

## Pattern Competition Report - RFAM 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016



The last Pattern competition for the year was in a word, fantastic. Re-scheduling from the Saturday to Sunday was a very good decision weather wise, it was a perfect day, a big thankyou to our weather guru Andrew McEntyre who was persistently advising this all week!

We had entrants in all classes, 11 pilots in all. The format for the day was to run 3 rounds total, 2 of combined Sportsman and F3A and then 2 of Advanced and Expert, break for lunch and then final rounds in the same order.

Sportsman was contested by Peter Allen, Tony Gray, Mike Rutledge and Tony Sheppard, David Cook unfortunately could not make the trip on this occasion. The first two rounds were close and uneventful however the final round saw some ragged flying (probably due to lunchtime indulgences) and Tony Sheppard had a most unusual problem with his Mythos Pro, the electric motor/ESC kept shutting down inexplicably putting paid to his day, fortunately without any physical damage. Results were Mike, Peter and Tony Gray 1, 2, 3.

Scott Kay gave his usual polished performance, with the Valiant, perhaps the last time we see it as I hear the new Xareltoo is ready to fly. Scott achieved not only an F3A Retainer but a Promotional point, well done. Scott also gave us feedback re our strip and RFAM is most pleased that it has come up to a suitable standard.

Advanced class was a close fought affair between Kevin Hay and Terry Pearson with Kevin taking 1<sup>st</sup> place, Terry 2<sup>nd</sup> and Andrew McEntyre 3<sup>rd</sup>. However it was Terry who came out with a Promotional point, his Kryptonite model is an oldie but a goodie!

Andrew had problems with his Miss Wind, too many wings to choose and apparently they got mixed up not helping consistency in flight.

Ben Goode confidently, although not at first, took out the honours and a Promotional point in Expert flying his Spark from Steve Cochrane 2<sup>nd</sup> (great to see Steve in the south) and Steve Reece 3<sup>rd</sup>, Ben's experience at the recent APA Champs in Albury where he acquitted himself very well is starting to show. Reecey was not flying his usual Vanquish after moving it on in preparation for a new biplane for next year, he was punting a much smaller Sebart Miss Wind and one or two complaints were heard to be uttered especially when he was in the judges chair looking wistfully at his old Vanquish in the inexperienced hands of yours truly! Sorry Steve ☺

A very big thankyou to all who attended, especially the "Support Crew" of Elaine, Colleen & Jack, Christine & David, Val & Bill for a wonderful luncheon.

Also to those who filled the judging roles, it was hot out there, perhaps we shall have a shade umbrella next year. Bill Deal in his usual multi faceted support role also invaluable as were the efforts of Tina Reece and Scott Kay with the scoring, and of course Andrew Mac for the weather and Contest Director advice, this all helped to make the day very enjoyable for everyone.

Mike Rutledge - CD  
RFAM President