

Contest Report

Dallas F2C

April 14-15, 2007

Bill Lee, Contest Director

In the dark of the night the tornadoes came, the lightning flashed, the thunder crashed, the hail bashed. And following on padded feet came the strong north winds, blowing all away. But the sun shone brightly on the day that succeeded, and all that came went away with good experience in mind and trophies in hand.

And thus is described the days of Dallas F2C

Preparation for the Dallas F2C contest began a week earlier when Sandra and I spent an afternoon masking out the pitting segments on the south pad and applying paint. Back again the following Tuesday where, with Dale's help, we painted the same on the north pad and then added the actual flight circles using the striping machine.

Folks from afar began arriving as early as Thursday before the contest and used the time to get in equipment testing. Bob Oge and his pilot, Alex Topunov, came in from Chicago and were there Thursday and Friday to practice. Jason Allen and his Dad, James, flew in from Pennsylvania. Dick Lambert and Bob Whitney from Florida, Tommy Fluker from Houston, Dave Rolley and son, Charlie from Colorado, and Milo and Gary Wallace from Missouri made up the field.

On Friday morning, Dale, Phil Dunlap, David Ek and I met at the field and (finally!) got the new park signs erected asking spectators to please stay back. Three signs on steel poles set in concrete and a fourth on the front of the north pavilion. Maybe it will help.

Friday it was warm and muggy and windy, with occasional sprinkles. That is until late in the day when "a significant weather event" moved into the area. Most all of the F2C folks were there late in the afternoon. At about 6p.m., Sandra called me on the cell phone and told me that they had just issued a tornado warning for Texas Motor Speedway. I chased all the flyers off the field and headed on east toward home. Listening to the radio all the way, sure enough, at about 7p.m. The storm that produced the tornadoes that hit the north edge of Ft. Worth and Haltom City moved right across the field. Nobody affected other than some experiencing a Texas-sized thunderstorm for the first time! :-)

Saturday morning found 20-25mph winds out of the northwest, gusts to 30, and temperatures in the mid-40's. Conditions were unflyable, so at noon, I made the decision to cancel the flying for that day and get everyone back together on Sunday morning. Many took the opportunity to visit Mike's and see what a really first-class hobby shop it is. All were impressed.

Sunday dawned(!) sunny and quite cold, but with very little wind. Everyone gathered and we started flying by about 9:30. We flew all of Saturday's rounds as well as those scheduled for Sunday. Competition was good. Here are the results.

Saturday's Rounds

Name	Round	Heat	N_Up	Laps	Time	AdjTime
Allen/Whitney	1	2	3	100	3:49.60	3:49.60
	2	2	3	100	3:41.57	3:41.57
	3	2	3	100	3:58.34	3:58.34
Fluker/Lambert	1	2	3	100	3:45.07	3:45.07
	2	2	3	100	3:29.04	3:29.04

	3	2	3	81	3:36.44	3:36.44
Rolley/Rolley	1	2	3	100	4:03.16	4:03.16
	2	2	3	46		
	3	2	3	81		
Wallace/Wallace	2	1	2	87		
	3	1	2	100	4:03.26	4:09.34
Topunov/Oge	2	1	2	100	3:49.04	3:54.77
	3	1	2	100	3:39.80	3:45.30

Sunday's Rounds

Name	Round	Heat	N-Up	Laps	Time	AdjTime
Allen/Whitney	1	2	3	77		
	2	2	2	100	3:58.73	4:04.70
	3	2	2	100	4:21.83	4:28.38
Fluker/Lambert	1	2	3	72		
	2	2	2	100	3:18.30	3:23.26
	3	2	2	100	3:45.39	3:51.02
Rolley/Rolley	1	2	3	19		
Wallace/Wallace	1	1	2	20		
	2	1	2	41		
	3	1	2	70		
Topunov/Oge	1	1	2	100	3:20.86	3:25.88
	2	1	2	36		
	3	1	2	100	3:13.74	3:18.58

Final results:

Name	Time	Place
Alex Topunov/Bob Oge	3:13.74	1
Tom Fluker/Dick Lambert	3:18.30	2
Jason Allen/Bob Whitney	3:41.57	3
Charlie Rolley/ Dave Rolley	4:03.16	4
Gary Wallace/Milo Wallace	4:03.26	5

I want to thank all of those who came and helped. We had enough folks that every flight was timed by three lap counters. Linda Bob and Sandra put on a nice lunch for us on Sunday, Sandra ran the registration. Bill Bischoff provided a great sound system. It was a good event and proved quite well that we are ready and able to run the F2C Team Selection Finals in September.

Bill Lee
Contest Director