

Sunday  
July 15

# Nats News

Daily coverage of the 2012 National Aeromodeling Championships



Ed Mason's 15-pound aircraft with four O.S. .25s at full song have presented him with piloting challenging flights over the years. This year his B-17 and C-124 got the upper hand.



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## CL Scale Day 1 Recap

### Today's Events:

CL Scale  
RC Scale

**COMPLETION WAS** challenging throughout Saturday. There were a number of crashes and other pilots had to pass on flights. My F4U-1A Corsair Fun Scale is still in the belly of a Greyhound, somewhere between

Phoenix and Indianapolis. Each of the six events had their own characteristic. After flying Day One:

**½A Scale:** Ted Kraver has a solid lead with his twin-engine Tigercat at 108.50. Here's hoping that Richard Schneider can get a flight in today with his Causutt Boo Ray, an ex-mouse racer.

**Fun Scale:** Ken Stevens Jr. has an outstanding Yak 18PM with high static and a total first-day score of 102.00. Burt Brokaw had an aborted flight with his P-51. Burt is within striking distance if he can repeat his best flight of yesterday. Bill Avera and Chris Brownhill both had flight scores in the 90's and remain in contention.

**Profile Scale:** Chris Brownhill with his HP Hampden MkI is in position to challenge the current leader John Wright and his

Corsair. If Chris repeats his best flight of yesterday, in the 93's, he could just slide by with his 2.65 lead in static points.

**Sport Scale:** Has had a number of crashes and withdrawals of outstanding Scale aircraft: C-45J, B-25J, and C-124. Of the survivors, John Brodak with his Shoestring leads with static points and a best flight of 89.5. Richard Schneider is close behind with a 9.5-point deficit in static points but has posted a flight that is 3.75 points higher than John. John needs another good flight today, but if not, Richard still has a chance to nip John at the wire.

**FAI-F4B:** Allen Goff with his Ryan STA has a strong static-point lead of 66 points over Richard Schneider and his DH 82 Tiger Moth. Allen's high flight score is 28 points up. But with one low flight score yesterday, Richard has a long shot chance to nail a really high flight score and catch up today.

**Team Scale:** This event has not gone well, with one B-17 crash and low flight scores on both the father and son teams of James and Jeff Jensen with their AD-6 Skyraider and Stevens with their Aeromaster. Let's see how it shakes out today. *///*



Father and son team of James and Jeff Jensen have come to fly in Team, Profile, and Fun Scale. Dad is ahead in Fun Scale, let's see what today brings.



Shirley Sheeks, Carole Schneider, and Buzz Brodak having a grand time at the scoring table.



Flight judges Jeffery Traxler and Will Hinton have a visit from Merry Phelps picking up score sheets.



Richard Schneider's final maneuver with this Art Chester Jeep is the famous one-point nose stand.



John Wright finishing his Profile Scale flight with the highest single flight score of the day in all categories, 95.0.



During flight, Allen Goff shows off the flaps-down maneuver.



Allen Goff gives his Ryan STA a pep talk.



Charlie Bauer sets up for a smooth touchdown with his Cessna 336.



1/2 A Scale			Static	Flight 1	Flight 2
Jason Bauer	Chicago, IL	Volkspplane	41.50	31.00	32.00
Ted Kraver	Phoenix, AZ	Grumman F7F-3 Tigercat	65.00	43.50	38.00
Richard Schneider	Ball Ground, GA	Caussutt "Boo Ray"		Pass	Pass
John Wright	Long Beach, CA	Bristol Beaufighter	36.25	26.00	48.50

Fun Scale					
Bill Avera	Melborne, FL	P-51 Mustang	7.50	84.50	90.75
James Jensen	Chicago, IL	T-28 Trogan	6.75	54.00	51.25
Jeff Jensen	Peoria, IL	T-28 Trogan	8.00	29.50	Pass
Ed Mason	Melborne, FL	B-17 Flying Fortress		Pass	Pass
Robert Pardue	Indianapolis, IN	Art Chester Jeep		Pass	Pass
Ted Kraver	Phoenix, AZ	F4U-1A Corsair		Pass	Pass
Richard Schneider	Ball Ground, GA	Pilatus PC-6 Turbo Porter	7.75	84.25	77.00
Ken Stevens Jr.	Lexington, KY	Yak 18 PM	9.50	91.25	93.75
Chris Brownhill	Toronto, ON	Gloster Gladiator MKI	8.25	82.50	90.00
Burt Brokaw	Tucson, AZ	P-51 Mustang	9.50	46.75	92.50

