

2016 WESSEX AEROMODELLERS LEAGUE
Low-Cost 600RES Competition

Scores after the 4th round at Marlborough MFC
on Sunday 17 July 2016

The fourth round of the 2016 season started with yet another accurate forecast from the Met Office, which meant it was windy – but not too windy for this class of model to fly well and benefit from any lift that could be found.

After the pilots briefing the event got under way with nine pilots taking part. The event consisted of four rounds, resulting in three pilots in each slot, an ideal format, but more of that later.

All pilots elected to have some test flights and when Round 1 got under way expectations were high. The landing patch was smaller than at any of the other venues we visit but Andrew Fellows, Jeff Fellows and Chris Hague made sure of their models landings to secure maximum points in both this round and in Round 2. Malcolm was the first pilot to miss the landing area and as Malcolm never does things by halves he missed it by a country mile! It was unfortunate that his model failed to respond to his transmitter and circled gracefully away downwind, never to be seen again. Despite directional help from the local lads a posse of five failed to locate the model and after a 45 minute search retired for a much needed drink and lunch.

And so to Round 3 which commenced without Malcolm McKendrick and Mike Sims who had both run out of suitable models. In instances such as this their scores from the first two rounds are deleted in order to achieve a level playing field for the remaining pilots. Mike then volunteered for timekeeping duties for the remainder of the day. This turned out to be an eventful round. Bob Corfield and Dave Ashenden both landed out by the smallest of margins and either one would have picked up a win just by landing on the patch. Roly Nix just outflew Pete Rose in a close contest, but only 11 seconds separated the “crunch” contest of the day which was to follow. The matrix had placed Chris Hague, Andrew Fellows and Jeff Fellows in the same slot and up to this round all three had remained undefeated. No pressure then! And so to the launch and power phase of the flight where Andrew gained height over Jeff but Chris was at a lower level. The status quo remained for the first four minutes of the flight until Chris was able to make use of some better air, and slowly the three models converged. This led to some desperate low level flying until Jeff powered up first, closely followed by Andrew, leaving Chris the winner by the narrowest of margins.

The contest was not over yet as Round 4 was still to be flown and by now the sun had started to shine and there was the expectation of longer flights. Two very close contests ensued when Chris Hague narrowly beat Roly Nix, and then Jeff Fellows needed to fly for over 14 minutes to beat Dave Ashenden. Pete Rose narrowly beat Bob Sims, with Andrew Fellows landing a couple of minutes later.

This left both Roly Nix and Dave Ashenden in a fly-off for fourth place which was eventually won by Roly. Jeff Fellows was in third place with just two defeats throughout the day, Andrew Fellows was in second place have lost only once, to the eventual winner, Chris Hague.

This ended what was generally acknowledged as an excellent day's flying, in windy conditions at a great flying site.

The Collingbourne Kingston results are as follows:

1st Chris Hague 6 wins; 2nd Andrew Fellows 5 wins; 3rd Jeff Fellows 4 wins;
 4th Roly Nix 2 wins; 5th Dave Ashenden 2 wins; 6th Peter Rose 1 win;
 7th Bob Corfield 0 wins.

Retired after 2 rounds; Mike Sims, Malcolm McKendrick.

600RES Class		Round	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	Andrew Fellows		25	25	23	24		97
2	Chris Hague		23	23	25	25		96
3	Jeff Fellows		24	24	24	23		95
4	Peter Rose		19	18	22	20		79
5	Bob Corfield		20	17	19	19		75
6	Roly Nix		15	16	17	22		70
7	Ian Pratt		22	21	18	-		61
8	Malcolm McKendrick		21	22	14	2		59
9	Glenn Woodford		18	20	20	-		58
10	Rick Churchill		17	14	21	-		52
11	Dave Ashenden		14	-	13	21		48
12	Mike Sims		13	15	16	2		46
13	Darren Bumpass		16	19	-	-		35
14	James Parry		-	-	15	-		15

Remember it is the best 4 scores to count.



Jeff Fellows's pusher models.



Chris Hague and traditional model.

Our thanks go to Andy Head and the Marlborough MFC for the use of their excellent flying field at Collingbourne Kingston. Thanks also to Mike Sims for timekeeping for the second half of the event. After a successful fourth round we look forward to **Round 5 on Sunday 18 September at the Cashmoor** the site of the Wimborne MAC. Watch this space at www.wessexaml.co.uk for all the latest information.