



January 2018 WNYFFS Thermal Journal Update

1 message

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Here is the latest from the Western New York Free Flight Society.

Science Olympiad News

The Senior High Science Olympiad tournament is scheduled for February 2nd, 2019 at The College of Brockport, State University of New York. Last year's organizer for the event, Howie Barnes, had to step down this year for personal reasons. Taking Howie's place are volunteers from the NY State Science Olympiad organization. Our contact for the event is Jamie Cucinotta. Jamie and his fellow helpers from the state organization are depending on the individuals who have staffed the event in previous years. At this time, he does not know the room we will be assigned, nor does he know if there will be volunteers from the Science Olympiad Club of Cornell University will be helping out. Volunteers from Cornell provided great support, especially since they were well versed with the real time scoring program, EZRA.

We can always use the help. If you able to help out send an email to me and I'll forward the rules for the event etc. Thanks in advance.

Planning Meeting

Our planning on January 5 was well attended. We discussed the event line ups for the Empire State Free Flight Championships (ESFFC) and the Great Grape Gathering (GGG). Everyone should have already received an email from Roy Smith with the flyers for both these events. If you did not receive that email let me know. I'll send you a copy and make sure Roy has your email for the next time.

One contest not discussed at the Planning Meeting was the Pirate Challenge (PC). This was as intended. Every year, the FAC runs a few special events at the National or Non Nationals. Very often we wish to include those special events at the PC. This year, discussion of the event list for the PC was deferred until the FAC announces the event line up for the National event.

Those interested in working out the details for the Pirate Challenge are welcome to participate. Send your editor an email and I'll be happy to let you know when we will be getting together. Of course that will not happen until we get the details from FAC GHQ.

New event at the ESFFC & GGG

For the most part, the event line up at the ESFFC and the GGG were not changed. The only exception is that a power scale event was added based on the requests of a couple of contestants at last year's contests. FAC Power Scale has been flown at the Pirate Challenge for a few years. However, that event required scale judging. Rather than necessitating scale judging at the ESFFC & GGG, we will be flying a lite version, that is, Powered Simple Scale. This Powered Simple Scale is a blending of two official FAC events so it is a Faux FAC event. Faux FAC Powered Simple Scale.

In general the intent is to fly scale models using a power other than rubber without the burden of high precision or exact scale demands as entailed with FAC Power Scale. Instead, we will build per FAC Simple Scale rules which allow more leeway in terms of scale fidelity and no requirement for scale documentation. That said, both FAC Power Scale and Simple Scale include provision for bonus points to encourage more challenging subjects. However the points offered are different between the two FAC events; Simple Scale limits total points to 15 while Power Scale has no limit.

In addition, FAC Power Scale offers bonus points for non-electric powered models. So Glo or CO2 powered models would gain some advantage over electric power.

Details are not yet worked out but your editor leans towards using the bonus points as laid out for Power Scale while holding to the building and documentation standards in place for Simple Scale. FAC scale events typically limit dihedral, for example:

Dihedral: a maximum of 1" per tip per foot of wingspan or, in the case of low wingers, no higher than the bottom of the canopy-whichever is higher. Models built from kits may be built to plan even if the specified dihedral exceeds these standards. In such cases—bring your plans!

Scoring flight times will follow Simple Scale rules which allow simply for the sum of seconds flown to a max of 120 seconds, while 20 seconds are required to make a flight official. Whether bonus point should be added for each flight or just once for the entry remains TBD. Three flights required or score the best of three official flights likewise remains TBD.

Finally, much to everyone's amazement, (at least those who do not fly power scale) FAC rules allow unlimited motor/engine run! We will stick with that. It is hard to confirm motor run duration for electric models anyway. Independent of the energy source, it is easy to provide power for two minutes duration. However, minimal dihedral and short coupling typical of scale models make a two minute flight more challenging than would be the case for a powered duration model.

Enough said for now. Anyone with an ax to grind or a thoughtful opinion should feel free to chime in. Record your thoughts on the back of a \$20 bill and send them to the editor. Please be legible. An email is OK in a pinch.

WNYFFS Indoor Flying 2018 ~ 2019

Here are the remaining dates for this year's indoor flying:

January: 1/26/19;

February: 2/9/19 and 2/23/19;

March: 3/9/19 and 3/23/19

Once again, flying time is from 2PM to 5PM. Contact Jim for more information or to be added to his list for specific (last minute) indoor updates: [REDACTED]

Vet's Jet Cat Glider

Vet Thomas sent along a great photo of his own design He 280 Jet Cat Glider. His model looks mighty fine. It is easy to imagine some anxious moments while searching the tall grass for this green machine. Nevertheless, the model is mean to soar; many modelers have had very good performance from the 280. Good luck Vet.



The End

That is all for now.

Mark C. Rzdca, editor Western New York Free Society Thermal Journal