

AAA
Sprints
2010

Utah AAA Paragliding & Hang Gliding Sprints at the Point of the Mountain

28-31 May, 2010

2010 AAA Sprints
Point of the Mountain, Utah
28-31 May, 2010

Dates:

Friday May 28th thru Monday May 31st Memorial Day Weekend
Mandatory Pilot Meeting: Friday May 28th 11:00 AM

Goal of Event:

The annual Utah AAA Paragliding & Hang Gliding Sprints, at the Point of the Mountain have been organized as an invitational and developmental competition for paragliding and hang gliding pilots. This competition is intended to support development of pilot skills through sport and a camaraderie of fellow enthusiasts while promoting a positive public image of foot launched flight via a spectator friendly and appealing event.

Description:

The Utah AAA Paragliding & Hang Gliding Sprints in some way resemble other race to goal competitions in that it incorporates a launch window, a start cylinder, multiple turn points, a goal, and of course a very complicated scoring scheme. However, Utah AAA Sprints differ from almost every other competition in that it has been designed to promote a wide variety of pilot skills for those who have little to no competition experience. Utah Sprints also differ from other competitions in that this event has been designed to be spectator friendly (most of the event will be visible from the ground).

The Utah Sprints consists of multiple classes:

Paragliding Sport Class – DHV 1-2 or equivalent
Paragliding Serial Class – DHV 2 to 2-3 or equivalent
Paragliding Open Class – Non-rated competition wings
Paragliding Tandem Class – Tandem certified wings
Paragliding Adaptive Class – Able Pilot approved pilots

Hang Gliding Single Surface Class
Hang Gliding King Post Class
Hang Glider Open Class
Hang Gliding Adaptive Class – Able Pilot approved pilots

The event will be scored in the same manner that the US Paragliding and Hang Gliding Nationals are scored. All scoring parameters will be announced at the beginning of the event and explained in the Pilot Handbook. The Utah Sprints will resemble other race to goal competitions in that each task shall be comprised of multiple turn points. However, the tasks will be set to ensure a high percentage of pilots make goal. The course will be set to challenge most novice to intermediate pilots yet provide a structure for expanding skills (flying in gaggles, use of the speed bar, flying with a GPS, race theory/strategy, etc.).

Finally, the Utah Sprints differ from most other competitions in that pilot development workshops will be conducted prior to each task. These workshops will have an agenda that covers topics critical to competition flying (e.g. ensuring you are familiar with basic race strategy, use of the GPS, flying in gaggles, previous day analysis, viewing and analyzing the three dimensional playbacks of track logs, individual coaching, and so on). These workshops will help reduce the tension newer pilots often experience when first entering higher levels of competition.

The Utah Sprints will be administered by a Meet Organizer, Race Director, a Task Committee, a Safety Committee, and a Scoring Committee.

The Utah Sprints welcomes the opportunity to mentor persons interested in meet organization or becoming a race director. Contact Mark Gaskill at AirUtah@hotmail.com if interested.

Schedule:

Day 1: Friday May 28th

11:00-12:00 Pilot Registration and Waypoint Download

12:00-1:00 Initial Pilot Meeting

1:00-3:30: Daily Development Workshop/Coaching

3:30-4:00: Task Committee and Safety Committees meet to explore options & set the task.

5:00: Pilot Meeting - Course and launch window are announced.

TBA: Launch window opens

TBA: Sprint begins

TBA: Race window closes

Day 2: Saturday May 29th

1:00-3:30: Daily Development Workshop/Coaching

3:30-4:00: Task Committee and Safety Committees meet to explore options and set the task.

5:00: Pilot Meeting - Course and launch window are announced.

TBA: Launch window opens

TBA: Sprint begins

TBA: Race window closes

Day 3: Sunday May 30th

1:00-3:30: Daily Development Workshop/Coaching

3:30-4:00: Task Committee and Safety Committees meet to explore options & set the task.

5:00: Pilot Meeting - Course and launch window are announced.

TBA: Launch window opens

TBA: Sprint begins

TBA: Race window closes

Day 4: Monday May 31st

1:00-3:30: Daily Development Workshop/Coaching

3:30-4:00: Task Committee and Safety Committees meet to explore options & set the task.

5:00: Pilot Meeting - Course and launch window are announced.

TBA: Launch window opens

TBA: Sprint begins

TBA: Race window closes

TBA: Awards Ceremony/Party

Tasks:

Tasks will be set that are both challenging and creative. Tasks may include multiple triangles, out and backs, or some kind of zigzag course. The task and safety committees will evaluate the conditions and will set a course that should take between 45-120 minutes to complete. GPSs will be collected at goal, data downloaded and returned to the pilot. Other specifics will be announced on the race day (e.g. will re-launches be permitted, thermalling direction, start specifics, etc.).

