

NSWRA Newsletter



New South Wales Rocketry Association Inc.

August 2024

We have had a number of new people join the club recently - Welcome!

With this influx of new members, it is a good opportunity for members to familiarise (or re-familiarise) yourselves with the club's launch protocols:

Step 1. Registration.

Any member intending to fly must register first. You must provide evidence that you are a member of both NSWRA and Tripoli, by showing your membership cards; or, if you haven't received your cards, show a copy of your receipt of payment (or email from Tripoli). You must also sign the launch liability waiver form. You will then be issued a wristband.

Step 2. Flight Safety Review (FSR).

All rockets must be approved to launch by a flight safety review officer/RSO.

Fill in all the required fields on the flight card, do not write in the shaded sections.

Write legibly; the FSR officer and LCO must be able to read it. Always re-check that you've filled in the card properly before presenting the card and rocket for approval.

Be aware that you, the owner of the rocket, are responsible. You need to assure yourself that the rocket is OK to launch. Do not rely on FSR to identify any deficiencies.

Note: the first thing that FSR will check is that you are wearing a wristband. If not, you may not launch.

Once approved, the flight card will be initialled by the FSR official. If it's not initialled, the rocket won't be launched.

Step 3. Launch control.

Place the rocket on an appropriate pad, checking that it slides freely on the rod. Connect the clips to the igniter, ensuring that they're not touching each other. You can check for continuity by pressing the button with the corresponding number on the pad box unit.

Write the pad number on the flight card, and put the card on the clipboard for rockets to be launched on the LCO table. The LCO will check that all the cards have been initialled by the FSR officers.

Mullaley weekend review

The Mullaley area had received a lot of rain in the days leading up to the weekend, so the fields were quite muddy in places. I hope nobody was wearing their good shoes! We had excellent conditions on Saturday, allowing the launching of 89 rockets. The wind picked up a bit on Sunday, but we still managed another 82 launches.

Congratulations to all those who achieved certifications, particularly to Sam Cain, who certified to L3 with a perfect flight and recovery of his rocket "Pursuit", on a M1491 motor.

Special thanks to everyone who volunteered for range duties and setting up and taking down the range and transporting the gear into storage; extra special thanks to Newcastle Uni for running the BBQ

Without volunteers, launch events such as Mullaley cannot go ahead. We would like to see a lot more participation for site duties of LCO, RSO and Flight Safety Review at future events.

Pics from the weekend are on the NSWRA website



Conditions were ideal for all motors, including sparkies

Macquarie University Astronomy Open Night (AON)

The AON at Macquarie University will be held on Saturday 21st September, from 5pm to 10pm.

<https://event.mq.edu.au/astronomy-open-night>

This is a good opportunity to promote rocketry and NSWRA. We will again be having a stand, and are expecting to be allocated the same area as previously. This allows us to have around 8 people manning the stand. If you are interested in attending and helping out, please let me know ASAP. Depending on the number of responses, we may need some members to pay the general admission fee, which the club can then reimburse. However, we expect that any members with “free” entry will man the stand for at least an hour or so.



Photo from last year's display

Upcoming Events

All launches are at Whalan Reserve unless otherwise noted

September

- 21 Macquarie University Astronomy Open Night
- 28 Launch Day

October

- 27 Launch Day. NOTE: SUNDAY