

OPEN DURATION REPORT JULY 2020 SEASON

Rick Etter wins the day but only by 16 seconds

The day dawned sunny and stayed that way with zero cloud coverage. This made for visibility testing when your airplane was somewhere up there at over a 1000 foot altitude. However, no airplanes were lost OOS and for that matter everyone came home with their airplane intact. What more could we ask for?! This month we had 5 valiant competitors with Rick joining the fray with his hard to beat own design light weight 2 meter airplane with a converted .061 Cox. which has been converted from glow to diesel by the manufacturer and back again to glow by Rick. Work that one out!

Russ Horsfall flew a different airplane than last month. This time he chose his smaller kit built Lancer, powered by a conventional .061 Cox glow engine. (No diesel?) His consistent flights put him into third place for the day. "No thermals" This was Russ' biggest complaint. The homogeneous blue sky did make thermals very hard to find.

New comer to Open Duration Jose Vargos had a great first round flight, but went downhill from then on with very short engine runs due probably to a leaking fuel tank. This time he had a very different wing from the June event. This looked like an improvement with his airplane flying more like the fine characteristics of that very fine design.

Van Caryl flew a Gentle Lady with a very long nose due to CG problems. This didn't fly quite as well as a standard Gentle Lady. However, Van nursed it into 4th place for the day completing all his rounds. Van has also dropped using a diesel and now uses a Russian Norvel Big Mig .061.

Ben Walzer entered the same airplane as he did in June; a very light kit built 60 inch span Tercel powered by a British diesel. As mentioned before, this particular diesel is the smallest PAW manufacture. The capacity is .033 cc displacement and swings a 7x5E prop. This diesel started first flick every time. Who couldn't love those British diesels! Ben was the only competitor who managed a max of 15minutes. His very first ever! Congratulations Ben who also finished second for the day

Now we come to Rick Etter, the maestro of Open Class competition. He has developed a design that can do 13 minutes with zero lift. Very hard to beat! Nevertheless, he only won this event by 16 seconds. So it can be done and every one of us is quite capable of doing it. Rick by the way, helped Ben, who after all is a newcomer to Open Duration, by timing and spotting for him. Many thanks Rick!

Thanks again to all who turned out to help and participate. We had timers for all participants which really does help in these hard to see conditions. Take your eyes off that airplane just for a fraction of a second to look at your watch and then - where the heck has it gone! After next month your worst day score will be deducted from your total score. So don't get disheartened by a bad days score. You can always make it up.

Roy for Jerry Neupert, SRAC Duration CD

See attachment for results...

NOTE: Next SRAC Duration Day third Saturday of August 08/15/20