



Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

May 2009

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXIII Number 5

President's Message

Bruce Martin

Soaring season is quickly getting into full swing with Colorado conditions getting better all of the time. The last F3J contest presented some very challenging conditions. It was very interesting to see on a cold and complete cloud cover day the amount of thermal activity that was present. Was very challenging for the pilots. You could not just launch high and fly at min sink. You really had to recognize the lift and go with hard when you found it. Of course that is typical Colorado soaring.

Mike Verzuh sent out an email about launching for F3J that made some valid points. When we are all launching that close together the planes need to be trimmed right. I would recommend on any contest that we are using mass launch the C/D should allow a small window for any contestant to get a trim flight in. We would rather have the plane ready before you get there but that is not always possible. Even with a trimmed plane sometimes bad launches happen. We just need to minimize it as much as possible. We all have too much money in these planes. If at the start of a contest you need a trim flight ask for it. No one will fault you for wanting a trim flight. The plane you might save is ours.

Most of you have seen the email thread and heard the discussions at the last contest about the F3J scoring issues. From what we have uncovered I see two primary options. The first one is we leave everything as is. This would also allow the C/D of any F3J contest assign trophies by the finals, but season points only count for preliminaries. If we do this I also would recommend we change the scoring for F3J in the Rockies and any national contest that has a finals to the same thing. The scoring algorithm that was proposed to use in the past has some flaws. One possibility if we stay with the status quo is for contests that have a finals with at least 3 rounds we could also count as two separate contests and you pick which score you want to use. The second option is to assign bonus points to the finals for F3J. Those points are added to your score for how well you placed in the finals. To do this fairly we would have to assign the same bonus points to all contests weather there was a final or not. There are lots of ramifications to this option and I am open to the club's wishes. Cody's original reason for wanting the change was to have finals that have meaning and allow people to fly the prelims conservatively like a real F3J contest. I am not convinced that learning to fly conservatively in the prelims is the best course for us. Our goal should be to get as many pilots as possible into the team select finals. To make the finals at team selects you are going to have to fly the prelims fairly aggressive. It is easy to practice laying off. I would rather have our pilots used to the flying every round like it mattered. Think about it, sleep on it and send me your thoughts.

One of our clubs best kept secrets is we have awesome practice area out at Cherryvale open space. Several people can usually be found practicing there at lunch time during the week. The site is a great place to work on reading thermals and decision making. We do great death matches out there that really hone your skills. If you are open at lunch time and can carry a charged plane come out and join us. It is some of the best practice you will get. Call myself, Mike Verzuh or Jim Monaco if you need more info.

I still have Vista ridge academy available for indoor flying for people that want to. I also might be able to get into Erie middle school gym as well. Let me know if you are interested. Everyone continue to invite people out to the field to fly. I would really like to see some more new blood come into the club.

Keep practicing and getting ready for F3J in the Rockies and then team selects. This is going to be a fun season.

Thermals,

Bruce Martin

RMSA President
H 303 862 8451
W 303 963 5019
C 303 249 7272

Field Manager's Message-----Steve Suntken

Dear fellow members:

As many of you have noticed the sod farm workers are slowly getting back on their schedule and will mostly likely have all the grass gone up to the frequency flag. Next week, I will be moving the flag & trash can about 75', or so, to the north from where it is now. Which will be more towards the area where we had our last open comp. We've been given the "OK" to park on the grassy area directly to the east of where the flag will be. More precisely, for those who wish to park closer to the flying area this plot is between the dirt pile and those cement barriers... And for those who do not wish too, feel free to park in the normal parking area. **Steve**

SATURDAY MAY 9th F3J winch Contest CD Dr. Danny Williams

NOTE:---THIS IS A SATURDAY CONTEST

REGISTRATION 8:30 AM Masters \$10.00 Sportsman/Novice \$5.00
PILOTS MEETING 9:00 AM
FIRST FLIGHT 9:30 AM
F3J with winches - 5 rounds of 10 Min and 1 or 2 rounds of 15 min

Landing: AMA landing tapes.

