

Legacy Class Radio Control Thermal Soaring Rules

Legacy something of value handed down from times past....

Conceived by L Jolly 1-1-2015

The vision. To encourage Sailplane modelers to relive the golden age of RC Soaring, when competitors actually built their gliders. No two gliders were identical and there was a certain amount of individuality expressed by each builder in the creation of his glider.

A Legacy class glider is defined as a Soaring design that is 25 years old. Proof of compliance can be accomplished by published plans, kits, magazine articles, magazine photographs, or personal photographs with date printed on the photo.

While the builder is encouraged to construct his glider as accurately as possible, including correct construction methods, outline, and airfoils. Deviations are allowed, including a fiberglass fuselage in place of a fully sheeted fuselage, stronger spars and joiners to withstand modern launch equipment, increased dihedral, control surfaces, if none is shown on the drawings, glide path controls, and other changes deemed necessary by the builder to improve handling, and safety. In addition small changes to improve the gliders appearance are allowed and encouraged. If the original design was 120" span or less, the builder is allowed to scale his design to a maximum of 4 meter wingspan.

In the case of little known designs, the builder should be prepared to provide documentation to the contest director for review, and approval. This is not a scale model competition, and the documentation requirements are lenient by design. The purpose is to give as much latitude as possible to the competitor to explore his creative instincts, as he constructs a recognizable replica of his favorite old glider.

The Legacy class is designed to be adaptable, to be included as an additional class at any RC Soaring Contest. So if the contest is an open meet then Legacy gliders will also be of open class capability. If it is an RES-Bent wing type contest the Legacy Class models will be limited to RES, REF, or RE functions. Legacy Class models are also suitable for alternate launching contests such as ALES, Hand Launch, or Slope Soaring competitions.

Legacy class designs offer special consideration for precision landings. If the original design had no glide path control as designed. The landing will receive maximum points if the glider comes to rest inside the landing zone or circle. If the design had glide path controls, they should be present and operational as the landing will be scored by its resting position on the landing tape or zone.

Prior to flying all Legacy class gliders will be brought forward for judging by the competitors in the class. All Gliders will be scored with the best glider receiving a 1 rating, and all other gliders judged in ascending order. The Gliders are judged for craftsmanship, originality, obscurity, and historical significance.

There will be at least one award for Pilots Choice, This glider will attain the lowest score in the pilot judging and will need to complete one contest flight in the competition.

Duration tasks should be considered, so that the limited performance of most of these designs are considered. It should be recognized that these old gliders will not generally tow as high or run as far as their modern counterparts.

Legacy class is designed as a slower paced contest flying planes that many of us grew up flying. Hopefully it will give fellow soaring pilots that did not live the golden years of RC Soaring development, the opportunity to view these old gliders performing, and help celebrate our heritage by joining in.