

Precision Aerobatics is coming to SEFSD!

Have you ever wanted to try your hand at IMAC or AMA Pattern style precision aerobatic flying? We all know that learning to fly with precision is one of the best ways to improve our flying skills. It can also be a fun way to spend our time flying with a group of friends who share our interests. Throw in a little 'friendly' competition and it can be a great enhancement to our RC flying hobby.

One of the big challenges to those who have wanted to try precision aerobatics is deciding how to get involved without a big investment in either time or money. Well, now you can give it a try at your local flying field. SEFSD will be holding a year long series of precision flying events. The events will include technical clinics, practice and training sessions, and a friendly competition series for year end trophies and "bragging rights".

Our club is very lucky to have as members some very talented aerobatic pilots. These people compete in precision aerobatics at regional and national levels. Tim Attaway, Pedro Brantuas, Steve Nelson, Ray Fulks and others have offered to share their knowledge with us. Starting in November they will begin writing a series of articles for our club magazine. These articles will cover subjects such as, choosing and building a scale aerobatic model, trimming and radio setup, and of course flying with precision. In addition to the magazine articles, they will be holding clinics at the field. These are an opportunity to have your plane dialed in, and get some great flying coaching from these talented people.

The competition series will be 8 one day events held at the SEFSD field. The events will use the IMAC patterns for 2007. There will be three classes, basic, sportsman and advanced.

The basic class is for beginners. IMAC has done a great job in designing the pattern for the basic class. Basic focuses on the core maneuvers required for all aerobatic flying. While certainly easy enough for all of us to fly safely, it may surprise you how difficult it is to do with precision.

The Sportsman class will be for those who have basic mastered and want a bigger challenge. It adds more complex components such as snaps, inverted flying and rolling figures. This class is suitable for the more experienced flyers.

The advanced class is for highly experienced aerobatic flyers. It contains the most complex patterns. Advanced will give the pros a place to compete, and the rest of us an opportunity to learn by watching incredible planes, flown at a very high skill level.

As you can see the SEFSD precision aerobatic program is designed to offer a great experience to those of all flying levels. The planes will, of course, be limited to electric power. Although some people will build planes specifically for these events, the plane you are now flying should work. If your plane can roll and loop, it is most likely capable

of flying the basic patterns. This program has been designed to make it easy for you to participate. The competitions are designed as one day events, so they require no travel and should be easy to fit in your schedule. In addition to leading the educational parts of the program, Tim Attaway has offered to serve as Contest Director and Chief Judge for the competitions, so although they will be friendly in nature, they will also be well run events.

The first clinic will be held Saturday December 9th at 11:00am at the SEFSD field. The clinic will include demo flights of the patterns, so you won't want to miss that one. There will be another clinic Saturday January 6th also at 11:00am. The pros will be there to help you setup your plane in preparation for the first competition, which is scheduled for Saturday, February 10th, starting at 10:00am and running until done. We are still working out the schedule for the rest of the year, so watch the website and newsletter for details. If you have an interest in precision flying, and want to be sure you get the latest information, send an e-mail to Steven Dente sdente1@san.rr.com with your name, phone number and e-mail address and we will add you to the interest list and make sure you get the latest details and schedules. Also, make sure you have signed up for the club's general e-mail list at sefsd@yahoogleroups.com. Tim Attaway's first article on precision flying is in this issue of the newsletter, be sure to read it. See you at the field!