Battery Masters - Please be sure to have your batteries at the field by 8:30 AM charged & "topped-up"

SUNDAY MAY 17th HLG

CD Gary Jensen

Entry Fee: \$5.00
Registration: 9:00 AM
Pilot's Meeting: 9:15 AM
First Flight: 9:30 AM
Tasks We will fly 6-7 F3K Tasks

This is a new flier friendly event. If you've never flown in competition before and want to find out what it's all about, this is a fun, low pressure environment to get started in. If you need assistance with HLG setup or some pointers on launch technique, this is the place to be. New fliers have first choice of timer/helper! Alternate throwers are allowed for those who need it.

SAT/SUN MAY 23/24th F3J in the ROCKIES CD Jim Monaco

Saturday

Starting Time: 9:00 AM first flight – DON'T BE LATE!

Lunch provided at 12:30pm

Ending Time: No round starts after 4:30pm

Sunday

Preliminary rounds until 1:00pm

Lunch provided at 1:00pm

Fly offs at 2:00pm

We will fly 4 fly off rounds on Sunday, weather permitting.

There are still a few slots available on teams. Let me know if you want to get on a team. This is going to be a great event this year. We currently have 8 teams signed up for the event.

I think we have enough volunteers with Tony running the scoring, Steve coordinating the field setup and Hal running the flight line as Co-CD.

While I will be the main organizer, Hal will be responsible as the final arbiter of controversies during the event. If you are not flying you may want to come out and see some of the top pilots in the country doing their stuff...

Jim Monaco

April 25th Open Contest Report CD Cody Remington

We had some interesting weather this month that postponed the contest to the next weekend, and because there was a hand launch contest the decision was made to run the contest on Saturday. We still got a very good turn out, and we will have another Saturday contest this month. We will see how it works out, and how people like it. Despite the cold weather we had a very good turn out. We ran an F3J with winches format with a 15 minute morning round, there was going to be a 15 minute 6th round but I decided to change that due to battery issues of some competitors, so we could get the 6th round in. We got a fairly early start on the contest and that proved to be very successful as it was the first time in a while that we get in 6th rounds of flying. I also ran the contest a little later to allow us to get in the rounds, and most people did not complain. I felt like I was the only one that wanted to stop the contest as I was not prepared for the cold weather. The conditions were very challenging through out the day we had over cast skies all day, wind, and cold weather. Many rounds were won due to re-launches, and everyone in the contest took a hit. I am not sure when the last time that happened in the club. If you take a look at the scores you will see how big of a point spread there was. The contest was won by Lenny due to his extremely smooth and consistent flying skills. To think we all thought we lost him to the Dark Side (electrics), well he is back and ready to take names with his brand new Pike Perfect! Nice going Lenny. I am trying to remember the placing as I don't have to scores in front of me, but I believe 2nd place was taken by Blayne with his Superstar. Congratulations! It would have been nice to run some fly off rounds to let the top pilots fly against each other, but because the scoring system was not allowed I saw no reason for they would be effective. As we all prepare for the Team Selections I can see that we are going to have the strongest team in the country, and I will be very surprised if we don't put a lease one person on the US Team. Keep up the good work guys, and thanks for helping me with run my first contest. Now back to Studying for finals :- (Go get some flying in this nice weather we are having.

