

## WESSEX Low-Cost 600RES LEAGUE 2012

### *The 4<sup>th</sup> round held at Wincanton Falcons on Sunday 9 September 2012* *by Chris Hague*

With a favourable weather forecast and an excellent flying site, a good turnout was anticipated at the Templecombe flying site, home to the Wincanton Falcons. We were not to be disappointed, with an entry of 17 pilots for the second time this year, seven pilots being from the host club. After the pilots briefing at 10.30 the first round was soon under way. Flights of up to seven minutes were required to win a slot, and the early winners were Rick Farrer, Chris Hague and Robin Caswell. Flight times in excess of seven minutes were still being achieved in round two with wins from Glenn Woodford (who was the overall winner the last time we flew at this venue), Ian Pratt (the series leader), Darren Bumpass (a newly qualified pilot making rapid progress) and Rick Farrer (again).

Round three was flown in poorer air (all excuses) as flight times were much shorter. Apollo designer, Peter Kessell picked up his first win of the afternoon, likewise our host club chairman, Simon Olyott. Fellow club member Robin Caswell (2<sup>nd</sup> win), Chris Hague (2<sup>nd</sup> win) and Rick Farrer (3<sup>rd</sup> win) also picked up wins with relatively short flights.

After the lunch break, where Gordon Mignano served up better burgers than flight times, round four got underway, with a now overcast sky and a strengthening wind filling the sky with clouds, giving very little indication of just where the lift might be lurking (or possibly rapidly blowing through). However, Gordon Mignano won his first slot (I knew I shouldn't have made that burger comment!) with a good flight time, helped also by his competitors, Roly Nix and Steve Howe, both landing out. Geoff Collins picked up his first win of the day. Other winners in this round were Simon Olyott (2<sup>nd</sup> win), Ian Pratt (2<sup>nd</sup> win), and Rick Farrer (4<sup>th</sup> win – the only unbeaten pilot so far). By round five flight times improved as pilots worked out where the lift was most likely to be. Roly Nix, having thrown away a win in the previous round by landing out, picked up his first win of the afternoon. Other notable winners were Peter Kessell (2<sup>nd</sup> win), Glenn Woodford (2<sup>nd</sup> win), Simon Olyott (3<sup>rd</sup> win) and once again Rick Farrer only needing to fly for just over 4 minutes for his 5<sup>th</sup> win of the day.

On to the final round, with the most successful pilots throughout the day continuing to dominate, with wins for Ian Pratt (3<sup>rd</sup> win), Peter Kessell (3<sup>rd</sup> win), Rick Farrer (remaining unbeaten all day with his 6<sup>th</sup> win). The closest contest was, however, was in slot 4 with Chris Hague and Glenn Woodford both achieving the longest flights of the day by reaching the 15 minute maximum. This would have resulted in a draw, with the two pilots sharing the point as long as they landed back on the big green patch. Glenn did. Chris came in at speed for a superb greaser of a landing that just went on and on and on - and into the rough grass! Zero score for Chris and much merriment for the crowd of onlookers. That gave Glenn a hard-fought-for 3<sup>rd</sup> win of the day. Simon was second in the slot with an excellent flight time of 12 minutes 41 seconds. Steve Howe finally got his act together and scored a fine win in a closely contested final slot of the day.

Congratulations go to Rick Farrer who, having driven up from South Devon to participate, remained unbeaten all day with 17 points to become the fourth different winner this season. Ian Pratt was a clear second with 14 points and remains the series leader with consistently high placings in each round. Peter Kessell equalled his previous best result this season to finish third, but only after a closely contested fly-off against Glenn Woodford. In the fly-off for fifth place against Chris Hague, Simon Olyott was unlucky to have a minor problem with his model (the wing broke). Geoff Collins finished in seventh place, his lowest finish this season. Darren Bumpass is having an excellent first season and beat Mitch (Phil Mitchell) in the eighth place fly-off. Rick (thanks for the Excel scoring spreadsheet) Churchill was 10<sup>th</sup> followed by the BBQ specialist, Gordon Mignano, in 11<sup>th</sup> place. James (who helped tirelessly with the scoring) Parry finished a very high (for James) 12<sup>th</sup> with Steve Howe next. Flashes of brilliance and continuing improvement was seen throughout the day from the next four pilots, Robin Caswell, Roly Nix, Richard Few and Phil Anning.

Our thanks go to our host Simon Olyott of the Wincanton Falcons for the use of their excellent flying field and to the club members who provided a continuous stream of banter (maybe it was advice!) throughout the day.

Thanks also go to the timekeepers, Kate Mignano, James Parry and Simon Olyott, for helping to run the event so smoothly.

Pilots taking part in this series are also invited to join in with the monthly postal event, see the website for full details. After a very successful fourth round we look forward to the 5<sup>th</sup> and final round on Sunday 30 September at Cashmoor Wimborne MAC flying site. Watch this space at [www.wessexaml.co.uk](http://www.wessexaml.co.uk) for all the latest information.

The Wincanton Falcons results are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Rick Farrer 17 wins; 2<sup>nd</sup> Ian Pratt 14 wins; 3<sup>rd</sup> Peter Kessell 13 wins;  
4<sup>th</sup> Glenn Woodford 13 wins; 5<sup>th</sup> Chris Hague 11 wins; 6<sup>th</sup> Simon Olyott 11 wins;  
7<sup>th</sup> Geoff Collins 10 wins; 8<sup>th</sup> Darren Bumpass 9 wins; 9<sup>th</sup> Phil Mitchell 9 wins;  
10<sup>th</sup> Rick Churchill, 8 wins; 11<sup>th</sup> Gordon Mignano 7 wins; 12<sup>th</sup> James Parry 7 wins;  
13<sup>th</sup> Steve Howe 6 wins; 14<sup>th</sup> Robin Caswell 5 wins; 15<sup>th</sup> Roly Nix 5 wins;  
16<sup>th</sup> Richard Few 4 wins; 17<sup>th</sup> Phil Anning 2 wins.

<b>Low-cost 600RES</b>		Round	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	Ian Pratt		9	8	8	9		34
2	Chris Hague		2.3	9	10	6		27.3
3	Peter Kessell		8	3	6	8		25
4	Glenn Woodford		10	2	5	7		24
5	Rick Farrer		4.5	-	9	10		23.5
6	Tom Airey		2.3	10	7	-		19.3
7	Geoff Collins		7	5	-	4		16
8	Ian Sapsed		6	7	-	-		13
9	Simon Oylott		2	6	-	5		13
10	Rick Churchill		2.3	4	4	2		12.3
11	Malcolm McKendrick		2	2	3	-		7
12	James Parry		1	2	2	2		7
13	Jeff Fellows		4.5	-	-	-		4.5
=14	Phil Anning		2	-	-	2		4
=14	Robin Caswell		2	-	-	2		4
=14	Steve Howe		2	-	-	2		4
=14	Gordon Mignano		2	-	-	2		4
=14	Phil Mitchell		2	-	-	2		4
19	Darren Bumpass		-	-	-	3		3
=20	Richard Few		-	-	-	2		2
=20	Roly Nix		-	-	-	2		2

Remember it is the best 4 scores to count.



17 pilots took part at on Sunday 9 September 2012.

Photo courtesy of Rick Churchill



The lift is on the left..... no it isn't.... it's over to the right.....



Total concentration on the flight line

Ref: WSSX600RR412

Chris Hague