with three wins each. After a very close fly-off that was the finishing order. In his first event Dave Ashenden scored a credible four points to finish in seventh place, just one point behind Malcolm McKendrick. Jeff Fellows was in fifth place with seven points, Glenn Woodford was one point better off in fourth place and Andrew Fellows was in third place with nine points. With only one defeat each during the day, Ian Pratt and Chris Hague required a fly-off for first place which was narrowly, very narrowly, won by Ian. So congratulations go to Ian on a fine day's flying – and also to his son Julian for timekeeping all morning. Thanks go to Phil Smith for taking over the timekeeping duties throughout the afternoon.

The Tarrant Hinton results are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Ian Pratt 10 points; 2<sup>nd</sup> Chris Hague 10 points; 3<sup>rd</sup> Andrew Fellows 9 points;  
 4<sup>th</sup> Glenn Woodford 8 points; 5<sup>th</sup> Jeff Fellows 7 points;  
 6<sup>th</sup> Malcolm McKendrick 5 points; 7<sup>th</sup> Dave Ashenden 4 points;  
 8<sup>th</sup> Rick Churchill 3 points; 9<sup>th</sup> Peter Rose 3 points; 10<sup>th</sup> James Parry 3 points;  
 11<sup>th</sup> Roly Nix 3 points; 12<sup>th</sup> John Taylor 1 point.

<b>600RES Class</b>		Round	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	Andrew Fellows		25	25	23			73
2	Jeff Fellows		24	24	21			69
3	Glenn Woodford		23	23	22			68
4	Chris Hague		21	21	24			66
5	Ian Pratt		22	18	25			65
6	Malcolm McKendrick		15	20	20			55
7	Peter Rose		18	16	17			51
8	Roly Nix		16	17	15			48
9	James Parry		13	13	16			42
10	Darren Bumpass		19	22	-			41
11	Ian Sapsed		20	19	-			39
12	Rick Churchill		-	14	18			32
13	Peter Kessell		14	15	-			29
14	Dave Ashenden		-	-	19			19
15	Tom Airey		17	-	-			17
16	John Taylor		-	-	14			14

Remember it is the best 4 scores to count.

I include Jeff Fellows further very helpful comments on battery management:

*“Not much to report on battery testing - I've researched "Zapping" and the various articles are a bit contradictory - I don't think it will benefit anyone to try it. Overall, the batteries we have will all give much the same output if properly cycled. The surface temperature for best performance seems to be around 40 - 50 degrees. Avoid temperatures under 30 degrees and above 60 degrees if possible.”* Regards Jeff.

My own view, for what it's worth, is that about 40 degrees surface temperature, measured with a cheap temperature strip, is easily attainable if you use only one battery throughout the day and works quite well. Charge in the model on cool days, but take the battery out of the model to charge on hot days. The latter is not a common occurrence!

We look forward to **Round 4 on Sunday 16 August at the Marlborough MFC** flying site at **Collingbourne Kingston**. Watch this space at [www.wessexaml.co.uk](http://www.wessexaml.co.uk) for all the latest information.



Launching, hurry up Rick.....



Winner Ian Pratt (on right hand side) receiving a Hawker Tempest wall plaque donated in memory of Alex Perkins

