

IAC CHAPTER 36 NEWS



Saturday, 0730

THE SAN DIEGO HAMMERHEADS

May, 2022

COLUSSUS!

Editor Michael Church

Borrego Hammerhead Roundup

April 22-23, 2022

THE BIG PICTURE

Forty four pilots flew! (including a patch flight). The largest Borrego turnout since the early 1990s, a tribute to the efforts of a couple of chapter Officers and a little luck. (It could have been forty-six; the two missing pilots were there working, but not flying, thanks to a magical disappearing aircraft...)

CATEGORIES

We were definitely bottom-heavy: 18 Primary, 12 Sportsman, 7 Intermediate, 4 Advanced, and 2 Unlimited: 131 flights in the box. The missing flight (you did the math, right?) was due to pilot fatigue that developed while working a corner. The winds on Friday were pretty tough out there in the deepest darkest.

The outstanding number of pilots in Primary and Sportsman are a credit to several flight schools: many thanks to XL Aviation, Pilotmakers, Derick Day, and

Mark King for bringing so many new contestants.

Bryan Jones and Pawel Miko, chapter President and Vice President respectively, deserve a great deal of credit as well. Both were active on social media before and during the contest, getting the word out and emphasizing the fun component of a Borrego event. Even in near twenty-five knot winds it was a good time.

Next in line for compliments is the Starting crew. As Chief Judge, I look for the next pilot as soon as possible after reviewing score sheets from the preceding effort. 130 times in a row I wasn't disappointed. Pawel Miko and Dan Chripczuk have devised a three-hold system that works smoothly, reduces in-air conflicts, and never has anyone wondering where they are in the sequence. And all of this was done with lots of shared aircraft and a healthy sprinkle of slow climbers.

It's also worth noting we made it to 44 pilots with quite a few notable absences: many CA pilots--most of Chapters 38, 26, and 49--sat this one out. See you next time?

One more welcome addition: Craig Rembold and his cameras are back! Thanks to his generosity, many of his

pictures are featured on these pages, and you can see even more in the Hammerhead Roundup photo album: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/iac36/albums> We are including his ad at the end of this newsletter; those interested are encouraged to make contact—Craig produces beautiful prints.

CONDITIONS

As mentioned, Friday’s weather was challenging: consistent winds nudged the IAC limit of 25 knots, with occasional gusts stepping up the game. Fortunately winds stayed right down the runway, and if one ignored the discomfort, the weather was pretty good, considering everything Borrego could throw at us. There was no snow.

We completed most of the Free flights about forty minutes before sunset and closed up shop. We had

missed out only on the Intermediate Frees.

Saturday’s weather was a huge improvement, and with slightly more than half the contest already in the books, things moved quickly. We finished with time to spare and could easily have hosted a Four Minute Free, had A.J. and Endo chosen to fly.

Throughout the event, scoring was prompt and accurate. Thanks to Bill Hill for taking charge.

PARTY

The party was fun and well-attended: 70 were seated! Bryan likes to work the crowd without a microphone, so at top volume he handed out 42 clinkies, 14 Category awards, and another 6 associated prizes--enough for even a professional auctioneer. Come the next morning he was whispering.

WINNERS

PRIMARY

Adam Fern Great Lakes
Shane Short Pitts S-2C
Dragos Moroianu Pitts S-2C

INTERMEDIATE

Alexander Huey Laser 200
Howard Kirker Great Lakes
Josh Horwich Laser 230

UNLIMITED

A.J. Wilder Extra 330SC
Hiroyasu Endo Extra 300

SPORTSMAN

Phillip Gragg Pitts S-2A
Michael Coats Christen Eagle
Sean Moran Pitts S2-C

ADVANCED

Eric Moore Laser 230
Mario Mena Extra 330SC
Barrett Hines Extra 300

HIGHEST SCORING

CHAPTER
Chapter 36

**HIGHEST SCORING
DECATHLON**

John Owens

**GRASS ROOTS
TROPHY**

Adam Fern

**BEST FIRST
TIME SPORTSMAN**

Joe McMurray

**HIGHEST SCORING
FLIGHT SCHOOL**

XL Aviation



Joe McMurray
Best 1st Time Sportsman



Adam Fern, 1st place Primary with Vanna White (AKA Lisa Draper)



Joe McMurray. Best 1st Time Sportsman



Miko, proud winner of the Mark Pollard Award, honoring the lowest scoring Intermediate pilot still outscoring Mark Pollard (who, despite a significant presence on aerobatic social media has reportedly never been to a contest).



Eric Moore, 1st Place Advanced



Advanced: Duncan Koerbel, Joe,
and Eric



Endo, 2nd Place Unlimited



XL Aviation, Highest Scoring School



Chapter 36, Highest Scoring Chapter
Bryan and Miko



Craig Rembold Photography

www.tiredironmotorports.com

Facebook - @craigremboldphotography

© All Rights Reserved



Tom Navar



Ross Ferguson, Marian Harris and Miko



Dan Chripczuk, Starter



Unlimited Low Lines



Red Star Yak 52



Mario Mena and A.J.



CJ table as a new line gets ready to start:
It takes a village...



Shelby Swartz, John Owens, Shu Xu, Takeo Eda, David Wong,
Luke Gray, or Jeremy Wade



Malcolm Pond grading,
and why people like this contest venue



Mike Eggen



Phillip Gragg, 1st Place Sportsman



Michael Coats 2nd Place Sportsman



Richard Johnston



Howard Kirker, 2nd Place Intermediate



Decathlon Row



Lisa Draper or Kendra Hart



Duncan Koerbel, dancing



Eric Moore, 1st Place Advanced



Kevin Smith



Adam Fern, 1st Place Primary



Alexis Nahama, center



Lis Gimenez or Nicholas Martin



Endo

OPINION

CORNER JUDGES

In 1992 the Borrego Akrofest attracted 53 pilots, a chapter record that still stands. We did things differently then: four separate lines, one each for the top four categories, with Primary pilots mixed in with Unlimited. Rounding up four different judging lines three times in two days called for lots of volunteers and lots of running around.

Most troublesome was the chore of positioning corner judges without long delays, and we eventually came up with an unusual solution: we changed corners *before* the end of each category, a shift that reached two goals: new corners for the upcoming category were in place the moment the first plane was ready to start, and the replaced judges were relieved in time to prepare to fly if they were up in the next category.

This process worked well, although some questioned if it violated a rule. The question proved unanswerable: the issue is not addressed in the rule book. The chapter consensus was that boundary violations are objective, and a mid-stream judge change would not affect consistency. Besides, search as you may, you won't find a rule that actually *requires* corner judges.

Today CIVA has done away with boundary penalties entirely, and there is evidence that close to half US regionals also go without. The trend appears to be growing, and it is possible rule changes could be forthcoming.

Michael Church





That's all, folks

Visit our Photo Gallery for higher quality images
All are available for download

Photo credits:
Craig Rembold
Pawel Miko

Craig Rembold Photography
Tired Iron Motorsports

Specializing in Aviation and Motor Racing photography, I will handle your project from the initial capture to the final print. If you so choose I can custom mat and frame your images to museum standard.

Contact me for all your photography needs - I am equipped to do static or action photography, ground and air to air, dusk to dawn and even night time!

On the Web at www.tiredironmotorsports.com Search Facebook for @Craig Rembold Photography On Instagram: #Tired Iron Motorsports

Monte Carlo 1AC36 contest participation for a discount on prints and framing!

Craig Rembold
PO Box 1144
Julian, CA 92036
760-500-1940
rallyman@ymux.com

click image for Craig Rembold site