Cody

Scores

April Open Contest Contest Date: 4/25/09

Class	Name	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	RD 6	Raw Total	Rounds Flown	# Throw Outs	Total	Norm by Class	Norm by Contest	Place by Contest
M	Masters														
M	Lenny Keer	1	995.35	1000.00	598.81	989.31	1000.00	995.98	5579.44	6	1	4980.63	1000.00	1000.00	1
M	Skip Miller	2	1000.00	958.30	985.86	998.98	1000.00	486.71	5429.85	6	1	4943.14	992.47	992.47	2
M	Blayne Chastain	3	811.06	1000.00	836.84	1000.00	999.99	1000.00	5647.88	6	1	4836.82	971.13	971.13	3
M	Mike Verzuh	4	783.14	996.81	1000.00	988.07	999.81		4767.83	5	1	4767.83	957.28	957.28	4
M	Jim Monaco	5	785.19	961.41	988.39	675.55	1000.00	1000.00	5410.55	6	1	4735.00	950.68	950.68	5
M	Cody Remington	6	838.16	835.92	1000.00	1000.00	999.62	721.73	5395.44	6	1	4673.70	938.38	938.38	6
M	Bob Lewan	7	1000.00	359.97	984.17	1000.00	610.50	1000.00	4954.64	6	1	4594.67	922.51	922.51	7
M	Jon Padilla	8	544.67	815.71	1000.00	993.66		998.55	4352.59	5	1	4352.59	873.90	873.90	8
M	Dr Dan	9	1000.00		949.48	992.13	816.21	451.20	4209.02	5	1	4209.02	845.08	845.08	9
M	Robert Pederson	10	441.08	1000.00	929.68	971.62	527.25		3869.63	5	1	3869.63	776.94	776.94	10
M	Steve Suntken	11	454.15	818.22	673.64	605.46	738.37	574.87	3864.70	6	1	3410.55	684.76	684.76	11
M	Bruce Martin	12	472.92	961.01	490.59	985.19	345.87		3255.58	5	1	3255.58	653.65	653.65	12

The first contest of the DLG season got off to a sunny start with a small but enthusiastic crowd. The good news is that we had 2 new pilots show up, one of whom competed with us! It's great to have an expanding group! 5 pilots enjoyed a day of friendly, yet spirited, competition in air that was for the most part very light. The initial 4 rounds yielded occasional boomers, as well as totally-dead conditions. All in all, they were a good mix of challenges. Apparently the biggest challenge was keeping the models in flying shape. Shawn (our new visitor) was the first casualty, experiencing a broken boom on landing. Next was Bob, who had a broken pod from a rough landing after experiencing a pushrod issue on launch. Then John who had a rudder horn come loose. Just before the start of round 5, the winds began picking up, and the carnage continued. The first to take a hit was John who tried to ride windy lift a little too far down-wind. Some unexpectedly-high winds caught his plane and took him out-of-bounds on his landing, about 1/2 mile out of bounds! Amazingly, the plane itself was unscathed - John's score, however, took a major hit. In round 6, the final casualty was taken - on an aggressive launch into high winds during the all-up-last-down task; Gary suffered an impressive pod separation, rendering his plane useless. Afterward, we sat around discussing various topics of interest while enjoying the traditional post-contest ice cream treats provided by Gary. Thanks! I'm sure all attendees would agree that, even amidst the carnage, it was a great day of flying.

We look forward to seeing a higher turnout at the May contest, where conditions will hopefully be a little more enjoyable. All you others who have toyed with the idea of trying DLG need to come on out and join in the fun!

Scores

Pilot	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Total
Dave Jensen	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	752.0	908.7	1000.0	5660.7
Gary Jensen	1000.0	962.0	934.1	1000.0	1000.0	719.6	5615.7
Bob Pederson	571.4	865.	7 984.7	551.2	1000.0	677.2	4650.2
John Lovins	400.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	0	1000.0	4400.0
Shawn Curry	450.0	441.3	0	0	0	0	891.3

POTPOURRI

ELECTRIC INDOOR FLY-IN

2009 SCHEDULE

Sat, Mar. 14, 7-10 pm

Sat, Apr. 18, 7:30-10:30pm

Sat, May 30, 7-10 pm

Sat, June 27, 7-10 pm

Sat, Aug. 1st, 7-10 pm

Sat, Sep. 19, 7-10 pm

Sat, Oct. 24, 7-10 pm

Schaefer Athletic Complex

Indoor Sports Arena

3608 S. Kipling Pkwy, Denver CO

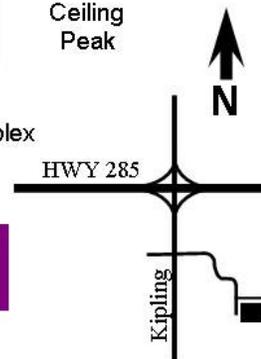
Electric RC Airplanes &
Helicopters!

\$25 per Pilot

All fees go directly to Schaefer Athletic Complex

Full Size
Indoor Soccer
Field!

