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Ladybrand Model Aircraft Club

Glider Nationals 2003 de-brief

		Comments	Observations
1	Scoring system	A scoring system must be used that is tested and reliable. It must be dry run before the event and all problems gone through and understood.	Don't rely on others. They will let you down.
1.a.	Scoring (Running scores)	An official scorer must be provided and all scores must be returned after each round/slot and the results published before the next round begins.	I made too many mistake late at night when I was tired.
2	Photo's	An official photographer must be appointed and lots of photos taken with details of what is in the photo so captions can be added after the event	From what I have seen I think we could have taken more.
2.a.	Photo Shoot	Time must be provided for a group photo. Preferably near the beginning of the event so that all models are still available.	We forgot
3	Scribe (Report)	Someone must be appointed to write a detailed report. He must take notes all the time. Get details of models and people and record events as they happen.	One forgets details if they are not noted down at the time.
4	Catering	Catering on the field must be well organised and well presented and not too expensive. (Remember diabetic's & coffee) Provide shade and seating.	Many complained that the prices were high
5	Jury	A jury panel must be appointed and someone must be responsible to record events as they happen. i.e. When a protest is lodged then that person must have the facts available so that a proper decision can be made.	We handled our protest well & everybody was happy.
6	Rules	Some basic rules must be published in the program for the event. The detailed competition event rules must be available should they be required.	Things like protest, safety, etc.
7	P. A.	Someone must man the PA to provide commentary so as to keep the interest up for non-flyers & spectators. Like F3B speed times and how the thermals are developing etc. Some music between rounds.	Can be the same person who writes the report & records events. (3 & 5)



Founder Members: Marc Quesnel, Evan Sh:

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8	Frequency Control.	Frequency control must be manned at all times. Stricter control.	Ours was good, except for the one time it was not manned we had a problem.
9	Prizes	Prizes must be sorted out in good time before the prize giving. Certificates must be presented.	
10	Banquet	A banquet must be organised. The woman's touch is needed. Flowers etc. Use our own wives next time.	The dinner was well received and enjoyed more than a braai. Nice to be indoors and comfortable.
11	First Aid	Proper first aid facilities and venue	Signs must be displayed
12	Matrixing	A foolproof matrixing system must be designed and tested before the event. As few pilots as possible must fly against each other in different rounds so as to give a proper mix.	We were let down and couldn't come up with a good matrix at such short notice. The same group of pilots flew against each other all weekend.
13	Safety/ Crowd control	A clearly marked public area must be provided and someone must be responsible for control at all times. Don't allow spectators into the flying areas. Provide direction signs.	The indigenous was a bit of a problem.
		Comments	Observations
14	Vehicles	A clearly marked car park must be provided. No vehicles should be allowed onto the field during flying except for emergencies.	It's a safety issue. Planes punch holes into cars.
15	Fire	The fire department should be informed of the event and contact numbers at hand should they be needed.	The veld fire was swiftly dealt with.
16	Advertising	Lots of colorful banners, bunting and flags.	Helps to make the venue look good.
17	Field Marking	Properly laid out Winch and Turn-around lines, with alternative wind directions. See drawing below.	Ours was excellent. Just add some cross markings, and end of line flags.
18	Start Times	Stricter control on start time. Latecomers don't get to fly in the round if they are late. Emphasize this in pre comp publications.	Late comers caused major delays
19	Sponsors	Someone must be nominated to co-ordinate sponsorship.	We did well with the Ladybrand community, but again don't rely on others. They will let you down.
20	Fundraising	Donation of prizes that can be raffled during the event, and someone to co-ordinate. Make this early in the event so that people still have money. Don't make the tickets too expensive. Publicize the raffle in the program.	The one prize we raffled worked well. Other promised prizes never materialized.
21	Program	Print just enough programs for the competitors and sponsors. Include raffles, adds etc.	We had too many left over. Waste of funds.
22	Program	Decide times for events and stick to them. Refer 18 above.	We were always trying to catch up.

23	Events - F3B	Have F3B duration and open together. Schedule some rounds during light lift conditions so pilots are made to work for lift. Try for 7 rounds Pre-mark field for speed sights.	This will save time.
24	Events – Open	Have Open and F3B duration together. Schedule some rounds during light lift conditions so pilots are made to work for lift. Try for 7 rounds	Investigate the re-flight rule.
25	Events – 2 Meter	Must be further encouraged to promote youngsters and to get them involved in competitions. Speed must be developed further.	Too few competitors. Youngsters must be encouraged.
26	Events – HLG	Have time for HLG but not during Lunch. Have some challenging times scheduled. Early morning and late afternoon when lift is light and the pilots have to work to get lift.	Commentary on the PA will help. Pilots get far away from the CD so a load hailer is essential.
27	Events – Scale	Encourage Scale	
28	Events – Electric	Encourage Electric ?????	
29	Pre-Event advertising	Pre-event hype is essential. Use e-mail and set up web pages. Publish Entry forms in SAMAA & South Easter. 2 months before	We were late for SAMAA, but got into SE.
30	Web Page	A web page should be set up or use the clubs.	Next time we must have a LMAC web site.
31	Two-way Radio	Provide Two-way radios for officials and site B.	Our radios were a valuable tool and allowed for easy coms. (Thanks Marc)
32	CD's	Have dedicated CD's for each event or one for all events. Don't allow their other duties to interfere with being CD. The CD also needs a break so try and have more than one.	Trying to score and CD did not work for me, but that only happened because we didn't have a dedicated scorer. See 1.a above.
33	Entry Form	Get it out early. Start at least 2 months before the event.	
34	Weather	Try and observe wind direction a year before for the month of the event and get history of weather conditions, so you have some idea of prevailing wind directions. Provide a spare day in case of rain.	Anton told me about a web site that may help. We could not of had better weather and thermals. It was fantastic.
35	Venue	Nice and big	We are so lucky to have our field. It's great!
36	Field preparation	Cut fields grass at least a month before the event. (6 weeks is better) Mow winch and Turn-around lines 1 week before the event.	Our timing was good and the field was very nice.

