

HELDERBERG RADIO FLYERS

WE ARE ALL WINNERS

15-16 OCTOBER

“FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE SA MASTERS WAS HELD IN CAPE TOWN AT HELDERBERG RADIO FLYERS”



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F3A WINNER, ANDRÉ STOCKWELL

The SA Masters 2016 has come and gone. Wow what an event! Not my opinion alone, just about everybody that attended whether as pilot, helper, official or as a spectator.

This year's Masters was the event it was always intended to be. The most prestigious Pattern Aerobatic event of the national Pattern calendar. The culmination of many hours of practice, monthly comps, league comps, provincials, nationals. Fixing, aligning, setting, adjusting and then some more of the same. For the Judges sacrificing many hours in the wind and sun.





Finally the SA MASTERS! Hosted for the first time in the beautiful city of Cape Town, (and was She kind to us).

But before I wax lyrical, let me once again thank some special people who were responsible for making this such a well organised, professional event.

Firstly to the HRF committee and its members for giving up this fantastic facility for 4 days, making sure the

fridges were well stocked, the club house cleaned after each day's flying etc and the runway swept each morning.

Then a special thanks to Erika Steyn (Ludwig's wife) for preparing and serving a great breakfast of bacon and eggs with rolls and coffee/tea the salads to go with the lunch time burgers.

Our thanks also to Francois Geldenhuys for the braaing of the burgers for lunch, and to Jack for

taking care of the sales of refreshments.

Bernus, for his donation, much appreciated.

Michael Borchers for his donation of the prize for our raffle which raised R9 000.00, which was a great contribution to this event.

Rory for the donation of the case of wine, which realised R1000.00.

MAASA for their financial and other assistance.

I know this sounds clichéd, but please forgive me if I've left somebody/s out.

Thursday the 13th Oct, first practice day saw the first pilots trickling in. These guys and their wives or girlfriends or Mother, had made the lonnnnggggg journey from the north. For some, a journey of +/- 1600km. A gentle South Easter and sunshine were there to greet them, and welcome them to the most beautiful City in the World.

One of them, Len De Villiers and his lovely wife Hanilie, were a bit wiser. He sent his airplane and equipment down with Neil Twomey, and he and his wife flew down to the Cape (clever man).



Calvin, Michael and Sebastian decided that seeing more of our beautiful city would be much more rewarding than spending the day practicing something they already were so good at. Evidently it was well worth it (check out their facebook pages for the pics). Roston decided sleeping late into the morning was something he had to experience in Cape Town. I think it did him good as he ended the weekend in second place (F3A). Well done Roston.

Friday 14th, and the second practice day saw more pilots arriving. It developed into a reunion after the Nationals, which was held earlier in the year at Klerksdorp.

Friday evening arrived and it was time for the official start to the SA Masters. This took the form of a magnificent Banquet held at Boschklouf Wine Estate in one of the scenic valleys in Stellenbosch. Thanks again to Jacques Borman for hosting and sponsoring the evening. The banquet included a most beautiful sunset, as much wine as you were brave enough to consume, a tasty lamb spit with veggies, followed by a warm desert.

The SA Masters will never be the same again (unless of course it's again hosted in Cape Town).

For the benefit of those readers who are unaware, the pilots in the Cape now belong to a registered Federation with the CT Sports Council, namely the WP Model Aerobatic Association.



So, this year for the very first time (legitimately), our Judges and pilots (Masters class and F3A only) could, if all criteria were met, achieve their Provincial colours.

Enter our special guest Mr Richard Buckley, chairman of the CT sports Council, to present the 4 Judges: Ludwig Steyn; Kas Hamman; Bernus van der Westhuizen and Martin Knoetzen with a signed certificate, a badge and a tie with the appropriate Disa and WP insignia, proud moment indeed.

Next to receive their Provincial recognition were the 3 pilots who qualified. Namely Neil Allen, Stuart Nix and yours truly, Rodney Potter.