42'
Ceiling
Peak



SPECTATORS WELCOME!

Please call Kurt Bozarth (720-495-8356) or
Brian Neff (303-829-4485) to CONFIRM Dates & Times!

FOR SALE



PIKE SUPERIOR, PIKE SUPERIOR S/L (super light), and SCHPOTDORKER. \$400(obo) each, or \$1,000(obo) for all three.

Definitely used, but all of these F3J gliders are in great flying condition. All three have been repaired.

The Pike Superior has an easy to fix crack in the fuselage. Great flying plane that has a ballast tube and sturdy wing. White on the top with Stars and Stripes design.

Pike Superior S/L (super light), has no ballast tube, and climbs very well in the lightest lift. It is orange, with an unmatched blue wingtip that was replaced.

The Schpotdorker (bagged wing) is the master of light winds, light lift and precision "Schpot" landings. Wingspar on one wing was repaired/reinforced.

All three planes include the receiver, 1500ma battery, and servos. All three were flown April of this year and they fly perfectly. If you need a fleet of gliders to get started in F3J, and don't want to risk big bucks while learning the ropes, then this might be the answer.

Please call or email Gary Slocum at 720-236-4383 or slocga@aol.com

ERASER XTREME...NIB \$500.00

WING SPAN: 124" WING AREA: 1054sq in"

WING AIRFOIL: MH-32

HOLLOW CORE MOLDED WINGS



MORE INFORMATION: www.icare-rc.com

John Pearson jtp899@earthlink.net

Rocky Mountain Soaring Association - 2009

RENEWAL ____ NEW MEMBER ____ SPONSOR _____

Please complete the following information for our records:

Family Memberships - Please make and complete a copy for EACH flying family member!

Name : _____ Need name badge? Yes

Address: _____ Year Joined RMSA: _____

_____ Home Phone: _____

_____ Work Phone: _____

AMA #: _____ AMA Contest Director? Yes No

AMA Class Open Youth Family Birth Date: ___/___/____

LSF #: ___ LSF LEVEL: ___ NSS #: _____ E-Mail: _____

RMSA Membership Class Senior Only Senior W/Family Associate Family
(Note - Senior W/Family receive THERMALS - other Family members check Family Box)

Non-Flying Family members: _____

RMSA Competition Class Novice Sportsman Master

RMSA Offices Held _____

----- **MODELS OWNED** -----

PLANE **SPAN** **COLOR** (Top,Bott.,Fuse) **CLASS** (Open,HLG,Std..) **FREQUENCY**

Interests: Sports Flying T/D contests HLG Contests NSS Soar-ins F3J
F3B X-C contests Slope contests Other _____

Past Achievements: _____

Dues: \$ 7.50 New Member Initiation Fee
\$ 7.50 Junior - under 17
\$ 35.00 Senior - individual 17 and over
\$ 40.00 Family - any number (same address)
\$ 8.00 Associate (newsletter only)

Make checks payable to RMSA

Comments and suggestions are ENCOURAGED! Please include these with your form!

REMEMBER TO SIGN THE FIELD RULES!!!

Please send to: **RMSA**

% Bob Rice

1123 S. Oakland St.

Aurora, CO 80012

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SOARING ASSOCIATION FIELD RULES

The sod farm operations take precedence over **ALL** activities. We use the field at the convenience of the owner.

All members will follow **ALL** instructions from **ANY** sod farm personnel without question.

When sod farm operations are occurring during a flying session it is **OUR** responsibility to ensure that we will not interfere with operations. If it is unclear as to what is happening or where they intend to mow or work try to talk to workers or management and always move equipment or vacate the premises if necessary. Some workers do not speak very good English – in that case you must make every effort to avoid conflict or interference with operations.

Park only in the designated parking areas Do not park on grass, dirt or roads.

Avoid setting up on newly seeded areas or young grassy areas. The nice grassy areas are better to land on anyway!

Establish a frequency control pole and tag system! Frequency control is to be in effect at all times!! All members will post their frequency control tags on the pole and if there are conflicts, please exercise safety sense as well as share the flight time.

Parking and pit areas should be as condensed as possible for the safety of launch and landing.

