

Torrey Pines Gulls Club HLG contest on April 3

Mark Navarre

We had windy conditions. And cold. To promote international diplomacy, we flew the "postal contest" format for this round of our club championship. The tasks were 4 rounds of five 2:00 flights in a 10:00 minute slot with a maximum of ten launches. Due to the rather poor conditions, I doubt our club will figure well in the results, but it was a fun day nonetheless. Did I mention the wind? 10 to 15 mph, with gusts sometimes higher. Completely overcast sky, too. Only 8% of the 340 possible 2:00 maxes were achieved by the 17 pilots competing. Sympathies to Keith Millett for breaking his brand new Wizard "lite" at it's (and his) first contest, and congrats on a 12th place finish. I hope we'll be seeing more of Keith, and his Dad, Jerry. We also had some other out of town visitors: Sam Girardi, and Keith McLellan from the Los Angeles area, Welcome to Poway, guys!

Did you make many off field landings? The contest was mostly a matter of protecting your 40 and 50 second flights by landing inside the field boundary. This was easier said than done, due to the high winds from the south.

The usual guys were at the top at the end of the day, see the results table below.

Next HLG contest at Poway will be on Saturday, May 15. Thanks to Jo Joy for her hard work scoring the contests, I would be helpless without her!

HLG Contest Results:

1. John Roe	- 3926
2. Arthur Markiewicz	- 3876
3. Carl Anderson	
4. Paul Anderson	- 3514
5. Tom Clarkson	
6. George Joy	
7. Mark Navarre	
8. Garth Warner	
9. Keith McLellan	3140
10. Sam Girardi	2839
11. Ron Scharck	2729
12. Keith Millett	
13. Derek Boyer	2364
14. Don Richmond	
15. Chris Schafer	2079
16. Paul Schulte	
17. Don VanGundy	1701

April Thermal Duration Contest Report

Mike Smith

Summer in April

Yes, that's right. I said summer in April. The conditions were just like a balmy June or July day at Poway, clear skies, 85 to 90 degree temperatures, and EZ-up tents. All in all a beautiful day to be flying model sail-planes.

Challenging Format

When I put together this contest format, I thought that it would be somewhat challenging knowing how abundant the lift USUALLY is at Poway. Little did I know that Mother Nature had decided to even the score by spreading out the thermals and making them fairly tough to find.

Here Come the Experts

Congratulations are definitely in order for the Expert class as a whole for their performance. Take a look at the scores Masters, 'cause they are gaining ground fast. T.P.G. is know for its stiff competition, but this just

raises the bar another notch. Way to go guys.

Thanks Again

As always more thanks are in order for all of those who lent a hand to help keep things running smoothly. Our indispensable Jerry Craft for his winches, Patrick and Brendan for scoring help and launching help, and the multitude of people that I used for retrieving winch lines for the Man-on Man event. Thanks again everyone.

One thing for all of us to consider, in order to really efficiently run a Man-on-Man event it takes the proactive involvement of the contestants. What I mean is that each and every contestant should take it upon themselves to see when they are expected to be ready to fly, and pay attention to who is up in front of you. Timer/Pilot conflicts should be identified early so they can be minimized or alternate timers arranged for. While things have been running pretty darn good, this kind of proactive approach can only help to smooth out the kinks.

See you next time

Contest Results Master Pilot Normalized 1000 1 Patrick Dionisio 999.58 2 Brendan Lugo 3 Fred Sage 996.22 Don Van Gundy 987.01 4 5 George Joy 984.9 977.86 6 Keith Finkenbiner 7 909.87 Don Clark 8 Ron Scharck 813.59 Mike Smith 774.79 9 Arthur Mark. 610.53

Results continued on next page