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## LATEST SAC NEWS

February

2010

Well the first contest of the year has come and gone and it is great to see the enthusiasm within the Aerobatic community. Once again the number of entries was right up there with record numbers for a Regional contest! A great job was done by the Contest Directors Warren and Alan (and Annie) and all the Volunteers, Judges and Sponsors. It was also very good to see the support from out of town. Will Allan flew in from the USA to fly Intermediate and his wife Linda joined in as a Judge, Etienne Verhellen from Belgium flew in the Intermediate class, and Valentina Drokina from Russia helped with some coaching and then added a critical eye as a Judge. Also thanks to Patrick Davidson for making it up from P.E and putting in another excellent performance. Congrats on winning the Contest! It was also great to see some of the “stalwarts” performing so well. Mike Beresford won gold in the Sportsman Class and also Mark Shepherd back in the saddle and winning Intermediate. A special mention of our two “new comers” Todd Montgomerie and Paul Lessing! Great to have you guys back! Some other noteworthy performances came from Craig Pearce in the Decathlon and Charles Urban’s performance in the Advanced free. Full results are on the website.

## Gauteng Regional Champs

By Contest Director Warren Haslam:

Welcome to 2010, I hope you all had a great new year and are rested for a great aerobatic season that lies ahead.

Congratulations to Patrick Davidson for being the overall winner of the 2010 Gauteng Regional Championships held this past weekend at Vereeniging. With this being the 1<sup>st</sup> contest of the year a phenomenal 24 competing pilots, including 2 international pilots from Belgium and USA respectively participated. Also on the Judging line we had 2 additional opinions coming from Russia and USA. To the Judges, thank you for scoring the day under the tremendous African heat, much appreciated.

I would like to say a big “thank you” to Annie and Kathy, you ladies Rock and Alan for helping turn this contest into a great success. I would also like to thank Harry for assisting as starter and controlling the airspace around Vereeniging. Special thanks go to Craig from FTS who again assisted in providing the contest with Fuel for the day. To all competing Pilots – Thank you and well done!!!!

A quick look at the results

### **Overall Positions**

1<sup>st</sup> Patrick Davidson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Nigel Hopkins  
3<sup>rd</sup> Mike Beresford

### **Individual Winners**

Graduate - Todd Montgomerie  
Sportsman – Mike Beresford  
Intermediate – Mark Shepherd  
Advanced – Patrick Davidson

Safe flying  
Warren

PTO.....

## AOG African Outdoor Group

Well it seems that some people ignore the newsletters and the website! In case you have, please remember that we have a new sponsor in African Outdoor Group. Yes we were very spoilt with the Gig-Rig last year but for those that flew this weekend you would have noticed that no entry fees were charged and that you received meal vouchers. The judge's expenses were also covered, as were the admin costs. All sponsored by AOG. They are sponsoring all the Regional contests for the year this way and will be making a big contribution to Nationals along with Suzuki.

A.O.G? Read on!

At **African Outdoor Group** we supply and facilitate Leisure Lifestyle products and services to every conceivable industry.

Our range of products and services is extremely diverse, yet primarily focused on

- Corporate Events
- Aviation Marketing
- National Roadshows
- Media Relations Management
- Product Launches & Promotions
- Training: Driver, Technical, Product & Sales Process

This sets us in a class of our own; we offer a **totally-integrated solution**, drawing on a variety of diverse industries such as the Automotive, Aviation, Recreational, Adventure, Outdoor and Leisure.

In this way, we are a one-stop Leisure Lifestyle provider **where the sky is the limit!**

We are passionate about making every experience memorable.

To this end, we combine **constant innovation** with **creativity, technical know-how**, attention to detail and years of **experience** to ensure that your African Outdoor experience is one of learning, team-work, knowledge-sharing, fun and, ultimately, **enrichment**.