Establish flight line areas for winch launch, high start launch, and hand launch that are separate for the sake of launch, flight & landing safety.

Flying over the parking/pit areas at less than 30 feet is prohibited. Doing so in competition **WILL** result in a zero flight score and during R/R flying a disciplinary action by the club.

No aerobatics or speed runs over the parking/pit/Launch/Landing zones.

Do not launch if a plane is circling in a launch zone: vacate the launch zone as soon as possible if someone is waiting to launch.

When entering a thermal occupied by other aircraft, enter in the same direction as the first aircraft

Landing aircraft have the right of way!

In the event of no mechanical retriever, please shag your own chute/line for the flight

Please share the usage of club equipment so that all have equal flight time.

Please be courteous and helpful to your fellow flyers as well as informative to all guests/spectators. Enjoy yourself and others!!

Absolutely no debris or trash is to be left on the field! Please take it home with you for disposal.

Make sure that your plane and electronics are airworthy before each flight. Exercise good safety sense in your flight

The aircraft will have an identification name/address or AMA number on or in the model in case of loss.

You **MUST** tag your winch/high start spikes or stakes with fluorescent tape so they are easily spotted on the field by all concerned. Members may be fined \$10 for each stake or nail not so marked. Previous damage to sod farm equipment from spikes left in the ground have made this rule **EXTREMELY** important.

Absolutely no alcoholic beverages will be consumed, prior to or during participation in any model event on the flying field.

I understand and will comply with all RMSA field rules:

Signature

2009 RMSA Contest/Event Calendar (Revised 1-29-09)

Date	Type	CD	Name/Notes
<i>Jan 31</i>	<i>Practice</i>	<i>Mike Fritz</i>	<i>Fun Fly</i>
Feb	RMSA Meeting		TBA- possible indoor fun fly
Feb 21-22			<i>SWC - Phoenix</i>
Mar 03	RMSA Meeting		
Mar 08	Open*	Mike Verzuh	F3J Intro
Mar 21	RES and 2 meter	Dr. Dan Williams	
<i>Mar 22</i>	<i>Practice</i>	<i>Joel Zellmer</i>	<i>march madness</i>
Apr 07	RMSA Meeting		
<i>Apr 18</i>	<i>Practice</i>	<i>Milt Woodham</i>	<i>humps and bumps</i>
Apr 19	Open*	Cody Remington	Co CD Bob Lewan
Apr 25	Mentor Day	Blayne Chastain	
Apr 26	H/L	Dave Jenson	
May 05	RMSA Meeting		
<i>May 09</i>	<i>Electric</i>	<i>Jack Dech</i>	<i>Watts 'o Fun</i>
May 09	Open*	Dr. Dan Williams	
<i>May 17</i>	<i>Open/RES/2M</i>	<i>John Read</i>	<i>May Fly</i>
May 17	H/L	Gary Jenson	
May 23-24	F3J in the Rockies*	Jim Monaco	
Jun 6-7			IHLG - California Event
Jun 02	RMSA Meeting		
Jun 14	Open*	Bob Rice	
<i>Jun 20</i>	<i>Open/RES/2M</i>	<i>Austin Cleis</i>	<i>Summer Solstice</i>
Jun 20	Mentor Day	Jim Asbury	
Jun 27	H/L	Dave Jenson	
Jul 07	RMSA Meeting		
Jul 11	Open*	Don Ingram	Saturday
Jul 18	RES and 2 meter	Bruce Martin	
<i>Jul 19</i>	<i>Open/RES/2M</i>	<i>Greg Tarcza</i>	<i>Height o' the Season</i>
July 19-26			<i>Soaring NATS - Muncie ID</i>
Jul 19	H/L	John Kappas	
Aug 01	Mentor Day	Dr Dan	LSF task day
Aug 04	RMSA Meeting		
Aug 09	Open*	Bruce Martin	
<i>Aug 22</i>	<i>Open</i>	<i>Frank Deis</i>	<i>Howling Coyote and picnic</i>
Aug 22-23	HLG**	Dave Jensen	Blue Skys Series
Sep 01	RMSA Meeting		
Sept 5-7	US F3J Team Select	Jim Monaco	
Sep 12	Mentor Day	?	
Sep 13	H/L	Dave Jenson	
<i>Sep 20</i>	<i>Open/RES/2M</i>	<i>Chris Keller</i>	<i>Soar Bash</i>
Sep 19	Open*	Dr. Dan Williams	SATURDAY - NOT
Oct 3-4	Visailia		
Oct 06	RMSA Meeting		
Oct 16-18	Texas TNT in Dallas	TBA	H/L, RES and two days of Open

