

Saskatoon Soaring Club

News and information – June 2001

Student Instruction

There are seven pre-solo students this spring including those who are associates (introductory packages). I believe all have now been out for some instruction. Reports from instructors are very positive – a keen group that is picking up the skills very quickly.

The weather cooperated for only one Wed evening of instruction, but it went very well. Evenings and mornings are the best when the air is still. There is still some confusion about starting times on weekend mornings. If we know students are coming, it is more motivation for instructors and tow pilots to get to Cudworth early. Here are a couple of suggestions for students. If you prefer to work with a particular instructor, arrange with that instructor to coordinate days and times. If you are comfortable with any of the instructors, leave a message on the message manager so we will know when to expect you for instruction.

Winch Launches

The winch is in the machine shop in Cudworth for remodeling of the cable lead-in system (fairlead) – larger rollers, lower cable angle. I should be ready for Sat. June 2nd. It will take a few launches to get drivers and instructors current. It will then be available for students and members. Winch launching has its advantages. It is quick, inexpensive, and can be learned at earlier stages of training than the aerotow. It is excellent for practicing circuits, where even a 1000 ft launch is plenty for circuit entry. Can you soar off a winch launch? Prince Albert Club has had launches to 2400 ft this spring. Two of their members earned the silver Endurance badge leg in May for flights exceeding 5 hours after release.

Provincial Competitions

Provincials at Regina on the May long weekend was declared “no contest” with no significant flights due to poor weather. However, Roy Eichendorf had a great flight Friday 18th. Rather than trailer the whole distance, he decided to fly as far as he could in his Cirrus. Although not launching until about 3:30, he made it all the way to Strawberry Lakes (Regina Club field) in 2.5 hours, leaving him an hour of soaring after he got there while waiting for his crew to catch up! Well done, Roy.

Fly often! Fly Safely!

Club Soaring Ladder

Although the weather has been generally poor this spring, there have been some great soaring days. Club competition involves submitting the best 3 flights during the season. Points are awarded as follows: 1 pt per kilometer flown, x 1.5 bonus for each completed declared leg or distance, x glider handicap. Unofficial standings so far are as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>glider</u>	<u>task</u>	<u>dist</u>	<u>points</u>
Roy E.	Cirrus	dec. dist.	270	381
John G.	Phoebus	o&r Birch Hills	120	184
John T	Phoebus	o&r Rosthern	96	147
Clarence	Blanik	o&r Gab. Bridge	70	138

Note that with the handicap of 1.36, the Blanik can be competitive. (Phoebus 1.02, Cirrus 0.94). All you need to take part is the Bronze badge and cross-country certification.

Club Calendar – June

Weekends – student instruction mornings, soaring instruction and member soaring during the afternoons.

Wednesdays – member soaring afternoons, student instructions evenings.

Fri. June 22nd – club meeting, Sask Sport Bldg, 19:00hr.

Sat. June 30 – Start of Silver Anniversary Weekend at Cudworth. All former members are invited out for a flight, burger, and socialization. Many have been contacted. A few original members from 1976 will be there. Help spread the invitation to any former members you know. Come out and fly with the club “founders”.

Sun July 1, Mon July 2 - Anniversary Weekend continues with an Open House at Cudworth. Public will be invited to visit the field and participate in an introductory flight. Members will be needed as pilots and hosts.

“Silent Flight”

This was an excellent Canadian made video shown on Discovery Channel last month. I (John T) have a copy if anyone would like to view it.

Thought for the day - Never let the airplane take you somewhere that your brain didn't get to five minutes earlier!

Sask. Soaring Safari – There is considerable interest in Sask members invading Invermere in early July. Anyone interested???