### **Differentiators**

What sets us apart in the Leisure Lifestyle industry, first and foremost, is our passion for customers and our attention to detail ,this all in a ;

- **superb venue**, located in the foothills of the Magaliesberg, just 45 minutes' drive from the hustle and bustle of Sandton and Pretoria.
- Set against the backdrop of the Hartebeespoort Dam, the Lifestyle Centre at De Rust offers Conference Facilities to up to 90 delegates, as well as our Country Restaurant , bar and outdoor boma; Accommodation and Fun catering to your every conceivable need.
- The homely environment, the warmth and genuine hospitality are exemplified in the architecture portraying the rustic simplicity of the traditional South African farmstead.
- Another differentiator is our unique Four-phased approach to catering for the customer's every need.
- The product and service range we offer is exceptionally wide and sets us in a class of our own – we offer you the client a totally-integrated solution, we are truly your one-stop Leisure Lifestyle service provider **where the sky is literally the limit!**

### **Value-add**

We are passionate about making every experience memorable.

To this end, we combine **constant innovation** with **creativity**, **technical know-how** and years of **experience** to ensure that your African Outdoor encounter is one of learning, team-work, knowledge-sharing and, ultimately, **enrichment**.

### **Our Process**

At African Outdoor Group we fully understand that the needs of each and every client (as well as their goals and objectives, their limitations and the nature of their product or service) are just as unique as their own, distinctive corporate culture.

All of these factors, we realize, constitute a specific Leisure Lifestyle or Marketing/Promotion requirement.

Every client is unique and, to ensure **service excellence**, we determine their **exact need** before embarking on a plan of action.

### **The Four-phased Approach**

To this end, we follow a simple yet very effective Four-phased Approach designed

to facilitate as much client participation as possible.

We regard our **Clients as our Friends** and every one of these friendships starts with a thorough needs-assessment, followed by step-by-step **Collaboration and Implementation**.

During the Four-phased Approach, we

- Listen;
- Think;
- Propose and, finally,
- Organize.

**We Listen** during our first encounter with the client to establish the objectives of the meeting – we Listen to ensure that we understand the client’s need as clearly as they do themselves. Only then, when we have gathered all the facts, preferences and prerequisites, do we implement Phase Two.

**We Think** before we make our proposal. Our Production and Design Departments join forces to customize the solution to the client’s exact needs, be they a Product Launch or an Accredited Course in Vehicle Recovery.

During this phase we **add value** by ensuring that the solution does not only meet the client’s needs, but also rewards, motivates and inspires their employees.

**We Propose** the solution most suited to the client’s needs. Our Design Department drafts a proposal specifying every detail of the event. Only once we have the client’s approval, do we move on to Phase Four.

**We Organize** every detail of the event in exact accordance to the client’s dictates. This includes services such as venue hire, the appointment of personnel, the acquisition of specialized equipment and material when necessary, as well as transport.

## *Contact Us*

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## Contest Registration and Paperwork

There was a bit of a late start to Saturday's contest mainly due to the fact that Pilots had not updated their Licence, Aircraft and ratings with Kathy for the new season. The registration process can be streamlined if all Pilots can help to get the database updated and by entering in Advance. Remember you can enter online by going to the briefing room on the website. Please ensure that Kathy has a copy of your latest Pilot Licence, Aerobatic Rating, and Parachute packing slip, Aircraft C of A or Authority to fly and free sequence if applicable. You can scan and mail these off to Kathy at [info@aerobatics.co.za](mailto:info@aerobatics.co.za) . I think that we will have to start charging for incomplete Paperwork.....

## Website

I must say a very big thank you to Quintin for doing such a sterling job with the website. The news is up to date and informative. There is a fantastic archive of contest results going way back which makes for some very interesting reading. The briefing room is very handy for contest entries and Frans Dely has made a wonderful difference to the Gallery section. Thanks Frans! Check it out!

## T-shirts

And on a final note, thanks to Warren Haslam, Alan Geldenhuys, and the Toy Store for organising and sponsoring the awesome T-shirts for the contest last weekend.



Please send your suggestions for the coming year!

"Happy and Safe Flying!"

**Nigel**  
**0832265854**