



Sponsored by



LATEST SAC NEWS

March


2009

Sponsorship

By now you must all be aware of the sponsorship deal with Suzuki. We are all very excited by this and we look forward to a great relationship with them. It is up to every one of us to make a fuss of them and to ensure that they continue to support Aerobatics and Aviation in South Africa, particularly in this very difficult financial climate. I am very confident that this will be a mutually beneficial association. My heartfelt thanks to Francois Van Eeden from Suzuki Marketing and Derick Lategan from African Outdoor Eventing for your efforts in assuring that the Sponsorship deal went through. We look forward to exciting times with you and to have you onboard some of our aircraft very soon to experience the wonderful world of aerobatics.

South African National Championships

It's hard to believe that this major event on our calendar is only a few short weeks away. We are all working frantically to make this a huge and memorable success. Please help by getting your entry forms and paperwork for the 1st stage Nationals in ASAP.

The great news is that entry fees have been sponsored by  **SUZUKI** for the 2 National Events! The 1st Bulletin should have been sent out already.



The aim of the showdown is to increase the awareness of aerobatics in South Africa. Swartkops Air Force Base is the ideal venue to attract the most spectators. Strict safety measures will be enforced to ensure that the superb safety record of the SAC is maintained.

The Event:

The showdown will be held in conjunction with the Airforce Museum Open Day. A set sequence, to be published no later than 30 days prior to the event, will be flown by the top 8 qualifying pilots. The sequence will conform to the advanced program 3(2nd unknown) for figure design as detailed in the CIVA regulations with emphasis on ensuring altitude and energy conservation. At this stage we are finalizing the arrangements for the event which is planned for the 9th May 2009.

Rules:

1. The Sequence is started between the flags at 300' AGL, 100 penalties below 250 and 50 penalties above 350', disqualification below 200' and above 500' at the start.
2. CIVA Scoring applies for the sequence, with fair play system
3. Box outs penalty applies, 30 points each time
4. No framing score
5. 50 point penalty for a break
6. 100 point penalty for no smoke
7. 1 free figure after the sequence for display rated pilots, not judged

Safety:

1. Box to be clearly marked and aligned with main runway, only N/S and centre box markings. No cross box
2. Min altitude 300' AGL during the sequence, disqualification below 200'
3. Sequences must be practiced and approved by Chief Judge prior to the event
4. Max sequence K factor is 300K, max figure K factor is 40K
5. Max crosswind 15kts
6. No more than 2 aircraft airborne, 1 aircraft airborne for the box and 1 aircraft in the holding pattern.

Qualification:

1. Pilots with more than 70% overall in Advanced and 75% overall in Intermediate at an SAC event during the preceding 12 months will be eligible to enter the qualification round. Please note that this is a recommendation and not fixed criteria.

2. Prior to the qualifying round all pilots must have a valid low level waiver to a limit of 300'
3. A qualifying round will be held prior to the event. The top 8 pilots will qualify.

The score from the qualifying round will be carried forward to the competition round and pilots will fly in reverse ranking order.

If there are any concerns or suggestions please send them to me hopkins2@mweb.co.za

Pilots:

As it stands the following Pilots have the necessary scores or ratings to enter the qualifying round. If you would like to fly then get your entry in for Nationals as this is the last contest before the Showdown! If you are interested in flying the Showdown please contact me 0832265854 or via email for more information.


- Patrick Davidson
- Ian Billing
- Nigel Hopkins
- Mark Hensman
- Brad Bennetts
- Johnnie Smith
- Warren Haslam
- Bertus Du Preez
- Barrie Eeles
- Glen Warden
- Stan Oliver
- Mark Shepherd
- Elton Bondi

Aviation Magazines in S.A

It is great to see that we have such good support from our local press. I contacted Athol Franz from African Pilot, Guy Leitch from S.A.Flyer and Kevin Barker from Airnews to inform them of our Sponsorship. They were all very supportive and have offered us extensive coverage over the coming year. We have already been offered a monthly page to do articles on aerobatics in Airnews and I invite anyone that would like to do a story on anything aerobatic related to please contact me in this regard.

AWAC 2010

The Team to represent South Africa at next year's AWAC will be the biggest and best team ever! A Bold statement? Maybe.....! But that is my prediction and I am prepared to stand up to it. Hey why not anyway.....!

Part of the deal with our sponsors  is that the entry fees for the team will be paid for by the SAC. This allows us to pre register 8 Pilots and the team manager without having to give names. This has a major benefit. We intend selecting a squad for AWAC after the 2nd Stage Nationals in Oudtshoorn. By doing this we can include a bigger group who will all be involved in the preparations and training for AWAC, thereby elevating the standard of many more of our Pilots rather than just the 4 or 5 that have previously been selected for the team. Looking at the current crop of Intermediate and Advanced Pilots we could well have a squad of 15 Pilots to choose from. This means a genuine selection process and possible fly-off scenario come time to select the 8 names early next year. This is surely a first, and a healthy state for our sport. That brings me back to my first statement: "The Team to represent South Africa at next year's AWAC will be the biggest and best team ever"! So...if you were contemplating coming down to Oudtshoorn, Don't contemplate....Just Do it! Be a part of the squad!

Don't forget to check out the Website: www.aerobatics.co.za

"Happy and Safe Flying!"

Nigel
0832265854