

GENE HEMPEL MEMORIAL CONTEST

April 9, 2016
Racing Report
Bill Bischoff

Even though Don Cranfill, Richard Oliver, and John Hill did not attend, we had a good turnout with eleven contestants. Melvin Schuette and Rod Christie came from Kansas, Charles Barnes came from Georgia, and his son Chuck came from Houston. In addition, we had most of the local "usual suspects". Rod Christie is still fairly new to racing; in fact, he had never flown three up before. He did a fine job of flying for himself and Melvin, and even won Goldberg race.

We had six entries in Mouse, and flew 2 heats and a final, all three up. Patrick and Melvin qualified within a second of each other, and Mike was less than a second ahead of Rod to get the third spot. The final was a good close race, with the outcome never certain until it was over. Melvin got his glove in the prop on one pit, killing the engine. The restart could have very well been the difference between first and third.

Goldberg had six contestants. With only three finishing, it was a little easier to guess who the winners would be.

Sportsman Goodyear had nine contestants. The plan was to fly three sets of heats, followed by a final. The Polecat was the most popular design, with three entered. There were two Sig Busters, and four different individual entries. Dale Gleason set the stage in the first group of heats with a 4:07.82. In the last group of heats, Bill edged by Dale with a 4:07.47. In Bill's second heat, he had a fair amount of solo time, allowing him to record a 4:03.85. Mike Greb was third with a 4:15.93. We decided to skip the final because: 1)Mike Greb had pitted all of the top three 2)Bill Bischoff had flown two of the top three 3)bad weather was fast approaching so we wanted to get more events flown 4)all the above. The correct answer is 4, all the above.

We skipped Super Slow Rat and flew Quickie Rat to accommodate our out of town guests, all of whom had Quickies. In the first race there was a line snag during a pit stop, leaving Bill B. to finish the race alone. As punishment for who knows what, Bill got to finish out the race in a cold rain. This was the only time recorded for Quickie.

In spite of being cut short, we had an excellent day of racing. There were some good performances and some close races. Every race began as a three up race. How often does that happen? I hope Melvin and Rod can continue to work as a team. They seemed to function well together. Having a dependable team mate is very important in racing, which is why I'd like to thank my team mate for the last 30 years, Mike Greb. Thank you, Mike.

MOUSE I	heat	final	SPORTSMAN GOODYEAR	
1)Patrick Hempel	2:31.32	5:26.95	1)Bill Bischoff	4:03.85
2)Mike Greb	2:42.22	5:29.34	2)Dale Gleason	4:07.82
3)Melvin Schuette	2:32.14	5:32.00	3)Mike Greb	4:15.93
4)Rod Christie	2:42.98		4)Bill Lee	4:20.65
5)Charles Barnes	3:11.68		5)Patrick Hempel	4:22.28
6)Chuck Barnes	4:05.01		6)Melvin Schuette	4:27.30
			7)Charles Barnes	4:35.45
			8)Rod Christie	4:44.74
			9)Stephen Jeansonne	4:48.62
GOLDBERG			QUICKIE RAT	
1)Rod Christie	10:20.41		1)Bill Bischoff	7:52.25
2)Charles Barnes	10:26.70		2)Melvin Schuette	43 laps
3)Dave Ek	12:11.57		3)Charles Barnes	? laps
4)Dale Gleason	136 laps)Chuck Barnes	DNF
5)Patrick Hempel	78 laps)Rod Christie	DNF
6)Melvin Schuette	no start)Bill Lee	DNF