

VARMS Trophy June 2009.

After a fizzer in May (where do you go slope soaring in a North Easterly) it was great to get back on the field for another fun afternoon of VARMS trophy. The format was different this time, based on a suggestion from Lou Rodman. The task was have four flights and aim to have a sum total air time which added up to a target set by the contest director. So, if you really didn't want to win, you had to fly 18 minutes. If you were an experienced pilot you got 16 minutes. And if you were a relative beginner flying something a bit short on wingspan your target was a very competitive 10 minutes. Now, to make your time count, you had to also land in the extremely generous landing square. This rule was waived a few times for noses just out of the box (but not for yours truly on the last flight @\$%&@!) Winds were light so the club winch was kept in service and soon we had three of four models up in the air at a time searching out those elusive hot bits. Some got lucky with flights of 5-6 minutes and some, as always, were not so lucky. David and Benjamin Wallace, first time Trophites, received some excellent instruction and damn near took out first prize. In the end though it came down to who could stick their nose in the ground on time (Paul were those wings meant to do that?) The excellent landing skills of Norm Ripp and Lou Rodman shone through for a share of first prize with both only one second off the target time.

Normalised scores were as follows:

Norm Ripp and Lou Rodman [999], David Wallace and Paul Dumsday [998], Geoff Trone [994], Benjamin Wallace [993], Leon Carlos [977], Phillip Rechter [938], Alan Mayhew [898], Peter Cossins [880], Bruce Clapperton [870 damn that box], Ian Slack [725]

Next VARMS Trophy is in November, followed up quickly by one in December. In the mean time, I hope to see you on the slope!