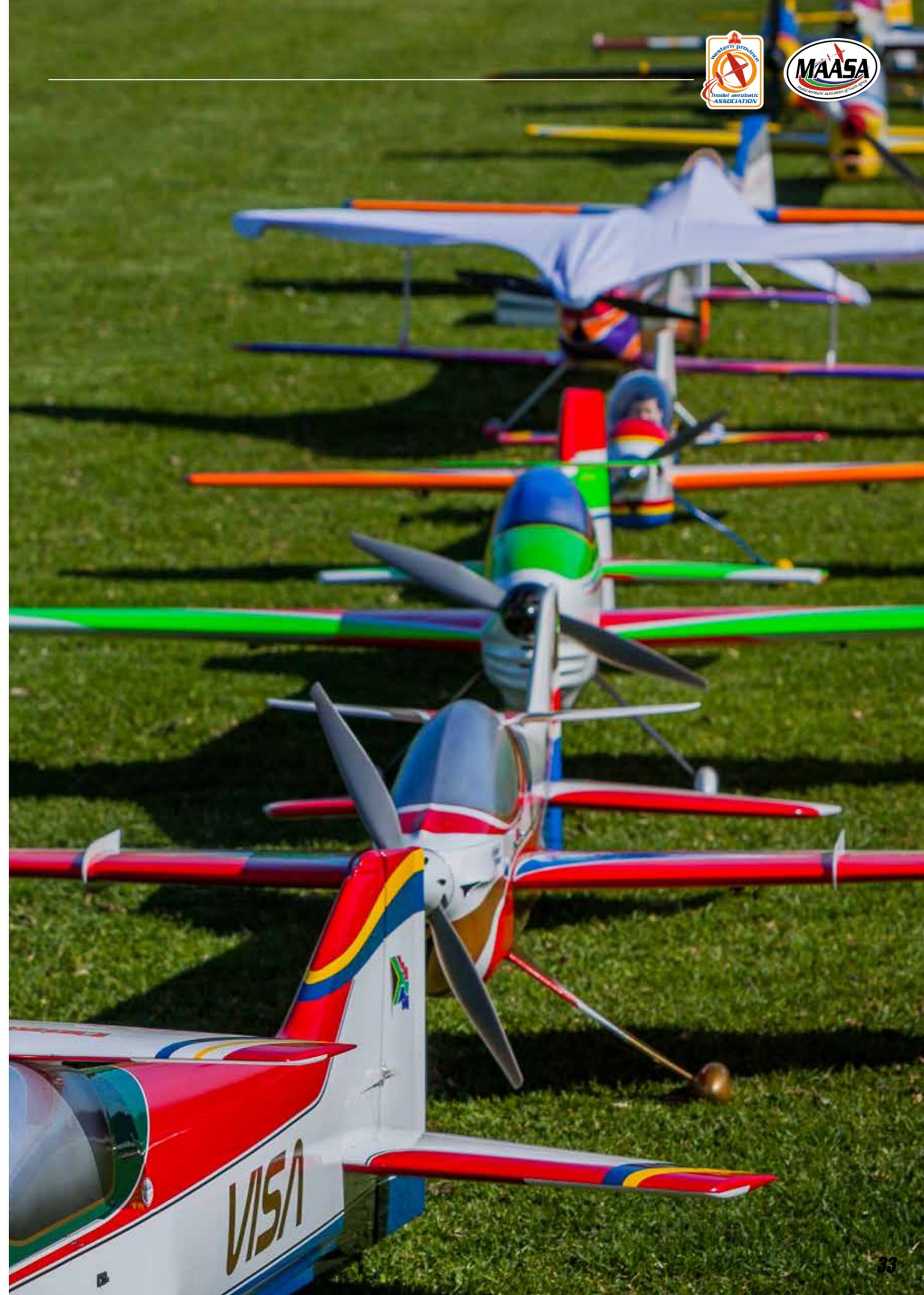
Once again a really proud moment, and maybe we'll be inspired to work harder and smarter to reach the next level!

PROVINCIAL COLOURS



Ludwig Steyn Kas Hamman Bernus vd Westhuizen Martin Knoetzen

Stuart Nix Rodney Potter Neil Allen





These awards were followed by the main course and desert after which I called on Clinton Carter-Brown, chairman of MAASA, and Stuart Nix regional rep for MAASA in the Western Cape and hugely responsible for this most successful event. These two gentlemen, besides heaping well deserved praise on our host Jaques, proceeded with the pilots briefing and draw for flight order. This done, we slowly drifted off to our cars, homes, bed, for a good night's rest and the start of the contest.

In the F3A class there was lots of pressure as it was the second of 3 team selection events. There were 6 pilots competing in F3A, one of which is our junior, Michael Sacca. The 5 senior pilots were Roston Dugmore, Calvin Schroll, Grant Brooke, Clinton Carter-Brown and last but not least Andre Stockwell.

Saturday morning started as planned at 7.30 sharp. Our CD, Andre Vogel, did a splendid job keeping the pilots in the ready boxes (thanks again Andre). Before we knew it the first round had been flown by all classes. If Andre doesn't start flying next year he could be Oom Danie's replacement!

10.30 on day 1 and it was time for a cooked breakfast of bacon and eggs courtesy of the cook, Erika Steyn. There was enough even for some of our visitors/spectators. Enjoyed by all. Thanks again Erika.

