

Bring your latest creation and tell us about it!

Our last meeting was the "Chuck Glider" competition (with a difference)

This time distance as well as duration was important. Two chairs were arranged so as to form a "Gate" at the end of the hall near to the kitchen. If you managed to pass through the "Gate" you would be awarded 5 seconds extra to go on your score. So, there was a good chance for the energetic straight flyer as well as the "Floater" type. Which together with Bill's rather heavy H,,m Balsa completely scuppered me, as I could no longer make up a simple flying wing and rely on duration times of about 5 to 6 secs. Bill's wood just fell down with an audible thud, and made no attempt to float about in any direction! (for me anyway).

So, the conventional aircraft builders won the day, and no less than three of them got through the "Gate" and were awarded 5 bonus seconds, which enhanced their scores.

The winner was (as befits the new chairman) Mark with a grand total of 22.5 secs, including a "Gate" bonus. Mark's model was a conventional plane with a proper rudder etc.

Linda came second, with a model which must have been copied from the stable of Mark, as it matched the features and dimensions and proved the successful conventional design once again. Linda scored 18 secs including a "Gate" bonus.

Laurie was third with a score of 17 secs, but could not manage a "Gate" which would have given him victory. However, his model was a cannard (of course) which flew sedately Christian (a new lad who turned up for the evening) was accused of throwing too hard, and unfortunately managed low duration scores. However, he kept going, and finally managed a good duration together with a "Gate" bonus to take 4th place (good for him)

Bill as usual. followed the conventional design of model, but although managing quite good duration times couldn't get the "Gate" bonus and so had to be content with fifth place His model had quite the biggest wing-span (well, he did bring the wood!).

All in all, a very entertaining evening, with a few surprises, and disappointments (my flying wing doesn't work with heavy wood -that's my excuse anyway).

It would appear that conventional designs, which can withstand energetic throws are the way to go especially if the "Gate" bonus stays with us.

Suddenly, the weather is getting better (even I ventured out last Sunday), and what a glorious day. Just a breeze from the north-west, and warm sunshine to boot. The dear old Don was in its element, and as I haven't flown for a few months, Kevin watched over me as I did my best to discover if I had developed any bad traits during my enforced absence. Apart from a short disorientation period ("It's going away mike ") all seemed to be well.

After such a rotten winter, here's hoping for a great Summer.

Cheers Dears, Mike