

Saskatoon Soaring Club

News and information – May 2001

This will be my attempt to improve club communications and to coordinate club activities. Perhaps with a little scheduling and planning ahead we can better coordinate instruction, member flying, and intro flights.

When I suggested scheduling times for the club gliders there was less than enthusiastic response, so perhaps there is room for compromise. I am thinking that if instructors and tow pilots could commit to times available, students and members could plan around it. This would also accommodate Brian's suggestion for mentoring by letting students know when particular instructors would be available.

We seem to be agreed that the best time for student basic instruction is morning or evening when conditions are stable. Soaring instruction and longer instructional flights can be arranged for afternoons under soaring conditions. What we need is a method of communicating our intentions as instructors, towpilots, students, and flying members.

I am suggesting that we schedule mornings and leave afternoons open. This would mean instructors and towpilots making some commitments. I am prepared to commit to one weekend morning and Wed. evenings each week. Any other offers?

John T.

Equipment

Both Blaniks were flown Apr. 22nd and are ready. The tail dolly modifications are in the works and should be completed soon (thanks to Evert, Keith and Clarence), but this should not interfere with usage.

The Phoebus was rigged Sat. 28th and is ready to be flown. Wind gusts were too strong and none of the equipment was flown Sat or Sun.

The winch has had the drum balanced. The shop in Cudworth is making a new fairlead system with larger rollers that should reduce wear and increase cable life. This should be done next Sat.

The ATV needs a new solenoid and plug – both are ready to be installed and the trike should be serviceable by next weekend.

All we need now is suitable weather and people to come out and fly!

Thought for the day – Takeoffs are optional.
Landings are compulsory.

Club Calendar

May 2nd, 9th - ground school 7:00 to 9:30 pm

May 5th, 6th - flying at Cudworth. Student training mornings, member flying afternoons.

May 12th - Intro flights for approx. 12 associates from Kindersley – starting 09:00. No student instruction that morning – may need one Blanik into the afternoon to complete. Member flying pm.

May 13th – backup day for Kindersley if the weather Sat. not suitable. Otherwise, student instruction am. Member flying.

May 16th, 23rd, 30th – evening training at Cudworth.

May 19th, 20th, 21st - Provincial competition at Strawberry Lake (Regina Club Hosting). The Phoebus and probably one Blanik will be going. Participants so far are Clarence, John and Roy. Hopefully there will be others. Other members are welcome to participate as crew members. There are usually chances to fly (2 place in competition). Evenings often provide a chance to fly in other club's 2 place gliders. (2-22, Grob, Ka-7). Some funding is available to help with expenses. If there is enough interest from our members, the towplane may go as well to aerotow down a Blanik and be available for launching. It is an excellent chance to meet members from other clubs and experience some aspect of competition flying.

May 26th, 27th – Student instruction mornings, member flying afternoons.

Wed. afternoons, Friday afternoons – member soaring by arrangement. Morris is keeping Wed. afternoons open for towing. Roy is looking to fly Fridays when possible.

Soaring on discovery Channel (26)

The *Flightpath* show on discovery will feature as program called “**Silent Flight**”, a show on gliding filmed around Minden, Nevada. It will be shown **Wed. May 2nd at 7:00pm** and again on Thurs 3rd – 8:00am and 1:00pm. Might be worth watching or setting up the VCR.
