



KZN Pattern Aerobatics Championship 2013

Hosted by KZN Pattern Association

Sponsored by ARE Enterprises

Report by Colin Addis - photos by Leon Coetzee



Special points of interest:

- F3A World Championships getting of the ground. www.f3a2013.co.za
- How about joining the **F3A 2013 Facebook group?**
- The **GAA web** is now fully functional for all to use at www.gautengaerobatics.co.za
- The **Search function** is now made smart! When searching, the engine will only search in relevant sites. Test it!
- Did you know you can view the **2013 GAA/MAASA Calendar** on the GAA web?

With the benefit of superbly mild, clear and calm weather this event was held on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 June at Emoyeni Aviation Park, situated between Durban and Pietermaritzburg, in the rolling hills of rural Kwazulu Natal.

This year was the third time that the venue has been used for a radio control aerobatic competition and it has proved very popular with participants because of its facilities and beautiful setting.

The fact that the venue was on a full size airfield proved a godsend to Arthur Eggar when, having arrived on Friday after a two and a half hour drive from Himeville, he found that he had brought with him the wrong set of wings. Arthur was able to arrange a "mercy flight" the next morning with Brian Eaton, owner of Emoyeni, in Brian's Jabiru to retrieve the required wings from home.....seventy minutes there and back – problem solved!



Neil Allen (Chairman), Leon Coetzee (Competition Director) and the KZNPAA committee went all out to ensure a well run event that gave entrants an enjoyable experience.

For whatever reason the entries this year were down on previous KZN provincial competitions – two in Sportsman, two in Advanced, six in Masters and two in F3A giving a total of twelve pilots.

The organisers were extremely appreciative of having pilots Grant Brook, Clinton Carter-Brown, Justin Lees and Stadler Britz and judge John Clements come down from Gauteng to take part. Unfortunately Max Buizer had to withdraw (from Advanced) at the last minute due to ill health of his wife, everybody concerned wishes her a speedy recovery.

Friday 14 June was official practice day and a number of pilots used the opportunity to sharpen up their skills and acclimatise to local conditions.

F3A 2013 Update

Information at www.f3a2013.co.za



FLIGHT LINE

KZN Flight Line

At 09h00 on Saturday Leon got the competition program under way and everything proceeded according to plan without any mishaps. The format for the competition was the usual four flights per pilot in all classes except F3A – in F3A class, with the prior consent of the two entrants, four P13 and two F13 schedules were flown.



Bruce Clark (Chief Judge) together with John Clements, Des Cooper, Fred Wilkinson and Jason Barker made up the panel of judges.

Leon's grandson, Dilan, was a great help with the delivery of completed score sheets to Margie Addis who input the information into the computerised scoring system. Pilots and others assisted as scribes, thank you guys!

From time to time impromptu breaks were taken to allow for the departure and landing of full size aircraft, one of them being Michel Leusch (Masters entrant) arriving in his Decathlon after taking part in an airshow at Ulundi earlier on Saturday morning.

To ensure a safe flying environment for both full size and model aircraft there was constant liaison between Leon and the local flight school manning the two way radio.

By the end of day one, around 15h30, some respectable scores had been posted and there were no certain winners going into day two - it would all be down to the last roll of the dice the following day!

Obviously Stadler was flying against himself in Advanced but had acquitted himself very well indeed.



In the evening, Emoyeni put up a good wholesome meal of Biryani and Lasagne which was served in their recently extended pub area. A relaxed and social time was had by all whilst enjoying the meal and watching the Boks run out eventual winners against Scotland.

On Sunday, pilots and all concerned arrived at the field well in time for the scheduled start of 09h00. The weather again was simply gorgeous; the only difference from Saturday was a change in breeze direction. Again, everything went according to plan and a great day's flying was had with the last flight ending around 13h00.

Margie completed the final scoring in quick time and the prize giving ceremony then got under way. Leon acknowledged the involvement of everyone who had participated, sponsored and contributed in ensuring the success of the event.

Arthur, in his role as chairman of MAASA, then addressed the gathering before handing over to Neil to announce the results and hand over the trophies.



Michel Leusch

Sportsman – After ending day one a whisker behind **Colin Addis** (57.54%), **Craig Christianson** (59.28%) kept a cool head on Sunday and flew a good fourth round to take first place.

Advanced – Despite being all on his own in this class, **Stadler Britz** achieved a credible average score of 63.02%

Masters – In his first official pattern competition, **Michel Leusch** (64.7%) coasted in to take top honours followed by **Neil Allen** (60.59%) and then **Justin Lees** (58.09%). Well done to Justin who flew his way back into third position after suffering a battery failure during round three which cut short that flight.

F3A – This was a very close contest with skilful flying and no clear winner evident at any stage. Grant Brook won the first three rounds of the P13 schedule with Clinton Carter-Brown taking the fourth round. Clinton then won both rounds of the F13 schedule. The final result was separated by only four normalised points with Clinton coming out as top gun. **Clinton** achieved 63.86% and **Grant** 62.57%

All in all, this was a most enjoyable event and the KZN Pattern Association look forward to hosting next year's local championship.



The smile says it all

