

## WESSEX TOMBOY LEAGUE 2013

### **Scores after Round 1 held at Cashmoor on Sunday 7 April 2013 by Chris Hague**

The first round of the 2013 Wessex Tomboy League was held by kind invitation of the Wimborne MAC. The weather forecast was cold and windy and unfortunately it was correct. Ten pilots turned up and seven of them qualified for the fly-off with flights of over four minutes during the morning. The blue sky had large clouds scudding across it in the strong gusty wind and they were to provide good indications of lift later in the day.

The air was buoyant in small rapidly moving patches of the sky and soon the smaller 36" span Tomboys, using only 2cc of fuel, were reaching a good height. Nearly all pilots used the increasingly popular MP Jet 040 Classic motor with its standard 2cc ali tank. One exception was John Taylor, usually a dab hand at engine tuning, who could not get a decent run from his Mills .75 fitted with a 2cc tank. Dave Ashenden was trying out a new Red Fin Mills .75 but as it still had the larger 3cc tank he flew without his scores being counted. John Myers, having flown his Tomboy for over 20 minutes in a practice flight a month ago, was unable to organise enough power from the MP Jet engine in order to master the strong winds and graciously offered to act as our official starter for the day.

In the Wessex Tomboy 36 fly-off all the planes got away cleanly. First down after 3 minutes 20 seconds was James Parry, followed 48 seconds later by Derek Collin. Teenager James Collis continues to improve his flying skills and finished in a strong second place with a time of 5 minutes 17 seconds. The winner was Chris Hague with a time of 6 minutes 35 seconds. But that was nothing compared to what was to come with the Wessex Tomboy Senior 48's in their fly-off.

#### **Wessex Tomboy 36" span league table**

		R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Total
1	Chris Hague	10					10
2	James Collis	9					9
3	Derek Collin	8					8
4	James Parry	7					7
=5	John Myers	1					1
=5	John Taylor	1					1
=5	Dave Ashenden	1					1

1<sup>st</sup> Chris Hague 6 min 35 sec; 2<sup>nd</sup> James Collis 5 min 17 sec;  
3<sup>rd</sup> Derek Collin 4 min 08 sec; 4<sup>th</sup> James Parry 3 min 20 sec;  
DNS; John Myers, John Taylor, Dave Ashenden.

There were six entrants in the Wessex Tomboy Senior 48" competition with five qualifying for the fly-off. James was unable to persuade his Tomboy Senior flight battery to produce enough power to move his servos back and forth so he reverted to his "Master of ceremonies" role. Engine supremo Derek Collin was first to land with a time of 6 minutes 25 seconds.

Before today Peter Rose had enjoyed a run of six successive wins in Tomboy Senior events and his time of 15 minutes 12 seconds would have won most contests. But today it was only good enough for fourth place.

Rick Farrer would also have expected to win with his time of 21 minutes 55 seconds. But today it was only good enough for third place.

Barrie Collis would also have expected to win with an excellent time of 22 minutes 32 seconds. But today that was only good enough for second place.

Chris Hague would also have expected to win with an excellent time of 40 minutes 44 seconds. And he did! However, it was not that simple, as Chris got off to a very poor slow start and was still at a relatively low height when Peter, Rick and Barrie's planes were at a great height being only a mere speck in the sky up close to the clouds. After a lot of careful flying (or as some might say, a lot of luck) Chris managed to find some lift and slowly but surely overhauled the others. Slowly the rest came down and landed leaving just one model still flying. At this point Clipboard Bill, our intrepid timekeeper, suggested to Chris a target time of 30 minutes. As this time of 30 minutes flight time approached he then reset the target time to 40 minutes (thanks Bill!) as he felt this would be longer than the previously set longest Tomboy Senior flight in an official competition, flown by Peter Rose at Cocklebarrow Farm. At this point Chris's helper and timekeeper, Keith Derbyshire thoughtfully found a much needed chair for our intrepid pilot to relax on. It was downhill all the way after that! The final flight time was an amazing 40 minutes 44 seconds! Is this some sort of record for a Tomboy Senior flight in an official competition? If you have witnessed a longer competition flight please let us know via our own website: [www.wessexaml.co.uk](http://www.wessexaml.co.uk)

**Wessex Tomboy Senior 48" span league table**

		R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Total
1	Chris Hague	10					10
2	Barrie Collis	9					9
3	Rick Farrer	8					8
4	Peter Rose	7					7
5	Derek Collin	6					6
6	James Parry	1					1

1<sup>st</sup> Chris Hague 40 min 44 sec; 2<sup>nd</sup> Barrie Collis 22 min 32 sec;  
3<sup>rd</sup> Rick Farrer 21 min 55 sec; 4<sup>th</sup> Peter Rose 15 min 12 sec;  
5<sup>th</sup> Derek Collin 6 min 25 sec; DNS; James Parry

Our thanks go to our starter for the day, John Myers and to Bill Longley for timekeeping. Also to the host club the Wimborne MAC for allowing the use of their excellent flying field. Unfortunately, due to illness, Ian Pratt was unable to take part today. We wish him a speedy recovery in time for the next Wessex AML event the 600RES Round Robin on Sunday 21 April. Anyone interested in taking part in Tomboy events might like to try the 36" version with a new MP Jet Classic 0.6cc diesel costing a mere £50, a Rx., two 6 gram servos, covering material and either a laser short kit at up to £30 or build from one of the plans around. Contact James for details of plans available. You can be fully competitive for about £130 or less if you have any of the bits already.

Remember it is the best four scores to count. The next round will be on Sunday 28 April at Templecombe, the site of the Wincanton Falcons. Full details available on our website: [www.wessexaml.co.uk](http://www.wessexaml.co.uk)



Chris Hague's Wessex Tomboy Senior 48



Derek Collin's Wessex Tomboy 36



A clean getaway for the Wessex Tomboy 48's



Wessex Tomboys 48's climb higher.....