

VARMS Trophy 19th April 2009-04-19

VARMS trophy 19th of April turned out to be a great afternoon in Briggs Field. The weather gods smiled and gave us a nice steady South Easterly with pockets of rising air for the observant and or lucky. 14 competitors turned out and we set to running the every popular bungee dual competition. After working out the left line needed an extra 10 meters of stretch we had a pretty even launch between the two lines. The first round was a 3 minute task and quite a few people made touchdowns (loop, win, in the landing box, time within 15 seconds of target time) so we went to 4 minutes (I said FOUR MINUTES) for the second round. Competition was tight and a lot of duels were only decided by seconds. One notable exception was when Colin Smith came off the line during launch for the second time and only made a minute or so.....but still managed to win as arch rival Leon Carlos failed to make the 100m maximum landing radius (hee hee). We all watched in anticipation as Gerry Carter faced off with Alan Mayhew only to see a fizzer when Gerry came down fast - apparently two channel gliders don't really speak helicopter too well. Another innovation was that we were able to demonstrate that it's possible to run EPP electric models in the competition without much trouble. Alan Mayhew was able to power his Radian up to the same height as the other model on the bungee. So, if you don't have a two channel glider, please consider bringing along your Radian or Easy Glider and having a go.

Anyway after three super intense rounds the scores were as follows....

Steve Tester (14), Mike Robinson (13), Ian Slack (13), Paul Dumesday (13), Leon Carlos (11), Alan Mayhew (10), Bruce Clapperton (9), Barry DeKuyper (9), Gerry Carter (8), Tim Moreland (8), Colin Smith (6), Norm Ripp (6), Geoff Trone (3), Will Nuttall (3)

A pair of semi finals were held, then the final between Mike Robinson and Steve Tester. This was a close run affair with both pilots making the same time but victory going to Mike as Steve's plane landed an agonising foot or so outside the side of the box.

Great to see so many new people to make up for some of the regulars who were at the VMAA Trophy. Next even is 24th of May. After that I will be running Monthly Slope soaring days leading up to the Slope championships in October.