

# *It's Storming at Kempton Park*

By Clinton Carter-Brown



## **Gauteng Aerobatic Association 2010 Provincial**

Welcome: Pierre Marais, Digby Cranke, Max Buizer and Frik de Beer



The Gauteng Aerobatic Association (GAA) hosted the annual Gauteng Aerobatic provincial tournament at the Barnstormers Club in Kempton Park on 18 and 19 September 2010. This showpiece event on the GAA pattern flying competition calendar saw several pilots assembling at the field shortly after sunrise to get a warm-up flight before the formal start of the competition.

Pierre Marais (outgoing chairman of the GAA), welcomed the 22 pilots, 5 judges, various helpers and supporters. A particular welcome was extended to veteran pilots Frik de Beer and Digby Cranke, returning to the sport after a noticeable absence. Several pilots had travelled from Bloemfontein, as well as Arthur Eggar from KZN, following the successful KZN championships where he placed first in the Sportsman class.

As any pattern competition is dependent on quality judging, the event was fortunate to have a panel of top class judges in the form of Ivan Olivier, Paul Hearn, Mark Hubbard, John Clements and Herman Schreuder. As always, the contest director duties were attended to by the ever present and energetic, Oom Danie Potgieter.

### **Good healthy entry**

This year's event saw a large field of competitors with 5 Sportsman, 4 Advanced, 5 Masters and 8 F3A pilots, including several of the countries' top model pilots. Flight activities got underway on two flight lines in a moderate cross wind that had the pilots working the rudder to keep a line, failing which the judges handed out appropriate punishment.

**Day 1** on Saturday saw 3 rounds being flown in each of the classes, except for 2 rounds in Sportsman.

Flying on both lines was without incident and saw some heavy competition with 69 flights.

In **Sportsman** the battle for first place was being hard fought between Arthur Eggar, Roston Dugmore and Ian Pepper.

# GAUTENG AEROBATIC ASSOCIATION PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2010

Judges: Ivan Olivier, John Clements, Herman Schreuder, Danie Potgieter (CD), Paul Hearn and Mark Hubbard



Great social function at Danie Potgieter's place



Winner Sportsman: Arthur Eggar

**The Advanced class** saw yet another dual between Danie Steyn and Bertie Viljoen, with young Jordan Pepper showing his potential after having progressed to the Advanced class after winning the Sportsman class at the MAASA nationals. Danie managed to reduce Bertie's lead to a few normalised points after Danie flew an excellent third round. Unfortunately Digby Cranke had to retire after experiencing problems with his plane.

In **F3A** the gurus were contending with the P-11 and F-11 schedules, using the event as preparation for the final team selection event at the MAASA Masters tournament in October 2010 that will determine the South African F3A team for the 2011 World Championships. Andre Stockwell continued his fine form, taking all three rounds on day 1 and thereby securing first place. The battle for second place was hotly contested between Danie Potgieter and Pierre Marais.



Winner Advanced: Danie Steyn

**The Masters class** saw Clinton Carter-Brown leading Grant Brook by two rounds to one. As with the Sportsman and Advanced classes, the final result would be dependent on the outcome of the final round on Sunday. This was going to be a test of nerves.

The end of day one was celebrated with a fantastic social function and braai hosted by Danie Potgieter and his family. Not only is John Clements a pattern pilot and judge, he's great with a guitar and entertained us with a range of fantastic tunes.



Winner Masters: Clinton Carter-Brown

Winners F3A:  
Andre Stockwell (1st)  
Pierre Marais (2nd),  
& Danie Potgieter (3rd)



# GAUTENG AEROBATIC ASSOCIATION PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2010



Sportsman pilots



Advanced pilots



Masters pilots



F3A pilots



New GAA committee: Kitty Hubbard, Dean Grobbelaar, Mark Hubbard, Danie Potgieter, Clinton Carter-Brown and Grant Brook

While most pilots had their fair share of stick time during the day, Jordan Pepper, Roston Dugmore and Hugo Erasmus further honed their skills, flying their foamies long after the sun had set and in total darkness. Not even the judges could see wings level in that light!

