Devon & South West Thermal Gliding Competition 2022 – Rules 1.5 Feb'22

A Brief History:

At the beginning of 2021 two Devon model flying clubs, Okehampton and East Devon, were independently discussing potential competitions to run for their 2021 seasons with the idea of simple yet fun being key points. Being a member of both clubs, Felix Marten suggested if there would be the potential to agree on, and run one of these competitions across both clubs and maybe even have inter-club events.

The idea grew with Thermal Gliding soon becoming the preferred base for the competitions, and this led to a meeting held over zoom with interested people getting involved from five or six Devon and South West based model clubs to come up with some sort of plan.

Okehampton already ran a 'Last Man Down' competition at their monthly FunFly days and following plenty of healthy discussion, with the key being '**Keep It Simple'**, it was agreed to use these rules as a base to get going with and to hold a trial event as soon as possible.

On the 29th May 2021 the trial event took place at Okehampton's flying site. Being well attended everyone had a great day of flying and friendly competition and agreed to line up some more events as soon as possible.

With a few tweaks to the rules, another 4 events ran over the Summer of 2021 with the Catstor and Torbay clubs joining Okehampton as hosts, and as they say, the rest is history!

Going Forward into 2022:

Following the success of the 2021 events there was a demand to run more competitions in 2022 and to give more people the chance to take place, 6 events have been planned for 2022 as below.

For 2022 we will also be awarding a Championship Winner for each Class with the best 4 results from a possible 6 to count.

April:
Okehampton on Saturday 9th April
Reserve date Sat 23rd April - This is to avoid the Easter weekend

May:
Catstor on Saturday 14th May
Reserve date Sat 21st May

June:
Torbay on Saturday 18th June
Reserve date Sat 25th June

July:
Okehampton on Saturday 9th July
Reserve date Sat 16th July

August:
Catstor on Saturday 13th August
Reserve date 20th Aug

September:
Torbay on Saturday 10th September
Reserve date Sat 17th Sep

Fun and Friendly competition is still the driving factor for these events so we will be maintaining a simple set of rules. For more information, please contact Guy at mrp_guy@yahoo.co.uk

Devon & South West Thermal Gliding Competition 2022 – Rules 1.5 Feb'22

Aim:

Following a timed launch, to glide for as long as possible (target of 10 min for Electric, and 5 min for bungee), then perform a spot landing. Scores will be awarded for both length of flight and spot landing.

Glider Type and Classes:

- There will be Three classes – **Electric Launch,** up to 2m (**2m Class**) and 2m to 4m (**4m Class**), then a **Bungee Launch** class. With the '**Keep It Simple**' approach, **any** style and make of glider can be flown within the wingspan range (max of 4m), and that can be hand launched either by the pilot or a helper.
- Any construction method/material is allowed from Foam to Balsa to Carbon Fibre, and there is no restriction on control surfaces so gliders with ailerons, flaps, spoilers, airbrakes, etc can be used.
- Again to keep costs down and keeping it simple, the decision was taken **not** to use height limiters but balance the launch height with different motor run times between the 2m & 4m classes for electric gliders, which from the experience of the 2021 events work well.

For Electric Launch Gliders - On Launch the 2m class get a 30 seconds motor run time. The 4m class get a 20 seconds motor run time, launching 10 seconds after the 2m class. All motors to cut at the 30 second mark. Motors are not to be used again for the remaining flight and landing. If you do start your motor you will score '0' points for that round. *(Safety is obviously a concern so if you get in trouble and you need the motor to rescue your model, please do)*

For Bungee Launch Gliders – All gliders launch at the same time. The Bungee should be made up of 10m Rubber/Silicon Tube (6mm OD/4mmID) with a 50m line, and ideally competitors should provide their own if possible. (*If you have questions re bungee type, please contact Guy at mrp_guy@yahoo.co.uk*)

Scoring:

A minimum of 2 Rounds will be flown at each event with points being combined from all rounds to give the overall score for each competitor.

For Length of Flight – Flight time for electric gliders starts at the launch of the 2m class and covers both 2m and 4m classes. For bungee launch gliders the flight time starts on release of the models. *(Following events in 2021 the bungee target time is to be reduced to 5 min)*

Electric Launch both 2m and 4m classes		**Bungee Launch**	
Time Flown		Time Flown	
0 to 1 minute	= 1 pt	0 to 30 seconds	= 1 pt
1 to 2 minutes	= 2 pts	30 sec to 1 min	= 2 pts
2 to 3 minutes	= 3 pts	1 min to 1 min 30 sec	= 3 pts
3 to 4 minutes	= 4 pts	1min 30 sec to 2 min	= 4 pts
4 to 5 minutes	= 5 pts	2 min to 2 min 30 sec	= 5 pts
5 to 6 minutes	= 6 pts	2min 30 sec to 3 min	= 6 pts
6 to 7 minutes	= 7 pts	3 min to 3 min 30 sec	= 7 pts
7 to 8 minutes	= 8 pts	3min 30 sec to 4 min	= 8 pts
8 to 9 minutes	= 9 pts	4 min to 4 min 30 sec	= 9 pts
9 to 10 minutes	= 10 pts	4min 30 sec to 5 min	= 10 pts
Over 10 minutes	= 12pts	Over 5 minutes	= 12pts

For Spot Landing – Each pilot will have a designated landing spot as their 'own' landing target. Points will be scored on the distance from the landing spot with the position being taken from where the glider comes to rest, not where it first touches down, and measured from the nose of the glider. Distance will be measured by a 'tape' with the end secured at the centre of the landing target. If the glider hits the pilot or any other persons a score of '0' will be given for landing, but flight time will still count.

5m distance from the landing target scores = 5pts
5m to 15m distance from the landing target scores = 2pts

Pilots who are still flying after 10 minutes, 5 minutes for bungee, will be awarded the maximum 12pts for flight time and will still have the opportunity to score landing points.