

Gauteng Champs Barnstormers 2019

By Pieter Botha

Barnstormers is one of the greatest venues in Gauteng and always the highlight of the pattern season.

Due to the low competitor entry, the four rounds were squeezed into one day - the Saturday - leaving the Sunday to the Barnstormers club members.

We wish to thank Barnstormers for making this great venue available for the Gauteng Champs. What a pleasure to land on the newly tarred smooth runways.

Danie Potgieter (Jr) joined us for most of the day. Danie (Snr) joined us later in the day.

The wind on this day was not so kind - varying wind direction and strength and dust devils made flying quite tricky. These were factors for some competitor's to consider as this was quite taxing on the batteries.

There were no entries for the Sportsman class; Neil was in a class of his own namely Advanced class; three competitors in the Masters class, and the usual four in the F3A class. Chris O'Connell decided not to fly on this day but did the scheduling and scoring for the competition. Judging duties were scheduled amongst the pilots, so there were no dull moments or napping!

Neil Twomey took 1st place in Advanced class unopposed with 3000 points. In the Masters class Lee took 3rd place with 1877 points. Lee withdrew for the last 2 rounds due to technical difficulties that cost him dearly in points. Pieter did not capitalise on his first round when flying conditions were favourable. Dereck had a phenomenal first round that helped him to secure 1st place with 3045 points and Pieter 2nd with 3038 points.

The F3A class was a titanic battle amongst the big guns. Grant came 4th with a respectable 2838 points. Joshua really showed great form in 3rd place with 2917 points. I think this young man has his sights set on the number one spot. Clinton secured 2nd place with 2976 points. André took 1st place with very consistent flying and 3053 points.

The Greg Casson floating trophy that was donated by Greg Casson in 1992, was won again by André Stockwell. André won this trophy from its inception in 1992 and has won it 23 times over the years and only missed out on 4 occasions. Well done André, this is a remarkable achievement.

The GAA AGM followed the last round during which a new committee was elected.

The day ended with a lekker braai organized by Neil.

The last competition of the season will be the Masters in Cape town.

2020 will kick off with new schedules for all the classes.



Pieter preparing for take-off



Dereck and caller Lee



Clinton and Grant



Dereck ready for the next round

Trophies presented by Chris O'Connell

Advanced class



1st Neil Twomey

Masters class



3rd Lee Bonney



2nd Pieter Botha



1st Dereck Butow

Advanced class	Final
1 st Neil Twomey	3000/58%
Masters class	
1 st Dereck Butow	3045/63.93%
2 nd Pieter Botha	3038/63.76%
3 rd Lee Bonney	1877/39.74%
F3A class	
1 st André Stockwell	3053/81.55%
2 nd Clinton Carter-Brown	2976/80.26%
3 rd Joshua Twomey	2917/78.13%
4 th Grant Brook	2838/75.84%

F3A Class



3rd Joshua Twomey



2nd Clinton Carter Brown



1st André Stockwell

