

# NATSNEWS



**CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF COMPETITION**

**June 26**

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**CL Scale | RC Scale**



Carl Handley with his P-47 Hot Body, running the engine up for takeoff. The full-scale aircraft was used by the U.S. Air Force Hell Hawks Fighter Group.



Friday night, many modelers flew until it was ... well, just about dark. So many of us are enjoying the new field on Site 4, that nobody wants to give up any time there. Saturday morning dawned with everyone excited to get started with the flying competition.

Conditions were near perfect on Saturday for the flying portion of RC Scale competition. Unless you are flying in Fun Scale, you receive half of your score from static points and the other half from the average of your two best flight scores.

As with pretty much all Scale competition, Fun Scale had the most competitors again this year. Terry Nitsch currently is in first place after three rounds of flight competition. In Team Scale, Frank Noll and Mike Barbee are sitting in the first spot with Mike's 1/4-scale FM Wildcat.

In Expert class, Mike Barbee is once again in first place with his T-34. Both the T-34 and the Wildcat are Bob Patton designs.

In Sportsman class, Mike Wartman and his Top Flite P-47 are in first place. Veteran Scale competitor Hal Parenti is in first place so far in Designer Scale, with Larry Botsford close behind.

Johnny Hunt from Texas is in first place in Fun Scale Novice with his P-47, which was easily the most popular aircraft at this, and pretty much any, Scale competition.

Saturday was an eventful day on the flightline, with several planes lost or damaged. If hard luck could be there, Al Kretz

has caught more than his share. He lost his Britten-Norman Defender after the wing suffered a structural failure in the first round. Then there was a midair which involved both Jeremy Arvin and Al, and eventually took out both of their aircraft. All of this is something we never like to see—much less experience on our own. But nobody was hurt, and all of the friends continued to help each other. This is Scale competition, at its best—like a big extended family.

On the first round, when coming around to land, Greg Hahn's Skyraider sheered its propeller hub, all of the bolts, and shattered the propeller. A quick ride to the house and spare parts corrected this strange problem. Greg landed the large Skyraider without any damage to the airframe.

Saturday night's banquet was held at Vera Mae's Bistro in downtown Muncie. The food was good, the company was great, and the "Best Of" awards were handed out for both RC and CL Scale. Finding the restaurant through the maze of downtown construction was at some points a challenge, but everyone seemed to make it okay. High Static in each class, Best Civilian, Best Military, Best World War II, Best World War I, and several others were handed out by John Boyko and Cindy Wartman. We should have a complete list of these with sponsors and the winners on Monday.

Fair skies and tail winds. 🌤️



Mark Radcliff shows the judges the documentation for his Cessna 152 Aerobat, at the start of Saturday morning's competition.



Tony Stillman, AMA flying site assistance coordinator, and Event Director John Boyko discuss current and future improvements to Site 4 during Saturday's competition.



Greg Hahn's Skyraider on a bomb run. It's currently in third place in Fun Scale Open.



Al Kretz's scratch-built Britten-Norman Defender in Designer Scale.



Larry Botsford starting his Fiat CR.32.



Steve and Tish Eagle at the flightline on Saturday afternoon with Steve's Fokker D.VII, which is competing in Fun Scale Open.



Larry Folk's 1/3-scale Top Cub makes a low pass in front of the judges. With the grass and the background, it just looks real!



This DH Beaver built from a Horizon Hobby ARF aircraft belongs to Earl Dever Sr., and is entered in Fun Scale Open.



Mike Barbee's 1/4-scale FM-2 Wildcat on takeoff with Frank Noll at the controls in Team Scale.



This kit-built de Havilland Tiger Moth, entered by Charles Gray, is powered by an O.S. .70 engine and uses a JR Colt radio system.



This shows the unique outline of the de Havilland Sea Hornet, built by Keith Number and entered in Sportsman class.



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We got a really early start with the flying on Saturday with a pilots' meeting at 7 a.m. The weather for flying couldn't have been better on Saturday—with light wind and clear skies. The temperature got warm, but everyone got their flights in.

Some models were damaged by hard landings. Because most pilots brought more than one aircraft, pilots kept busy getting ready to fly between the two circles. In some cases, we had to adjust the flight schedule to work for everyone.

This is the day where you get your first flight in and find out what your static score is. At this point, you get an idea of what your overall score might be and what you can do with your flight score to improve your overall score. All of the events except 1/2A Scale take the average of the two best flight scores to calculate the overall score. Pilots can decide if they want to fly just two flights or if they need to fly some on Sunday to improve their average flight score.

Mike McCarthy got his CallAir A-9 flying and did well. He asked me to fly his model as a proxy pilot for the second flight, and I was able to after he showed me how he set up the controls. This model flies well and has no nasty habits. He uses down-the-line electronic controls for flaps and throttle and it is an impressive model to fly. He earned the High Static award in Authentic Scale.

At the Saturday night NASA Scale banquet, the High Static awards were presented in all of the categories except Fun Scale. 🛩️









## MORE RC SCALE



Jeffrey Pike's Savage Cruiser was built from a Seagull Models ARF. It is in second place in the Open class. The full-scale aircraft is built by Zlin Aviation, which is located in the Czech Republic.



Will Berninger's T-34C, a Bob Patton design, was in first place in Open class on Friday.



Terry Nitsch's BVM MiG-15 was sitting in first place on Friday in Fun Scale Open.



Adam Grubb assembled this Waco YKS-6 from a Pilot-1 ARF. The model has an O.S. 7-cylinder radial engine, which sounds great in the air!

## MORE CL SCALE



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