Special note here, especially to those who did not make it to the Masters for whatever reason and for future hosts of this event, all meals including the Banquet was free, gratis. That's 1 x supper; 2 x breakfast; 1 x lunch, for all pilots, callers and officials. There was also no entry fee for pilots. It was a return to the glory days of pattern, with an extremely well organised event complete with a banquet. Anyway back to the serious business of flying.

Nerves seemed to have settled slightly with the first round behind our backs. Breakfast was followed by round two for all classes.

Lunch time arrived in the form of the best burgers in town, as braaied by Francois (HRF member and volunteer) with salads by Erika Steyn. Thanks again guys, you are brilliant.



“ Well done to all pilots who qualified and who participated. Congratulations. We know it takes a lot of practice and effort. I hope to see you all at the Nationals 2017 (God Sparing us). ”



Up to this point the judges were doing a great job out there in a gentle breeze and sunshine. There were enough judges to allow a fair amount of rotation, and avoid judges dozing off in the warm sunshine. Well anyway, they thought they did a great job. I'm not going to elaborate, ask any of the pilots. I'm sure depending on who you ask, they'll give you a fairly colourful opinion. Especially, if like me, they didn't end up in the top 3 of their respective class. *Haha*

Round three was the final scheduled round for the day. What we, ie pilots not in the F3A class and all spectators, were looking forward to was the F3A 'F17' schedule. This is hectic, firstly you have to buy or install more RAM so you can remember the schedule then you've got to fly it!

Boy oh boy, did these guys put on a display of some serious pattern flying, including our junior, Michael Sacca. You just have to congratulate all of them. It takes hours and hours of practice, not just to fly these complex manoeuvres, but to fly them technically correct, accurately and with the grace with which they did it. They made it look so simple! Whichever of these 6 pilots makes the SA team next year, we know you will do us proud. Good luck to all of you from all of us.

Ross Netterfield did get work assisting Stuart with the scoring, ensuring that results were posted timeously after each round.

Thank you Ross.. It was clear after 3 rounds that for the Sportsman and Masters classes that the winner was already decided. In the sportsman class (my personal man of the Comp) Joshua Twomey had already won all three rounds, and hence was the clear winner of that class. In the Masters class the veteran from KZN, Neil Allen, was also already the clear winner, with 3 straight wins. Once again well done to both of them. We decided that we would not have any function at the venue for the Saturday evening so that all our visitors could have an opportunity to explore our wonderful city. I hope they took full advantage of the opportunity. Sunday got off to another early start for the

commencement of the 4th round for all classes. Once again some really great flying all round. Breakfast, very simple, hot dogs and then the prize giving. Thanks Stuart for organising really smart trophies and certificates. I really wish I could have won one of those, damn zero on the stall turns.....say no more. Thanks again to all the judges; Bruce Clark; Martin Knoetzen; Kas Hamman; Ludwig Steyn; Bernus van der Westhuizen; Chris O Connell. A box of wine was donated by Rory Netterfield and was raffled off. We raised approx. R1000.00. Thanks Rory. The raffle was won by Neil Allen (who's been winning a lot in Cape Town), and he in turn donated a bottle of wine

each to the winner of each class. Thanks Neil, a nice gesture, but then he is a nice guy. A special prize of R1000.00 was awarded to Joshua Twomey who won the Sportsman class by a huge margin. Watch this kid, he is going to go places. The Trophies were as smart and classy as the whole event. Congratulations to all the recipients. In this report I'm not going to mention the names of the winners and runners up etc. if you're interested in that, read the previous report which have all the results. That report by the way was intended for one of our local newspapers who wanted a brief report on the event. As my mate Stuart would say, all pilots that took part in this event are winners.

