



PILOT PROFILE

Melvin (Mel) Williams

Q. How did you get started in aerobatics?

A. I got started in aerobatics when my instructor did a roll in his RV8 and I just knew I had to get into it!

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

A. I'm typically practicing at least 2 days a week!

Q. Do you have a coach or coaches (formal or informal)?

A. Yea! Jerry Esquenazi and Thomas Epperson have been helping quite a bit!

Q. Do you own or rent an airplane?

A. I own a Decathlon 150HP Fixed Pitch

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

A. I'd like to compete quite a bit, bring home some trophies then move on to airshows!

Q. Did you have a particular mentor that helped you get started in aerobatics?

A. I worked with Mike Fitzpatrick for a lot of my initial flying in a Citabria and Greg Koontz is always one call away.

Q. What is your favorite maneuver?

A. I like loops, but hammerheads are stealing my heart!

Q. Did you buy your plane from another aerobatic competitor, past or present?

A. I believe my Decathlon won Sportsman sometime in the 80's

Q. If this is your first contest, what was your journey that brought you to a place where you wanted to get in to competition?

A. Yep! First time for me! I saw guys like Anthony Oshinuga and Greg Koontz flying in airshows and I wanted to get into competitions to learn maneuvers and build confidence.

Q. Do you plan on attending any other contests this year?





PILOT PROFILE

Melvin (Mel) Williams

A. Yes! The competition in Rome, GA in May!

Q. Are you planning on going to the Nationals?

A. Nationals would be a dream!! Tons of work to do!

Q. Do you have someone (a rival) at the contest that you are trying to beat?

A. Not a rival but a friend! Thomas Epperson is sharp and one hell of a pilot! I'm hoping to give him a run for his money!