Generally, the Sprint tasks are set to ensure a high percentage of pilots make goal. The organizers want to have 100% of the field make goal on day one. This entails setting a relatively easy task so as to give the competitors time to focus on getting acclimated to the new challenges – getting to the start cylinder, starting the race on time, getting comfortable using their GPS, flying in close proximity to a lot of other people, strategizing, and so on. The organizers want about 75% of the field to make goal on day two, the second task. This slightly more demanding task challenges each pilot a bit more while still operating within reasonable and less intimidating parameters. On day three - four the organizers want about half the field to make it to goal. The feeling of making it to goal is like no other. The Sprints provide the opportunity to experience this feeling while still challenging the pilot – whetting the appetite for future comps.

Awards:

Awards will be given for the top three pilots in each category and the top three women in the sport class, top woman in serial and open classes.

Development Workshops(s):

Pilot development/coaching workshops will be held during the competition. These workshops will bring in experienced competition pilots to discuss a variety of subjects. A tentative agenda for these workshops has been written and is as follows:

Day One: Using your GPS in flight; Basic Race Strategy; Competition Etiquette

Day Two: Review of Day One task; Q&A; Flying in Gaggles and Speed Flying; GPS review; Personal Coaching

Day Three: Review of Day Two task; Q&A; Personal Coaching

Day Three: Review of Day Two task; Q&A; Personal Coaching

These workshops will be cumulative. That is, each workshop will build upon the knowledge and experience gained from the previous. Participation in all is strongly encouraged. Past years have lead us to believe that small group instruction/coaching is most effective. We will rotate competitors through the pool of mentors to ensure input is provided from a variety of accomplished competition pilots.

Scoring:

FS, or equivalent, will be used to score this event. Result will be posted at the pilot development workshop. Results will also be posted at launch and on the UHGPGA.org website.

Requirements:

Acceptable GPS (cable recommend) – email the race director if you have any questions or concerns about your GPS. NOTE: The organizers of the Sprints encourage you to purchase or borrow a flight computer (e.g Flytec or Brauniger). Rental units will be made available (with advance notification) to participants wishing to experience the benefits of flight computer in competition.

Appropriate safety equipment (recently packed reserve, helmet, cell phone, radio, etc.)
Membership in the UHGPGA and USHGPGA. Out of town pilots can purchase one day memberships for each heat @ \$5.00 for each day.

Cost/Registration:

Registration opens on December 1st. We anticipate the cost of the Sprints is \$75.00 and includes: workshops, event, scoring, barbecue diner(s), awards ceremony, a tee shirt or some other form of apparel, lots of freebees, and lots of fun. Pilots must register for the entire event.

Questions can be e-mailed to: airutah@hotmail.com



Registration Form

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Date of Birth:

Age*

Make and model of the wing you intend to fly:

Make and model of GPS you are intending to use:

NOTE: The organizers of the Sprints encourage you to purchase or borrow a flight computer (e.g Flytec 6030/6020/5030/5020 or Brauniger Compeo(+) or Competino(+)). We have arranged for a AAA Sprints discount for participating pilots. Please contact Superfly (www.superflyInc.com) or Wings over Wasatch (www.wingsoverwasatch.com) for additional information. A limited supply of rental units will be made available (with advance notification) to participants wishing to experience the benefits of a flight computer in competition but who cannot arrange to borrow one.

Do you want to receive more information about renting a Flytec for the Sprints?

USHGPGA Rating: P2 P3 P4 H2 H3 H4

USHGPGA Membership Number:

T-Shirt Size: S M L XL XXL

Please briefly describe your past competition experience:

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Intended Class:

- Paragliding Sport Class – DHV 1-2 or equivalent
- Paragliding Serial Class – DHV 2 to 2-3 or equivalent
- Paragliding Open Class – Non-rated competition wings
- Paragliding Tandem Class – Tandem certified wings
- Paragliding Adaptive Class – Able Pilot approved pilots

- Hang Gliding Single Surface Class
- Hang Gliding King Post Class
- Hang Glider Open Class

Note: Waivers will be signed day one of the event. If under the age of 18 at the time of the first day of competition a parent or legal guardian must be present to sign waivers.

Registration opens on December 1, 2009 and is a first come basis (determined by the postmark). Checks must be made out to the Systemic Partners and mailed to:

Utah AAA Sprints
P.O. Box 521861
Salt Lake City, UT 84152

The cost of the event is \$ 75.00 and includes: workshops, event, scoring, barbecue(s), awards ceremony, a tee shirt or some other form of apparel, and fun.