

NSWRA Newsletter



New South Wales Rocketry Association Inc.

June 2012

Launch day: Sunday 10th June

Number of launches: 40

Overcast with light winds



The 2 launches in May had to be cancelled due to the weather, and it again wasn't looking promising in the week leading up to this launch.

However, the rain stopped just in time.

Plenty of good flights, with not too many mishaps.

It seemed like George was trying for a record for the most launches per hour.

I think the only tree landing was one of Christian's rockets, but he managed to get it down (albeit with some damage):

Tim showed that his Raptor with a new nosecone was capable of glide recovery.

Chris V. launched a number of small rockets on "C" motors – and somehow managed not to lose any



Launch day: Saturday 30th June

Number of launches: 35

Sunny with light westerly winds



A beautiful winter's morning, and not very cold with the sun out.

Congratulations to Michael for his L1 certification on a perfect flight of his PML Quasar using an H128.

Commiserations to John for not being able to gain MPR accreditation – even after several attempts, those F27 Econojet motors just wouldn't ignite.

George's 2 launches of his "Shadow II" water rocket were simply jaw-dropping, the second launch achieving an altitude of 1239'!



Club Raffle



The raffle will be drawn at the competition day launch on 28th July. You can still buy tickets, but time is running out. Tickets are \$5 each, or 3 tickets for \$10.

This prize has been donated by Suburban Rocketry
<http://www.suburbanrocketry.com/>

MPR Accreditation

A number of members have progressed to or are in the process of progressing to mid-power. The updated procedure has been formalised and is on the website. Members intending to gain accreditation are now able to purchase the motor themselves, rather than trying to organise it through another member and supplier.

HPR launches at Doonside



This is a timely reminder of important requirements for high power rocketry. At Doonside, CASA allows rockets weighing up to 1500g GLOW (Gross Lift-Off Weight - ie total weight of rocket with motor, ready to launch), using a motor with a total impulse up to 320Ns and propellant weight less than 125g. So some “H” motors are OK, provided the rocket won’t exceed 2000’.

However, to fly HPR, our NSWRA insurance requires that you hold a high power rocketry certification from a recognized certification body such as Tripoli, or are undertaking a certification flight under the supervision of the Tripoli NSW prefect. L1 is the highest certification you can attempt at Doonside.

In addition, you must be a licensed pyrotechnician and be endorsed to purchase &/or possess high power solid motors (ie motors with a propellant weight greater than 62.5g) This is a WorkCover regulation. As the licensed pyrotechnician holds the motors, he should also be present when these motors are used. You will be under the personal supervision of the licensed pyrotechnician, and you will need to be mindful of this at all times.

Club Altimeters

We have a number of “AltimeterOne” altimeters available for members’ use.

Several members already own these.

For accuracy, it is recommended that a small hole, or a number of small holes, are drilled in the rocket so that the altimeter can sense the atmospheric pressure and record the peak altitude. Check the Apogee website for more information:

http://www.apogeerockets.com/Electronics_Payloads/Electronics/Jolly_Logic_AltimeterOne.

These altimeters will be used in the “precision altitude” competition.

A \$50 replacement fee applies if a unit is lost or damaged.

See George if you would like to borrow one.



Club Competition Day 28th July – volunteers needed!

Full details of the competition are on the website. Please read the procedure to be followed.

\$5 entry fee covers all 4 competitions on the day (Egg-loft duration, Spot Landing, Precision altitude, Glider duration). The target for the precision altitude event will be **341’** (generated from <http://www.random.org>)

This launch is being promoted as part of the **Blacktown City Games**, so we expect a number of spectators and dignitaries to attend. Please be on your best behaviour! (and ensure that you are behind the safety line when rockets are launched)

We need at least 3 judges on duty at all times. The task is not difficult, essentially just timing of flights and the recording of results. Could I ask all members to please help out for an hour or so. A sign-up sheet will be at the judges’ table.

The more people that are available for this the better, as it will mean that all members will have the opportunity to compete.

Upcoming Events

July

8th Launch day

28th Club Competition Day (with BBQ and raffle draw). If this launch is cancelled due to the weather, we will be having an “Open Day” at Nev’s school (Toongabbie East Primary School, 1 Harris Rd, Wentworthville)

August

12th Launch day

25th Launch day