



Chairman - Ken Mann
Vice Chairman - Greg Field
Secretary - Charl du Rand
Treasurer - Peter Frankle
Safety Officer - Craig Lipsett
Functions Co-ordinator - Chris Zurinskas

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BRCC Air Show 29th June 2019.

After lots of hard work and paperwork, 90% of which was done by Greg Field, Vice Chairman of the Ballito RC Club (BRCC) and great support from SAMAA getting our "Air Show 1" permit organised, our permit arrived and the big day was finally upon us. A thank you must go to our landlord, Micky Robert, all our neighbours for putting up with the noise and to King Shaka International for giving their consent to hold the air show.

The weather forecast was fantastic for the day before and the afternoon of the air show but showed an 10 to 18 knot wind for the actual event, however, the Gods were kind to us and even though a bit breezy, the air show went off without a hitch with only one broken prop and some minor undercarriage damage the whole day!

Ken Mann and his team had spent a lot of time getting the airfield ready for the air show the week before and it was looking fantastic, all the danger taping was completed and the only thing left to do before the pilots and spectators arrived was to string up a BRCC banner advertising the air show at the entrance to the airfield, put up all the safety notices required and set up the food station.

Pilots from four different clubs in KZN started arriving at about 07h30. Richards Bay Flyers, Maritzburg Model Aircraft Club, Howick Flying Club and of course, the BRCC. We ended up with about 20 or so pilots on the day, 15 who registered to fly. A last second cancellation by the paramedic caused a small panic but was soon sorted out and another one arrived for the day before we started flying and Netcare 911 was also put on standby. Thank you to Quinten Power for organising this for us at such short notice and thank you to Pete, our paramedic for the day.

A pilots briefing was held at 08h45 by our safety officer Craig Lipsett. It was a slow start but flying eventually got under way and we managed to keep at least one plane in the air until 14h00 when we started packing up.

Peter Frankle and Greg Field fired up the food stand and the smell of cooking wors soon filled the air. The first spectators started arriving soon after our pilots briefing and by 10h00 our spectator area was full and the parking overflowing. We estimated that we had more than 100 spectators through the day. They were treated to some brilliant flying from our pilots, especially Jason Barker (MMAC) with his Extreme Flight Extra 300 120cc, Chris Zurinskas (BRCC) with his Lazer 123cc, Johan de Lange (MMAC) with his Big Stick (Tug Plane) 100cc, Ian Drennan (MMAC) with Ventus Glider and Eric Bell (BRCC) with is Euro Jet Fighter with an 18kg jet turbine motor, the crowds were enthralled with some masterful flying and performances, some staying almost the whole day. Other pilots who entertained the crowds were Rolf Bartels (BRCC) with his Extra 300 electric 32e, Matthew Rogers (BRCC) with his Sukhoi 29 Electric, Craig Lipsett (BRCC) with his Inversa 62 55cc, Dean Steenmans (BRCC) with his electric Shotgun playing tricks in the fresh breeze, Hercules Venter (RBF) with his Sukhoi 29 50cc and Ken Mann with is Sukhoi 50cc. (Apologies if I have left anyone out). Also joining us for the day were the guys from Pacsys Agricultural, Tim Wise (BRCC) and Matt Houghting (RPL rated) who, after almost 4 hours of trouble shooting, gave us a demonstration down the



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runway using one of their Pacsys Agricultural Spray Drones, not much action here but still fascinating to watch this machine in action.

Our grassed runway (200m x 12m) combined with a bit of wind turbulence proved to be a bit of a challenge for the glider guys with the first two landings not quite making the runway but the guys soon got the hang of it and found the sweet spot. Eric with his Euro Jet Fighter said later that it was like landing on an aircraft carrier but he was very masterful and had a perfect landing every time.

By 14h00 all our wows rolls and hotdogs were sold out with only a few cool drinks remaining. Our raffle, to raise money for the BRCC and The North Coast Courier Orphans Fund, raised R2500.00. Here we must also thank our prize sponsors, Greg Field (BRCC), Clive Mc Innes (GP Hobbies) and Dean Steenmans (Denkit Hobbies) for their donations.

Congratulations to the Winners.

1. Gary (Texan ARF Model Aircraft)
2. David Rynhoud (R500.00 gift voucher from Denkit Hobbies)
3. Craig Lipsett (R500.00 gift voucher from GP Hobbies)
4. David Kambouris (Small glider from GP Hobbies)
6. Brendon (Small glider from GP Hobbies)
7. Gerard (Small glider from GP Hobbies)
8. Craig Lipsett (Small glider from GP Hobbies)
9. Chris Zurinkas (Small glider from GP Hobbies)

Craig, I really think you rigged the raffle draw. 😊

So all in all, a great day for pilots, spectators and organisers alike.

Report by Ken Mann (BRCC Chairman)



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