

## Soaring on Sunday – 16 November 2008

Dave Hegarty

Today I'm the designated Contest Director so I cannot be late. I'll need entry forms, rules book, stop watches, spare pencils and plenty of change for when I collect entry fees. (Would you believe that one competitor, I won't name him, offered a \$100 note for a \$2 fee?).

Today's events are Combined % and Combined Open so I'll probably be too busy to enter both. Hence, throw in a rather battered P30 and leave the Open models at home. This P30 has had an eventful life. It spent a couple of nights in a paddock at Narrandera and a few hours floating in a lake near a poultry farm at Freemans Reach. However, its mylar covering is not affected by the heavy dew at Richmond.

I'm experimenting with different motors and today I've stripped 3/32 rubber in half and have a motor of twelve strands which takes about 1350 turns. The climb is quite vigorous, and today's flight times in the damp early air were satisfactory. The three flight times were 121 secs, 131 secs, and 165 secs giving a total of 417 secs and a % of 154%.

Nobody else entered so I won. Nobody entered Combined Open and John Braid was the only other modeller to appear so, after retrieving my model from near the river we went home.

John used to fly control-line models and is pleased that Peter is so active. Grandson Dean is too busy chasing girls of late but Adam can be competitive as seen in last week's Scramble. On the way back up the mountains I passed Adam on his push bike at Yarramundi. He was probably on his way to Sunday School.

Roy has distributed copies of the proposed rule changes compiled by Graham Maynard and Vin Morgan and is seeking direction for a coming Rules Change Conference.

I'm a bit cynical about rules. Most people running contests have been either ignorant of the current Australian rules or have ignored them and run contests with complete disregard to MAAA printed rules. Apart from the forth-coming Nationals, free flight contests in NSW are a complete travesty and commenting on proposed rule changes seems an exercise in futility. If there are new rules one wonders if they will be ignored in the same way the current ones are.