Press Release

US Soaring Masters.

The goal for this event is to help stimulate the competition soaring segment into higher levels of awareness within the modeling community. Soaring has endured many years with no real push to grow the segment. With a prestigious international event, that will draw out the best pilots from not only the US but the world, could only help grow the great sport of competition soaring. IMAC has seen much growth, which is no doubt partly due to prestigious events like TOC, and the Don Lowe Masters. Scale has also seen great growth with events like Top Gun and the US Scale masters. The Electric segment has seen growth with events like Neat and SEFF. Giant scale has seen growth with events like Joe Nall, Dogs and the IMAA rally's.

Soaring needs it's own high profile event. An event that will be the one to win, an event that brings the soaring segment in front of the average modeler, an event that gets people excited about soaring. This event is not a fly in, it is a pure competition, with rules designed to choose the best thermal pilot in the world. This event will aspire many to get involved in soaring and aspire them to higher levels of soaring skills.

Dates:

September 18-21, 2008. The competition days are Friday, Saturday and Sunday 8 - 5. Thursday is setup day.

Location:

AMA International Aeromodeling Center, Muncie IN.

LSF Involvement

LSF has agreed to support this event is in the form of manpower and equipment. The LSF has agreed to run this event through utilization of their staff and equipment. Additional Horizon staff will also be available to help.

Entries:

All attending pilots must be a registered member of the LSF. Entries will be capped to 150 due to available manpower and long duration flight times.

10 Additional non-LSF positions will be held and recommended for entry by the event organization staff. Entry Fees will be $85.

Competition rules:

1. Normalized Man on Man event. Each round will be normalized to 1000 pts. This normalization also includes landing points (ala FAI events). A perfect score will be a 12-minute flight, and a 100-point landing.
2. Any model can be flown, provided it is a sailplane and meets the

AMA weight limit and total surface area restrictions.

3. 2 models per pilot will be allowed and can be alternated at any time throughout the event. If a 3rd model is required, that can be registered on a as needed basis.
4. No skegs or landing devices will be permitted.

5. Every round flown will be a 12 minute duration.
6. Each pilot will be allowed 2 line breaks for the entire event. No line break re-flights will be allowed after the pilot has used up his 2 launches.
7. Flight time starts when the model is released from the winch line.
8. No model can be launched until the start of working time. (Zero flight score will result).
9. If model lands outside the designated landing zone, no flight score will result.
10. Landing tapes will be standard FAI tapes. The last 2 meters will be divided into 10cm spacing with additional 1-point increments up to the maximum landing score of 100.
11. All winches will be supplied by the LSF and will be of equal performance.
12. Ten to twelve (10 - 12, weather permitting) qualifying rounds will be flown, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The top ten from qualifying rounds will advance to the final Fly-off rounds.
13. Each finalist will carry his total score over to the finals as a normalization of the qualifying rounds. If a pilot has the leading amount of points after flying the qualifying rounds, he will carry a score of 1000pts place going to the finals. Each pilot in the top 10 will then be normalized based on the winning total score from the qualifying rounds. 3 additional finals rounds will be flown and the accumulation of the normalized qualifying score along with the additional finals scores will be added up to determine the winner.
14. 1st through to 5th place will receive cash prizes, and trophies will be awarded to the top 10 finalists.