

WESSEX AML Low-Cost 600RES LEAGUE 2015

Scores after the 4th round at Collingbourne Kingston **on Sunday 16 August 2015**

Once again the weather forecast was correct, a superb flying day with gentle breezes and some clouds. With a good entry of 11 pilots, the weather conditions and the excellent Marlborough MFC 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 - twice! Two late arrivals meant a rescheduling of the matrix and the new Round 1 commenced. Unfortunately Roly Nix missed out on the restart and couldn't find the good lift from his earlier flight, however Andrew Fellows just managed to outfly Jeff Fellows with Malcolm McKendrick landing only a short time before. Darren Bumpass picked up maximum points with a good flight to beat Glenn Woodford. However, the best performance of the round has to go to Dave Ashenden who flew the maximum time of 15 minutes, nearly all at a relatively low level. Also flying in the same slot were Peter Rose, Rick Churchill and Chris Hague and all pilots flew to the maximum time, this being the only time that I recall four pilots flying up to the maximum time. The points were then shared, this of course reduces a pilot's overall scoring potential and has an impact at the end of the day.

The lift was harder to find in Round 2 so flight times were shorter and the contest very close. Andrew Fellows flew well to recover from a lower launch to beat Chris Hague, and Jeff Fellows, Rick Churchill and Malcolm McKendrick all took maximum points with very low flight times.

Round 3 continued in a similar vein weather-wise but with good wins for Peter Kessell, Glenn Woodford, Andrew Fellows and Roly Nix. Roly flew for the full 15 minutes to beat an unlucky Peter Rose whose flight of 14 minutes 32 seconds would normally have been a winning flight and only another 28 seconds would have resulted in a draw.

Either the weather improved or pilots improved, I know not which, but flight times increased during Round 4. Dave Ashenden, Chris Hague and Jeff Fellows all secured maximum points. However, the flight of the round was to be between Andrew Fellows and Glenn Woodford, but not due to the length of the contest. Both pilots struggled to find much lift, but were of equal low height for 3 minutes and 45 seconds; who would land or power up first? Using his Trigon experience, Glenn cleverly flew away from the patch to lower terrain and managed to delay his motor power up just long enough to win, and although we were not confident that Glenn could still see his model, it soon came back into view, much to Glenn's relief and obvious delight!

The fifth and final round produced wins for Chris Hague, Glenn Woodford and Andrew Fellows. Another amazingly close contest ensued between Rick Churchill and Jeff Fellows as both pilots made the most of the patchy lift, and Rick was set for a comfortable 15 minute maximum flight. Jeff, however, was losing height and it was touch and go in order to last the full 15 minutes. In fact, it was so close that as the time was finally counted down Jeff's model was only inches away from landing on the patch. So once again the points were shared. No fewer than nine pilots flew for over 15 minutes today and that from only a 25 second motor run time. This represents a good performance from both the pilots and their inexpensive electric thermal model aircraft.

After five rounds Malcolm McKendrick and Darren Bumpass finished with five wins each and Malcolm won their fly-off contest to finish in fifth place. Jeff Fellows was in third place with seven point five points, Glenn Woodford was just half a point better off in a strong second place, and after only one defeat throughout the day (by Glenn) Andrew Fellows was the worthy winner after an excellent day's thermal flying.

The Collingbourne Kingston results are as follows:

1st Andrew Fellows 9 points; 2nd Glenn Woodford 8 points; 3rd; Jeff Fellows 7.5 points;
 4th Chris Hague 5.5 points; 5th Malcolm McKendrick 5 points;
 6th Darren Bumpass 5 points; 7th Dave Ashenden 4.5 points; 8th Rick Churchill 4 points;
 9th Peter Rose 2.5 points; 10th Peter Kessell 2 points; 11th Roly Nix 2 points.

600RES Class	Round	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	Andrew Fellows	25	25	23	25		98
2	Jeff Fellows	24	24	21	23		92
3	Glenn Woodford	23	23	22	24		92
4	Chris Hague	21	21	24	22		88
5	Malcolm McKendrick	15	20	20	21		76
6	Peter Rose	18	16	17	17		68
7	Ian Pratt	22	18	25	-		65
8	Roly Nix	16	17	15	15		63
9	Darren Bumpass	19	22	-	20		61
10	Rick Churchill	-	14	18	18		50
11	Peter Kessell	14	15	-	16		45
12	James Parry	13	13	16	-		42
13	Ian Sapsed	20	19	-	-		39
14	Dave Ashenden	-	-	19	19		38
15	Tom Airey	17	-	-	-		17
16	John Taylor	-	-	14	-		14

Remember it is the best 4 scores to count.

Thanks go to Rick Churchill who helped with the scoring and to all the contestants who helped with the timekeeping duties throughout the day. We would also like to thank Andy Head from the Marlborough MFC for helping us throughout the day at Collingbourne Kingston, thus ensuring that both club members and visitors enjoyed an excellent day's flying.

We look forward to Round 5 on Sunday 20 September at the Wimborne MAC flying site at Cashmoor. Watch this space at www.wessexaml.co.uk for all the latest information.



Glenn Woodford 2nd place, Andrew Fellows 1st place, Jeff Fellows 3rd place.



Winner Andrew Fellows (on left hand side) receiving a Hawker Typhoon wall plaque donated in memory of Alex Perkins

