

Postal Thermal Contest

Dates

- 1 The contest consists of four rounds, flown in February, May, August and November, the best three scores giving the total for the year.
- 2 Each pilot may make two attempts at the event in each quarter. These may be on any day in the month but, once started (stopwatch running on first flight), he is committed to that day's score for one of his two submissions. *(Amended 2009)*
- 3 The club score shall consist of the top four individual scores (A League) or the top three individual scores (B League). Obviously the team score no longer has to be recorded from a single day or even a single venue. *(Amended 2008)*

Flights

- 4 Each entrant is entitled to FIVE (5) flights, which must be flown consecutively (allowing for legitimate reflights or test flights which have to be nominated before launch), all of which are counted for his total score. *(Modified May 2004)*

(Some confusion seems to have arisen regarding the term "consecutive" — the intention is not that a pilot must fly five flights one-after-the-other — the idea is that he / she is not allowed assorted unofficial flights in between his official ones.)

Launch / Line-break

- 5 Launching may be by electric winch (max available line from turnabout to 'chute 200 m)
or by 150 m bungee (150 m unstretched, max rubber 30 m)
or by 175 m hand tow.

Line-Break

If the line breaks, or there is some malfunction of the launching apparatus, the flyer may demand a relaunch, even after trying to make the most of whatever height he may have had at the time of the break.

Relaunch

- 6 A relaunch may be called for (for any reason), at any time up to the drop of the 'chute. Once the 'chute is dropped, the launch is accepted, unless the pilot calls for a reflight immediately after snapping off the line. The flyer must then land and relaunch as quickly as possible.

If a part comes off a model in flight and the model remains controllable, then the pilot may have the option of a relaunch as soon as possible or of continuing the flight without the lost part, provided that the CD is satisfied that (a) the part fell off unintentionally, and (b) the pilot gains no unfair advantage by virtue of the relaunch.

Models

- 7 There is no restriction on the number of models an entrant may use in the course of the contest, a different one for each flight if he so wishes.

Scoring

- 8 Scoring is as for Task A in the ~~old~~ F3B rules, ie to a precise six minutes, not ten, and a landing bonus of 100 if the nose is within one metre of the spot, 95 if within 2 metres and so on down to 30 if within 15 metres.

Scores

- 9 Scores are to be sent off as soon as possible after the last day of the month. Please list **name – total score – aircraft – section – span** for each pilot.

Full spreadsheets with details of every flight and landing only give me extra work!

- 10 Please submit all scores to the Postal Co-Ordinator.

John Lightfoot — by e-mail to jfoot@mweb.co.za

Please include a short comment on conditions or anything else of interest about the day.

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