

May, 2005



Cloud Nine

SASKATOON SOARING CLUB NEWS

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Season start - 2005

The club started flying Apr 19 with instructor check flights being completed. Member flying started Sat Apr 23 and continued Sun 24th with check flights and instruction. The following weekend was rained out. Three of us went out Wed. May 4th. The day started with promise, but by the time we got XDU to the far end of the field, the wind was blowing so hard we walked it back in. The day wasn't a total loss, as we got KNG together and ready to fly. On Sat May 7th the winds were again too strong for safe flying. On Sun 8th, (Mother's Day) there were no instructors and tow pilots available, so no flying. Of course, that turned out to be one of the flyable days!

So, with the bad weather over, (we can always wish) the next few weekends should be great and there will be lots of flying.

Memberships

So far, eleven members have paid fees for 2005. There are more expected, and some interested potential members ready to start. We plan to add a couple more tow pilots as well. The members who are not returning this season will be missed, but did not fly a lot the past couple of years. With two gliders available, there will be more opportunities for current members to go soaring.

Blanik TVT

Grand Prairie has not yet committed to taking TVT for the season. They are still very interested, but are waiting for assistance from Alberta Soaring Council. They are also more interested in an outright purchase than taking over the lease. Before that would happen, the membership would be consulted for a decision, either through a special meeting or an e-format.

In the meantime, TVT is still taking up much needed hanger space. The plan is to put it on its trailer to store in one of the hangers. In the interim, QOK is being tied down outside.

Provincial Competition

Prince Albert Gliding and Soaring Club will be hosting the Provincial competition at Birch Hills Airport June 3, 4, 5. This is a friendly competition, with something for everyone. Students and prospective competitive pilots may have an opportunity to fly in a two place glider with an experienced pilot. Everything is handicapped, so everyone has a fair chance. It is an excellent opportunity to meet and socialize with pilots from other clubs. There is a traditional BBQ on the Sat evening with lots of hanger talk. Everyone is welcome.

National Competition

Nationals will be held in the West this year, with Alberta Soaring Council hosting at Claresholm, Alberta June 28th to July 7th. There is an excellent field registered so far, with some very competitive pilots from Ont. and Quebec as well as the West. There is also a lot of interest in the sports class this year, making gliders like our L-33 competitive.

Pilots and gliders from Prince Albert, Saskatoon and Regina will be representing Saskatchewan.

SSC Answering Machine

For anyone not aware, the answering machine is used to update flying activity. It is a good idea to check it each day before going out to Cudworth. (975 0844) If you want to fly on a particular day, leave a message ahead of time so the instructors and tow pilots can plan accordingly.

Aviation Wisdom

- *We have a perfect record in aviation: we never left one up there!*
- *Weather forecasts are horoscopes with numbers.*
- *There are three rules for making a perfect landing. Unfortunately, nobody knows what they are.*