Profile Scale					
Chris Brownhill	Toronto, ON	Handley Page Hampden MKI	95.90	81.00	93.75
Jason Bauer	Chicago, IL	A-26 Invader	84.00	72.75	79.00
Bill Avera	Melborne, FL	Lovochkin LA-5	96.00	84.50	84.25
Aaron Bauer	Chicago, IL	TA-154	90.50	31.00	82.00
Charles Bauer	Norridge, IL	Cessna 336	87.00	40.50	Pass
Jeff Jenson	Peoria, IL	T34 Mentor	83.00	72.75	Pass
David Kelly	Waterloo, ON	Stuka	99.25	59.38	83.50
Richard Schneider	Ball Ground, GA	Art Chester Jeep	96.50	88.50	78.00
John Wright	Long Beach, CA	FG1-D Corsair	93.25	93.25	95.00

Sport Scale					
Jason Bauer	Chicago, IL	Islander	58.00	88.20	81.50
Clancy Arnold	Indianapolis, IN	Jeannin Stahtaube	80.50	32.50	pass
Charles Bauer	Norridge, IL	J-3 Cub	75.50	45.00	
John Brodak	Carmichaels, PA	Shoestring Racer	92.00	82.50	89.50
Jim Fruit		C45J - Beech D18		Crash	
Steve Crouch	Indianapolis, IN	B25J Gunship		Pass	Pass
Ed Mason	Melborne, FL	C-124 Douglas Globemaster	81.50	68.00	Crash
Richard Schneider	Ball Ground, GA	DeHavilland DH-82 Tiger Moth	82.50	93.25	81.50

FAI - F4B					
Charles Bauer	Norridge, IL	Bristol M-1C	749.50	783.50	666.00
Allen Goff	Muncie, IN	Ryan STA	877.50	897.25	793.50
Richard Schneider	Ball Ground, GA	DeHavilland DH 82 Tiger Moth	811.75	869.50	835.00

Team					
Bill Avera	Melborne, FL	B-17 Flying Fortress		Crash	
Ed Mason	Melborne, FL				
James Jensen	Chicago, IL	Douglas AD-6 Skyraider	64.00	35.00	Pass
Jeff Jenson	Peoria, IL				
Ken Stevens Jr	Lexington, KY	Aeromaster	79.00	28.00	25.50
Ken Stevens Sr	Lexington, KY				



What remains of Ed Mason's C-124.

## RC Scale Day 2 Recap

**SATURDAY'S FORECAST** was possible thunder storms and rain, which never appeared—thank goodness for us.

Getting out to the site early can be a plus, especially if you bring your electric models. I'd brought two electrics. Although I did not enter them in the competition, they were added to the van for some additional practice time and to orientate myself with the field before the flight competition began.

The wind was low early in the morning, at roughly 6:30 a.m., and Wayne Yeager told me flying electrics was okay but we couldn't fly any airplane that made noise before 7 a.m. Cool! So, we were okay to practice with the electrics.

At roughly 8:30 a.m., Event Director Jim Martin and Paul Cain conducted the pilot's meeting. They answered the typical questions and helped those who were at the Nationals for the first time, such as John Kopcha flying his Waco in Fun Scale Novice. Welcome to the group John; glad to have you aboard.

variations of Fun Scale this year for everyone to enjoy. This included Fun Scale Novice, Fun Scale Advanced, and Fun Scale Aerobatic. My Hellcat was placed in Fun Scale Aerobatic, which I didn't understand, but that's okay.

The wind picked up at roughly 9 a.m. and later in the day became a complete crosswind that cost several modelers their airplanes.

Some of the crashes included Steve Eagle's  $\frac{1}{3}$ -scale Nieuport 17 World War I

fighter. The model is finished in silver and blue PPG paint over Solartex covering, and the model is powered by a 3W100cc gas engine swinging a 30x8 propeller.

Steve had made several changes

to the Balsa USA kit, which he used for the start of this model. He shortened the forward fuselage for a more scalelike appearance, as well as changed and upgraded the main gear and tail skid. He also added scale fabric stitching and "air foiled" the wingtips on the model. When I talked to him later, he told me that the airframe needed a complete rebuild. Good luck and we hope to see this beautiful model next year.

Al Kretz crashed his Dornier Do-23 on

Tina and Bob Patton with their new T-34 B Menor. Model needs a tractor to pull it out to the flightline. All kidding aside, the model has tremendous detail on it.



takeoff during the third round today. The crosswind got under the left wing and just lifted it up and the model went over. There were several others who suffered the fate of low and slow that will get you every time in that crosswind.

There were several notable models flying this year. Steve Ort Jr. was flying a Great Planes RV-4 that features both wood and fiberglass construction. The 70-inch-span model is powered by an O.S. .60 engine and is flown by a JR 8103 transmitter. He entered it in Fun Scale Novice. Welcome to the Nationals and we hope to see you for many more years to come.

Another, and the youngest member of the competitors this year, included Evan Gaston (9 years old) flying an electric-powered Skyfarer in Fun Scale Novice. He received a plaque from Dale Arvin during Saturday night's banquet for being the youngest RC competitor at the Nationals this year.

