

# Score Board

## August TD Contest

Ron Scharck, CD

On August 16, twenty-seven pilots braved what was supposed to be a hot day at Poway to enjoy one of the more pleasant days of thermal flying in a while.

We were fortunate to have our good friends from ISS join us again. Mike Lee, Ron Falkingham and joint TPG/ISS member, Bob Brown are always a welcome sight. And of course, when the ISS guys show up so does our own Mike Skube. Mike set a new record for being off the mark. On a 10 minute round, Mike slightly overflow his time by a mere 14 minutes and 5 seconds. When asked about his slight overage, Mike said "Heck, I was in a really good thermal and I was having fun!" Sounds good to me Mike.

The tasks for the day included four flights with one of each: 4 min; 6 min; 8 min; and 10 min. and they could be flown in any order. Landings were on a standard 25' tape.

A good portion of the pilots were able to get their times in reverse order meaning they got their 10 minute flight first..

Arthur Markiewicz, flying an Esprit, was perfect on his times and averaged four landings of 93 to take the contest and 1st Place in Masters with a score of 3974..4. Mike Lee, flying in the Expert Class' edged out Masters pilot Aaron Valdes for second place overall.. Fred sage took 3rd place in Masters.

Mark Gumprecht edged out Jon Colton for second place in Expert. Terry Throop, Don Clark and Bob Brown took the honors in the Advanced Class. Ken Raymond lost battery power and watched in horror as his plane spiraled into the ground. Fortunately, it will live to fly again.

Jerry Craft took the top spot in Sportsman followed by Keith Maurer. Two Novice pilots joined us with Colin Craft picking up the win.

It was really good to see Rick Shelby fly with us again. He just graduated from college and says he can now get back to the fun stuff. ✈

## August HL Contest

Mark Navarre

Well, you guys who were too tired to fly some more after the Nats missed some extra challenging conditions at the Poway field. With 90 degree heat and oppressive humidity, and virtually no wind to kick the thermals off at the tree line, the dead air floaters should rule the day. We were treated to a new design by Mark Gumprecht and flown by both Mike Ziaskas and Mark G. Not sure if Mark has named it yet, but the name "Sidewinder" was mentioned at the field. This little 3 1/2 foot wingspan hummer is launched sort of boomerang style, with a sidearm swing while holding the wingtip! Launch height is about 10-15 feet higher than the best conventional launches, which at about one second flight time per foot of launch height means that Mike and Mark were getting 50-55 second dead air flights. Looks like the aileron guys might be in trouble!

The flight tasks as planned started with five 2:00's and an add-em-up with a 3 flight minimum. To make things easier due to the lack of rising air, we switched these around. Even so, in the second round there were only three flights over 3:00, the longest being Mike Z's 5:10 in the third heat. The overall average flight times were closer to only one minute!

The third round was most number of flights of increasing time, and showed a small weakness of the Sidewinder planes. They are slow to catch and toss in the sidearm style, taking about 1.5 seconds at best, compared to about half a second for a good conventional "turnaround". Those seconds really add up, and will really hurt in a task where minimum turnaround time is important. I don't see the harm in putting a dowel through the pod, or a finger hole in the bottom. This would enable a normal catch with the throwing arm already cocked in the launch position followed

by a quick throw. One could then switch to sidearm launches when the longer flights are needed. But I digress.....

Round four was another one with five 2:00 flights. By this time of the day some wind was coming up, but unfortunately out of the north. With no landscape feature at the south side of the field to break loose any thermals, conditions were still very challenging. Ground signs and thermal "draws" were present in abundance, but were almost universally misleading! Best to just launch for all you're worth and search for a bump. Out of 104 flights in this round, only 13 flights were a 2:00 max, with the average time being 52 seconds.

Thanks to all who attended, especially Bren and Garth for timing, and helping me change a shredded tire on the "Glider Fun Bus". Next HLG contest at the Poway field will be the second leg of the Southern California HLG Triad, on October 17. I hope to see you all there! ✈

## Results as follows:

|     |                   |      |
|-----|-------------------|------|
| 1.  | Paul Anderson     | 4000 |
| 2.  | Mark Navarre      | 3965 |
| 3.  | Arthur Markiewicz | 3859 |
| 4.  | Mike Ziaskas      | 3799 |
| 5.  | Mark Gumprecht    | 3747 |
| 6.  | Garth Warner      | 3718 |
| 7.  | Tom Clarkson      | 3667 |
| 8.  | Carl Anderson     | 3560 |
| 9.  | Terry Trimble     | 3359 |
| 10. | Weston Reid       | 3326 |
| 11. | Bren Lugo         | 3269 |