

WESSEX AML Low-Cost 600RES LEAGUE 2015

Scores after the 5th round at Cashmoor on Sunday 20 September 2015

Once again the weather forecast was correct, promising a superb flying day with gentle south to south westerly breezes and some clouds. With a good entry of 12 pilots, the weather conditions and the excellent Wimborne MAC flying site provided the ingredients for an interesting and challenging final round of this competition. We were not to be disappointed!

After the pilots' briefing, when the no-fly zones and landing areas were carefully highlighted (and noted?) and then a few test flights undertaken, Round 1 got under way. The first eight pilots flying in this round were so close in flight times that our timekeeper for the day, Phil Smith, had to be alert to establish the correct landing order. His task was eased a little by Malcolm McKendrick landing out for a zero score, whilst Ian Pratt, Andrew Fellows and Darren Bumpass all picked up maximum points by the narrowest of margins. James Parry had his best flight of the day to collect two points, landing only a few seconds before Darren Bumpass. In fact, had James stretched the model's glide down the field he may well have secured maximum points and a momentous win!

The lift had disappeared in Round 2 so flight times were shorter and the contests very close. Andrew Fellows, Ian Pratt and Chris Hague gained maximum points. Jeff Fellows's victory over an improving Roly Nix, who was flying a new model which he had only finished at the eleventh hour, was by just one second. Equally, Dave Ashenden who had picked up a win in the first round, only narrowly missed out on improving his score.

Time for Round 3 and the lift had returned. It was quickly found by Malcolm McKendrick and Peter Rose whose planes slowly gained height with some impressive flying to fly out the maximum slot time of 15 minutes. In another closely contested slot Peter Kessell narrowly beat Chris Hague and Roly Nix. Andrew Fellows and Jeff Fellows recorded comfortable wins having gained impressive heights from their launches.

Either the pilots or the weather improved during Round 4, I know not which. Peter Kessell, Peter Rose and Rick Churchill landed within seconds of each other, unfortunately Rick landed out to zero score. Ian Pratt and Jeff Fellows scored maximum points with eight-minute flights. However, the contest of the round was flown out by Roly Nix, Darren Bumpass and Andrew Fellows who all flew their models for the maximum flight time of 15 minutes.

Entering the fifth and final round Ian Pratt, Jeff Fellows and Andrew Fellows were all equal with eight wins each, way ahead of the rest of the pack. Jeff needed to fly for over 14 minutes to secure maximum points against Ian, Andrew also scored a maximum to ensure a fly-off against Jeff. This left Ian in a creditable third place. The first mid-air that I can recall for some time occurred between Peter Rose and James Parry soon after launching, possibly not helped by the sun deciding to shine brightly at that moment. This left an easy win for Roly Nix and a fly-off for fourth place against Darren Bumpass and Chris Hague. This was won by Chris with a 12 minute flight, with Roly flying for 10 minutes to beat Darren. Although Jeff Fellows flew for nearly 13 minutes, much of this at a low height, he was narrowly beaten into first place by Andrew by a mere 23 seconds, a worthy winner after an excellent day's thermal flying.

The Cashmoor results are as follows:

1st Andrew Fellows 10 points; 2nd Jeff Fellows 10 points; 3rd Ian Pratt 9 points;
 4th Chris Hague 6 points; 5th Roly Nix 6 points; 6th Darren Bumpass 6 points;
 7th Peter Kessell 5 points; 8th Peter Rose 4.5 points;
 9th Malcolm McKendrick 3.5 points; 10th James Parry 3 points;
 11th Rick Churchill 2 points; 12th Dave Ashenden 1 point.

| 600RES Class | Round | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Total |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Andrew Fellows | 25 | 25 | 23 | 25 | 25 | 100 |
| 2 | Jeff Fellows | 24 | 24 | 21 | 23 | 24 | 95 |
| 3 | Glenn Woodford | 23 | 23 | 22 | 24 | - | 92 |
| 4 | Chris Hague | 21 | 21 | 24 | 22 | 22 | 89 |
| 5 | Ian Pratt | 22 | 18 | 25 | - | 23 | 88 |
| 6 | Darren Bumpass | 19 | 22 | - | 20 | 20 | 81 |
| 7 | Malcolm McKendrick | 15 | 20 | 20 | 21 | 17 | 78 |
| 8 | Peter Rose | 18 | 16 | 17 | 17 | 18 | 70 |
| 9 | Roly Nix | 16 | 17 | 15 | 15 | 21 | 69 |
| 10 | Rick Churchill | - | 14 | 18 | 18 | 15 | 65 |
| 11 | Peter Kessell | 14 | 15 | - | 16 | 19 | 64 |
| 12 | James Parry | 13 | 13 | 16 | - | 16 | 58 |
| 13 | Dave Ashenden | - | - | 19 | 19 | 14 | 52 |
| 14 | Ian Sapsed | 20 | 19 | - | - | - | 39 |
| 15 | Tom Airey | 17 | - | - | - | - | 17 |
| 16 | John Taylor | - | - | 14 | - | - | 14 |

Remember it is the best 4 scores, shown in **BOLD**, to count.

The season's awards were then presented, first place and a special trophy going to Andrew Fellows with a perfect score of 100 points. Jeff Fellows finished in second place with 95 points and Glenn Woodford, with 92 points, was in third place. An award was also made for the highest place pilot in his first season in this competition and this went to Peter Rose who scored 70 points. All the above received WW2 wall plaques from the Alex Perkins collection, donated in his memory by his widow.

Thanks go to Rick Churchill who helped with the scoring and to Phil Smith and James Parry who helped with the timekeeping duties throughout the day. We would also like to thank the Wimborne MAC for the use of their excellent flying site.

We look forward next season's competitions, with the expectation of seeing the new improved models that are planned for 2016. Watch this space at www.wessexaml.co.uk for all the latest information.



Andrew Fellows 1st place 2015, receiving a Handley Page Hampden wall plaque donated in memory of Alex Perkins



Jeff Fellows, 2nd place overall 2015, receiving a Supermarine Spitfire wall plaque donated in memory of Alex Perkins



Peter Rose, highest place new entrant 2015, receiving a Bristol Blenheim wall plaque donated in memory of Alex Perkins