

NOTICE-- Don Wemple has moved. Prior he could be located at the corner of Clipboard Ave and Stopwatch Lane. Now he can be found at Radian Parkway and Spektrum Blvd. Good to see you behind the sticks once again Don.

Saturday morning met the 9 pilots with a much larger landing zone than in prior events. All three of the circles were at my best guess two to three times their normal size. The weather was picture perfect and you could just tell that it would be an atmosphere the pilots would enjoy flying in. The 9 pilots were divided up into the two major categories, 6 flying the stock Radian model powered by a 3 cell 1300 Lipo and the remaining 3 into the open category utilizing no more than a 2 cell lipos or 7 cell Nicd/Nimhs.

The launch began promptly and 9:30 and there were no mishaps. Four of the six Radians ran over the 14 minute mark which made for some close scores (4 of the 6 Radians landed within 20 seconds of each other). The remaining two Radians were in the 10 minute time frame. The three open class planes did not fare quite so well with the time ranging from 3 to 8 minutes. The overall winner in this first heat was Norm Arnat with 108 total points.

By the time the second round started a wind came up which ultimately challenged the landing zone and flight times. We had two pilots crunch the 14 minute mark, again with Norm Arnat hitting 14 min/35sec and John Jaramillo at 14min/12sec both flying Radians. In the Open class all three contestants were in the 7 minute time frame with Randy Ritter coming in with 7 min/57sec. The best score in both classes again was Norm Arnat with the exact score of his first flight at 108 points.

The third and final launching occurred at exactly 10:10 into some strong wind. You could tell from the beginning the wind would have some adverse affect on the times. Within a short period you could see the planes descending with one exception, Tom Erickson with his Radian, who seems to always find a way, floating at a very impressive altitude. At the 7 to 9 minute range all had come down except for Tom who ended up with a very impressive 11min/51sec and scored max points for landing in the middle of the landing zone. His winning score for that round was 101pts

The final results were in the Radian class Norm Arnat with a three flight package of 270 points and in the Open class Randy Ritter with a 192 points performing with his DuelSky. All had a great time. Come out on Saturday, October 17 at 9:30 and give it a try.

....Stan Silver