



Western Australian Hang Gliding Championships

Westonia 2014

It has been three years since our last State championships. The comps have traditionally been held at Wyalkatchem in Western Australia, however, the paddock we used changed owners and we had to find a new home. As luck would have it, Ross decided to re-enter our sport after an absence of 20 years and suggested we look in the Merredin-Westonia area...

by **Richard Breyley (Competition Organiser)**

plus drivers split into four teams. In Western Australia, we take our teams competition very seriously and team points are calculated on distance flown with a large handicap for novice and intermediate pilots. This is to encourage teams to include lower airtime pilots in their ranks. This year we saw the return of the 'Dusties' and the 'Geroatrics'

We held a reconnaissance mission in September 2013 and after a meeting with the Westonia Shire President, we decided to hold the 2014 WA Hang Gliding comp in Westonia.

Flatland flying in the Western Australian wheat belt is as good as anywhere else in Australia, including Forbes or Dalby.

Westonia is a great little wheat belt town with a pub, pool, bowling green and recreation centre which was used as our headquarters. The town has everything we needed for a comp.

We had a good turn-out with 21 pilots and officials

as well as the new teams of 'Sky Scrapers' and 'Phuck Yeh'.

As a competition organiser, I value the support we receive from our sponsors more than most. Both Aussie hang glider manufacturers, Moyes and Airborne, have been long-standing sponsors of comp flying in WA. Our State association, HGAWA, made a very respectable cash donation and we also received support from the Goldfields Dust Devils HG and PG club and the Westonia General Store.

This year we were also blessed by the weather gods, with six out of seven flyable days plus a practice day. The first few days were light and scarily, but we enjoyed cloudbases of nine grand with cumulus clouds to mark our thermals. After that, things got more challenging, with blue conditions and thermals to only five or six grand.

The comp had everything - great weather, plenty of PBs and first XCs from our novice and intermediate pilots. We also had eagle strikes and plenty of downtubes were recycled, but nobody was hurt.

The WA comps are going to happen again in 2015. See you there.

Photo: Richard Breyley



Results Open Class

- 1 Jason Kath
- 2 Simon Braithwaite
- 3 Gavin Nichols

WWT2
Moyes Litespeed RX
Airborne REV

Novice/Floater

- 1 Gordon Bishop
- 2 Ben Marsh

Airborne Fun 190
Airborne Fun 190

Intermediate/Floater

- 1 Phil Clarkson
- 2 Duncan DeKoning
- 3 Ross Smith

Airborne Sting3
Airborne Sting3
Airborne Sting2

Teams

- 1 Phuck Yeh
- 2 Dusties
- 3 Geroatrics
- 4 Sky Scrapers

1442
1305
894
682



Duncan De Koning, winner of the 'Sky Pig' award
Photo: Teresa O'Brian



'Gun' pilot, Ross Smith, preparing for battle on the first day of the comps and enjoying the look of the sky
Photo: Teresa O'Brian

2014 CANUNGRA HANG GLIDING CLASSIC

25TH October to 1ST November
Brand New Malibu to be Won!!!

Entry fee: \$270.00.
Includes entry, four dinner meals, t-shirt and a fun week of flying for all.
Non-members \$30 site fee

- \$7,000 worth of prizes and cash to be handed out, inc. 2 famous Drew Cooper flying suits!
- Download track log and GoPro footage on 2 Large projectors each day.
- Prizes for the best footage.
- Registration details will be included in the next issue of Skysailor.

Enquires: Dave Staver; 0439 435 953

Venue: Moriarty Hall, Canungra, QLD

Dates:
FREE Training Camp - 22nd - 24th Oct 2014
Canungra Classic AAA - 25th Oct - 1st Nov
 Fri 25th - Opening Ceremony (free dinner)
 Sat 25th - Test track logs & GoPro footage on big screens
 Sun 26th - GoPro footage Night (with Danny Vander Walle, logistical director)
 Mon 27th - Best story you got - prizes for best story (free dinner)
 Tues 28th - Training Camp Briefing #1
 Wed 29th - Red Faces - \$750 prize money (free dinner)
 Fri 31st - Training Camp Briefing #2
 Sat 1st - Presentation (free dinner)