Another newcomer to the Nats competition is John Kopcha—flying a Great Planes Waco YMF-5. The big, yellow biplane has an O.S. 1.2 four-stroke engine and John added some of his own markings to make it look different from the standard Waco from Great Planes.

To round out the top three in Fun Scale, Novice Glenn Learnahan brought his Hangar 9 J-3 Cub to compete. The big, yellow Cub is electric powered and has an 80-inch wingspan and uses a Spektrum DX7s radio for guidance.

This goes to show you that at any level



Mike Barbee's T-34C on landing approach. Mike hand made the muffer, which exits the exhaust through the scale location.

Four flightlines were used and were spaced roughly 25 feet apart, which worked well on Saturday and has worked for the past several years. Getting the flightlines too far apart makes for more midair crashes. We haven't seen any of these in the past several years since adopting this setup.

Fun Scale has a large group of modelers that enters the Nationals every year now, much like how Quickie 500 class dominated the racing scene when it was introduced years ago. There were several

Dave and Vickie Pinegar landing Dave's P-51 in the grass. This helps with the crosswinds and doesn't rip the gear out.

Hal and Gary Parenti prepare Hal's Ryan Fireball for the first flight of the day.



SNJ entered in Team Scale with father and son team Dale and Jeremy Arvin. Jeremy is the pilot.



Jeffrey Pike's Twin Otter on landing approach.

competitors can attend the Nationals and bring models that they fly every day at their home field. There were several who were attending their first Nationals, or in some cases their first competition this year. I was glad to see those folks making the effort to join in the fun.

The largest model entered this year is the North American T-34B by Bob Patton. The model has a 142-inch wingspan with a weight of 110 pounds. Powered by a 3W four-cylinder 220cc gas engine, the airplane swings a 34x12 propeller. The all-scratch-built model is painted with PPG automotive paint. Entered in Designer Scale, the model also features a sliding canopy, navigation lights, brakes, as well as scale Fowler flaps. Another item I noted was the extensive number of rivets on the model that likely took some time to add to that large model.

One of the items that Bob is proud of building is the linear activator for the electric retract landing gear. He's still working out some of the bugs and getting used to the model's flight characteristics. Expect to see this model in winners' circles

at several Scale events across the country.

Saturday night, the NASA banquet was held at the Claude McCullough Education Facility, which is in front of the National Model Aviation Museum at Headquarters. The building is a nice addition to the site and is geared toward education for schools and used for other meetings.

Shannon Ort planned the banquet, which was catered this year and fried chicken, barbecue, green beans, macaroni and cheese, and your choice of beverage, were all in abundance for those who came. The comical host of the evening was the expert in laughter and mayhem, Dale Arvin.

He handed out awards. (I even received some "funny money" from the joker.) There were other awards, which included Cabe Renero and his wife from San Antonio, Texas, for driving the longest distance, as well as six other modelers who traveled more than 750 miles to the Nationals. They all received a compass to help them find their way home. There were laughs all around.

Dale's son was also "awarded" a large pair

of glasses. (I tried to get him to put them on, to no avail.) These were awarded to Jeremy for finding his dad's nose gear, which fell off in AMA's field not once that day, but twice.

Spring water flowed that night, and the NASA auction started with many gift baskets from the creative hands of Shannon Ort. Shannon likes to stay behind the scenes but that is ending this year. You'll be seeing more of Shannon during next year's Nationals in the awards ceremonies and during the banquet. Planning and making these events happen are a truly year-long process. Way to go Shannon!

After the NASA banquet, NASA President Mike Barbee held a NASA board meeting at the same site. Present were John Boyko, Bob and Ruth Lirette, Paul Cain, Jim Martin, and myself. Ideas were discussed for next year's Nationals including getting more travel money for judges, as well as upgrading awards, getting NASA's image out to the modeling public, and in general, letting everyone know we are here. Well, time to go pass out and get ready for tomorrow! *NR*

Evan Gaston's Piper Wayfarer makes a pass in front of the judges.



The author's Hellcat, with gear down, making a landing. Mark Lanterman photo.

Gary Wild's Top Flite P-47 starting a roll.



Earl Dever's Pilatus Porter landing. Note the colorful color scheme and markings.



Ron Hemphill's Cessna 150 Aerobat from a RC Guys ARF in flight.



Steve Ort's Great Planes Super Stearman with smoke on making a pass.



John Kopcha's Waco YMF-5 on a flyby. This is his first Nationals!





Bonnie Rediske prepares to hand out jewelry to all the ladies during the banquet.



Here, the "auction master," Dale Arvin, is about to spread mayhem and some goofy awards. It's all fun.



Shannon Ort with gift baskets ready for the auction on Saturday night.



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Scene in the pits on Saturday morning; time to get ready for the day's competition.



***This week's events:***

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
RC Pylon					
CL Nationals					
			CL Combat	CL Combat	

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