**The second day** of flying on Sunday was met with hot weather and a moderate cross-wind for both flight lines. Despite the festivities of the previous evening, a number of pilots were again out early trying to extract the most from their planes and fingers. Sadly during this practice session Arthur Eggar crashed his OTOP plane after some form of electronic failure or interference (Arthur's next plane will be using 2.4GHz)

The plane was completely destroyed, and that would have been the end of Arthur's tournament had it not been for Ian Pepper's loan of a plane. Ian's generosity is especially commendable, given that Arthur was his main competition and had Arthur not been able to continue, Ian's own chances of victory would have increased significantly.

The final rounds were flown without further incident, leading to prize giving at lunchtime. The results and normalised scores are provided in the table below. With the borrowed plane from Ian Pepper, Arthur Eggar won the Sportsman class, ahead of Ian Pepper and Roston Dugmore. Danie Steyn just managed to beat Bertie Viljoen in the Advanced class, with just 23 normalised points separating them. In the Masters class, Clinton Carter-Brown narrowly beat Grant Brook (Clint and Grant call for each other so it was particularly interesting when this came down to the

wire). In F3A, Andre took first place, Pierre Marais placed second, closely followed by Danie Potgieter, with Dean Grobbelaar in fourth place.

In his final duty as outgoing GAA chairman, Pierre Marais conducted the prize giving ceremony. In addition to the judges and contest director, a number of individuals were singled out for their assistance in ensuring that the Gauteng Champs ran smoothly, and in particular Mark and Kitty Hubbard for efficiently collating all of the scores. A special word of thanks was extended to Ian Pepper for his generous donations during the course of the year, whereby the entry fees for the Novice pilots had been waived, thereby attracting new competitors to the sport of pattern flying. John Brink was also thanked for the sponsorship of prizes, which saw Grant Brook and Hugo Erasmus winning a carbon propeller and glow fuel respectively. Barnstormers Model Club was thanked for their generous hosting of the event.

**The GAA championships** coincided with the election of the new GAA committee to further the excellent work performed by the outgoing committee consisting of Pierre Marais (Chairman), Danie Potgieter (Vice Chairman), Andre Stockwell (Secretary) and Dean Grobbelaar (Treasurer). Based on the nominations and voting, the new committee was elected as follows: Danie Potgieter (Chairman), Dean Grobbelaar (Vice Chairman), Clinton Carter-Brown (Secretary), Grant Brook (Treasurer), FC Hamman (Public Relations), Mark and Kitty Hubbard (Contest Scoring). The new committee was congratulated on their appointment and wished well in further building the GAA.

# Results

Gauteng  
Aerobatic  
Association  
2010  
Provincial

Name	Percentage	Normalised points	Position
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## **Sportsman**

Arthur Eggar	62.97%	2896	1
Ian Pepper	64.20%	2794	2
Roston Dugmore	52.29%	2469	3
Max Buizer	55.82%	2439	4
Hugo Erasmus	54.61%	2396	5

## **Advanced**

Danie Steyn	64.72%	2986	1
Bertie Viljoen	62.94%	2963	2
Jordan Pepper	61.82%	2858	3
Digby Cranke	2.40%	118	4

## **Masters**

Clinton Carter-Brown	65.88%	3000	1
Grant Brook	64.50%	2915	2
Pierre Fouche	58.89%	2638	3
Nico Erasmus	53.24%	2423	4
Frik De Beer	50.28%	2335	5

## **F3A**

Andre Stockwell	76.74%	2000	1
Pierre Marais	73.79%	1957	2
Danie Potgieter	71.80%	1930	3
Dean Grobbelaar	71.22%	1861	4
Walter V Huyssteen	66.96%	1775	5
Neil Collins	64.19%	1715	6
Gerhard Venter	61.89%	1642	7
John Brink	58.24%	1517	8