

## "Medford Madness" IMAC contest, May 27-28, 2013

CDs: Jay Strickland and John Gaines.

It was a great weekend for flying! There weren't as many contestants as we usually have, however the competition was very tight in all classes.



### About the IMAC Competition...

The IMAC event is divided into classes: Basic, Sportsman, Intermediate, Advanced, & Unlimited. Each class has a set of known maneuvers that must be flown in the designated sequence. Each maneuver is judged on a 0-10 scale and then multiplied by a Degree of difficulty factor (the K-factor.)

Saturday two "known" rounds were flown in Basic, Sportsman, Intermediate, and Advanced. Mark Tobin stepped down from the Unlimited class to the Advanced class because he was the only pilot in the Unlimited class. This gave Steve and Bob a challenge to step up their game and compete with an upperclassman. Unfortunately, Mark lost an engine in the first round. He quickly recovered by borrowing his son Sean's 35% Pilot Yak 54.

Sunday began with the Sportsman, Intermediate, and Advanced classes flying their unknown sequence. The unknown sequence is given to the pilots the night before or the morning of their flight. They have not seen or practiced the sequence before. They are not allowed to practice the sequence with a simulator or by flying with an R/C plane. They can only practice mentally or with a stick plane in their hand.

To further confuse the pilots, after flying their unknown sequence they have to fly their known sequence in the last round. It takes a lot of concentration to "forget" the sequence you have been practicing for months to learn the unknown. Then after the unknown is flown they must immediately "remember" their known sequence.

The Freestyle competition followed the formal IMAC competition. Freestyle is just that. You determine the maneuvers and the sequence. You are flying to music. It's basically an aerial figure skating contest. You should demonstrate your ability to control the aircraft in all modes/attitudes of flight. You are judged on: Technical Merit, Artistic Impression, and Positioning. From the rule book: "The four (4) Minute Freestyle Program is a "Show Time" separate event. It is an unrestricted, individually crated sequence in which "Anything Safe Goes!" To be eligible to participate and compete in this event, the competitor must also compete in one of the five IMAC categories of precision sequence flying at the same event.

The Freestyle pilots put on a great show. They flew fast, low and slow. Although Steve won the competition, all flights were very exciting and entertaining.

— Participants —

**Basic:**

Kelly White, Robert Fralick.

**Sportsman:**

Nick Hiltbold, Don Coleman, Sean Tobin, John Paul Takacs, Chris Elliot, Scott Hudson, Tom Everts, Ray Wasson, Art Kelly.

**Intermediate:**

John Eells, Jim Spurlock.

**Advanced:**

Mark Tobin, Steve Coleman, Bob Knudsen.

— Winners —



**Kelly White**  
1st place Basic



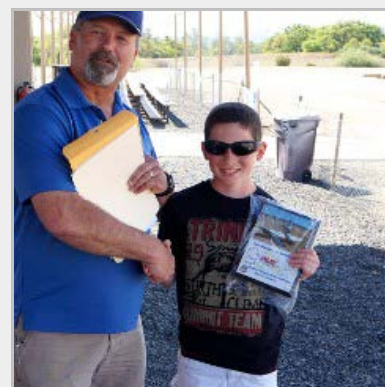
**Robert Fralick**  
2nd place Basic



**Nick Hiltbold**  
1st place Sportsman



**Don Coleman**  
2nd place Sportsman  
Senior Honors



**Sean Tobin**  
3rd Place Sportsman



**John Eells**  
1st place Intermediate



**Jim Spurlock**  
2nd place Intermediate



**Mark Tobin**  
1st place Advanced



**Steve Coleman**  
2nd place Advanced  
Freestyle winner



**Bob Knudsen**  
3rd place Advanced

**BIG Snapshots (befitting IMAC flyers!)**



**Freestyle judges (L to R): Jerry Stinson, Tom Everts, Scott Hudson**



**Mark Tobin and kids.**





*We would like to thank Eric Kees for contributing the photos and write-up of this "Medford Madness" IMAC event to the Rogue Eagles web site so we can share this magnificent event with our entire membership and indeed with everyone who is interested in flying big, aerobatic birds. Thanks very much, Eric!*

Updated: Friday, June 07, 2013