

Q. How did you get started in aerobatics?

A. I bought a Pitts S-2A about a year before I retired from the Air Force. Flew my first contest at Keystone a few weeks later.

Q. If this is NOT your first contest - what tips would you give to a new competitor?

A. Don't try to learn the sequence from YouTube. Talk to experienced competitors, and get coaching and critiquing at every opportunity.



Q. What practice time have you been able to put in leading up to this contest?

A. Not enough!!

Q. Do you have a coach or coaches (formal or informal)? And/or who has been your mentor or biggest cheerleader?

A. I have worked with Nikolay (Nik) Timofeev for the past few years. Coaching is extremely valuable.

Q. Do you own or rent an airplane?

A. I have a sweet 300S that I bought from Steve Hardwick.

Q. What "big picture" goals do you have in aerobatics?



A. I'd like to make the Advanced travel team.

Q. What is your favorite maneuver? and why.

A. I love a well-flown tail-slide, because there's that "oh, baby" moment when you know you've stuck it and you're accelerating backwards.

Q. Do you plan on attending any other contests this year? If so, what ones?

A. I hope at least to go to Nationals & Fall Sebring.

Q. Are you planning on going to the U.S. Nationals this year? As a volunteer or pilot?

A. I hope this is the year I'll finally make it to Nationals.

"Marcus is the IAC Chapter 23 President elected in November 2020. He has been volunteering countless hours as Contest Director for Sebring competitions, Sebring waiver, marker preservation, and will be a fun leader who will continue to encourage new and old members to get some Vitamin G and inverted time," Renee Brilhante, past IAC 23 president.