	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	FINAL	
SPORTSMAN						
Joshua Twomey	70.15 / 1000	67.88 / 1000	70.30 / 1000	71.36 / 1000	70.61 / 3000	1
Hugo Erasmus	61.67 / 879	66.52 / 980	60.45 / 860	65.91 / 924	64.70 / 2783	2
Len De Villiers	60.61 / 864	65.91 / 971	63.03 / 897	58.94 / 826	63.18 / 2731	3
Michael Borcherds	63.18 / 901	35.15 / 518	58.94 / 838	57.12 / 800	59.75 / 2539	4
Jacques Borman	40.00 / 570	61.67 / 908	57.12 / 813	53.48 / 749	57.42 / 2470	5
ADVANCED						
Pieter Botha	64.28 / 1000	65.14 / 1000	66.38 / 1000	69.20 / 1000	66.91 / 3000	1
Nico Erasmus	63.12 / 982	61.09 / 938	64.06 / 965	66.52 / 961	64.57 / 2908	2
Cobus Malan	59.93 / 932	61.38 / 942	62.61 / 943	62.61 / 905	62.20 / 2818	3
Rory Netterville	57.10 / 888	51.74 / 794	52.54 / 791	58.41 / 844	56.01 / 2527	4
Mike Rabeling	43.55 / 678	19.06 / 293	55.51 / 836	55.80 / 806	51.62 / 2320	5
MASTERS						
Neil Allen	63.22 / 1000	62.61 / 1000	65.17 / 1000	59.39 / 955	63.67 / 3000	1
Stuart Nix	63.06 / 997	61.67 / 985	59.22 / 909	62.17 / 1000	62.30 / 2982	2
Chris O'Connell	60.39 / 955	60.06 / 959	61.50 / 944	60.83 / 979	60.91 / 2893	3
Ernie Smith	59.17 / 936	60.72 / 970	61.67 / 946	60.44 / 972	60.94 / 2888	4
Rodney Potter	59.11 / 935	59.00 / 942	60.44 / 928	55.89 / 899	59.52 / 2805	5
Ozzie Parenzee	51.22 / 810	51.61 / 824	52.61 / 807	56.11 / 903	53.44 / 2537	6
F3A						
Andre Stockwell	74.83 / 1000	74.67 / 1000	68.86 / 990	75.57 / 1000	75.02 / 3000	1
Roston Dugmore	70.50 / 942	72.50 / 971	69.57 / 1000	70.86 / 938	71.29 / 2913	2
Clinton Carter-Brown	71.94 / 961	73.22 / 981	67.24 / 966	66.67 / 882	70.80 / 2909	3
Calvin Schroll	69.28 / 926	71.17 / 953	68.76 / 988	71.48 / 946	70.64 / 2887	4
Grant Brook	70.89 / 947	68.44 / 917	65.00 / 934	66.24 / 876	68.52 / 2798	5
Michael Sacca	65.44 / 875	66.44 / 890	41.76 / 600	60.86 / 805	64.25 / 2570	6

class winners



3rd Sportsman - Len De Villoers

2nd Sportsman - Hugo Erasmus

1st Sportsman - Joshua Twomey



3rd Advanced - Cobus Malan

2nd Advanced - Nico Erasmus

1st Advanced - Pieter Botha



3rd Masters - Chris O'Connell

2nd Masters - Stuart Nix

1st Masters - Neil Allen



3rd F3A - Clinton Carter-Brown

2nd F3A - Roston Dugmore

1st F3A - Andre Stockwell



Well done to all pilots who qualified and who participated. Congratulations. We know it takes a lot of practice and effort. I hope to see you all at the Nationals 2017 (God Sparing us).

I contacted a few people who attended the event to hear in one or two sentences their opinion of this Masters weekend. Here's what some of them had to say.

LEN DE VILLIERS: "Baie dankie vir 'n fantasties event. Die organisation was 100%. Ek en my vrou Hanlie het dit vreeslik geniet. Ons sal weer daar wees."

SUSAN MILLER (Roston's mom): "Best ever. Very well organised. Everyone was so friendly, made us all feel very welcome. Will definitely come again".

NICO AND PETRO ERASMUS: "The banquet set the tone for probably the best ever SA Masters. Dit was grand. Die Kaap is a wondelike plek. Very

well organised right down to the way the CD ran the show. You guys did a fantastic job".

NEIL TWOMEY: "Fantastic event. So smoothly run, no hiccups. Such a hospitable bunch of people. We were really made to feel at home".

CALVIN SCHROLL: "Die event was seker die beste ooit. En die Kaap is net te wondelik, daar is nog so baie om te sien. Sal weer kom al is dit nie n team selection event nie. Weereens baie dankie vir alles".

ROSTON: "best one yet".

CLAUDE MACKRILL: "Its been many years since I took part in the SA Masters, I was very impressed by the standard of flying and the total professional way in which this was run. It was also great to see all the "Vaalie" boys in town... Well done Stuart & Rodney and everybody else that was involved in the running of the great event, Cape Town Rocks.

Sorry to disappoint, there were no negative comments.

In conclusion, I would once again like to thank the MAASA committee for accepting our bid to host this year's SA Masters. It was a great privilege for all of us. Especially great for many of our pilots who have never had the opportunity to fly against pilots in their respective classes from other regions, and also to witness first-hand the skills of our F3A pilots. Also, a final thank you to all who assisted and donated even a packet of sugar. All of you, pilots, officials and not forgetting spectators made this a most successful and memorable event.

Two wrongs don't make a (w) right but two (w)rights make an aeroplane

Rodney