2009 RMSA Contest/Event Calendar (Revised 1-29-09)

Oct 11	Open*	Hal Remington	Colorado Challenge Cup
<i>Oct 24</i>	<i>Open/RES/2M</i>	Barry Welsh	<i>Witches Brew</i>
Oct 24	Scienturfic Apprec. Day		Also Family Day -
Nov 03	RMSA Meeting		
Nov 08	Open*	Steve Suntken	
<i>Nov 22</i>	<i>Open/RES/2M</i>	<i>Jerry Murphy</i>	<i>Turkey Shoot (Members Only)</i>
Dec 10	RMSA Banquet		
<i>Dec 12</i>	<i>HLG etc</i>	<i>John & Jo-Anne</i>	<i>Barn Fly (Members Only)</i>

***Club Open points contest**

****Club HLG points contest**

Italics indicates PPSS events



2008 Board Members

President:	Bruce Martin	303 963 5019	mail to: rbrucemartin@aol.com
Vice President:	Hal Remington	303-661-9244	mail to: hal@hill.com
Secretary:	Bob Rice	720-581-3099	mail to: briceflyer@comcast.net
Treasurer:	John Pearson	303-306-6800	mail to: JTTP1006@earthlink.net
Past President:	Mike Verzuh	970-532-0638	mail to: mike@verzuh.com

Member Support

Web Site <http://www.rmsadenver.com>

Chief

Instructor:	Mike Verzuh	970-532-0638	303-505-9488 (Pager)
Field Manager	Steve Sunken	303-477-6184	flvingdogtwo@cs.com
Scorekeeper &	Jim Monaco	303-464-9895	jimmonaco@earthlink.net
Web master			
Librarian:	Tracy Cochran	303-934-8838	Tcochran@idcomm.com
Newsletter:	Tony O'Hara	303-948-2576	tonyoco@q.com

Winch Master

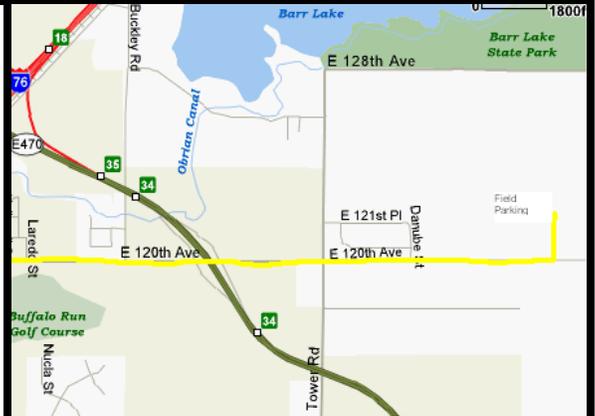
Steve Suntkin 303-477-6184 flvingdogtwo@cs.com

Battery Masters

Bob Lewan
 Skip Miller
 Joseph Newcomb
 Cody Remington
 Dr. Dan Williams
 Steve Suntken

For Winch Use;

If you are interested in using a club winch please contact Mike for the first time, and I will insure you have all the details for trailer access. Also if you are a new member and have not had a winch operation and safety briefing we will coordinate that.



Directions to Field

Take I-76 to exit 16. Turn left and follow the frontage road to the stoplight and turn east onto 120th eastbound towards the airport. Take 20th East to Tower Rd. Take 120th east of Tower Rd about 3/4 miles. We fly on the North side of 120th which is the SE quadrant of the sod farm.

Flying for RMSA members and accompanied guests only.



Rocky Mountain Soaring Association
1123 S. Oakland St
Aurora CO 80012

Forwarding Address Requested

First Class Mail