

Herewith are the results from most official slope contests known to have been held in Victoria since 1971.

They include mainly State slope aerobatics championships, local aerobatics contests, some slope pylon racing and a few other interesting things that have happened along the way.

There are also a handful of events that were run in other states.

This information was compiled and edited by Ian Cole with historical information taken from the VARMS History log compiled by Des Bayliss.

# Victorian State Championship - Slope Aerobatics

## Mt Hollowback, 2009

~ October 18 (EVENT CANCELLED) ~ GALLERY NEXT PAGE

Well the best laid plans of mice and men can still go astray. In the weeks leading up to Sunday, October 11th, we had gale-force winds regularly but not this weekend.

Colin Collyer and I snuck up to Ballarat on the Saturday before the event to have a bit of a practise so that we would give a better showing on the day. The weather report was not great, but it did predict a 20km/hr on the Saturday and a bit more on the Sunday. On that basis we reckoned that an overnight stay in a Motel was worth the investment.

I arrived on the slope at about 1:00pm on the Saturday to meet Colin, who had been there for a while. The winds were very light and certainly not enough for the trusty Ricochet. Colin had flown an electric a bit before I arrived, only to find that he had lost a prop somewhere on the slope. Not a chance of finding it as he had no idea where to look in the first place. I got out the Prelude and had a go with that. I caught a great thermal straight away and had to bring the model down, as it was getting too high for my comfort. Maybe there was enough lift to try some aeros. Launching again resulted in one circuit and a hasty return to the slope for a landing. Subsequent launches by Colin and myself resulted in one trip to the bottom for me and about three for Colin. (He is a lot fitter than me!) All this time the Ricochet lay in the car unassembled. By the end of the day Colin and I returned to Ballarat for a nice meal at the Leagues Club and an average movie at the Motel.

The Sunday dawned with the look of a very still day, irrespective of the forecast. On arrival at the slope, there was a reasonable breeze, though it was rather cold. A few people had arrived before me including a 'new guy' I had not met before - but he seemed to know me well.

We started Round 1 with two up in the air at the same time and got through all the manoeuvres okay with the help of thermal lift. The next two competitors took a long time to position their models for a manoeuvre, then took longer and longer until there was not enough lift to fly. I called a halt to proceedings for a fun fly while we waited for the predicted wind to arrive. When we had lunch and by about 2:00pm, it was evident that the competition was no longer viable.

After a discussion, we decided to have a one-model competition using the club's Prelude plus anyone else's model that was the same type. We had 14 bods enter the competition this time with a number of onlookers. Most flew the club's Prelude.

The manoeuvres required were, Two Consecutive Loops, Axial or Barrel Roll, Inverted Flight for five seconds (hopefully in one direction) Two Stall Turns and some kind of an effort to make the model spin a couple of times. This turned out to be a fun event with Colin Collyer bombing out of one manoeuvre because of the two channel arrangement. Someone will have to explain that to me as I am a Mode 2 flyer and it makes no difference to how I fly. Colin Smith did a fine job of rudder/elevator aeros, only to be pipped at the post by Ian Cole. Must say that Ian had not flown a rudder/elevator model for some time and certainly not aeros with it. A good effort. Hopefully the re-scheduled event on Sunday, November 29th will get similar

**NO GO! This event was cancelled during the first round. It was re-scheduled and successfully run on November 29.**



support.

**The Rudder/Elevator results were:**

**Ian Cole 35**  
**Colin Smith 34**  
**Peter Cossins 33**  
**Ian Slack 31**  
**Des Bayliss 31**  
**Lou Rodman 29**  
**Bruce Clapperton 28**  
**Colin Collyer 26**  
**Colin Collyer 26**  
**Trevor De Haan 24**  
**Geoff Trone 22**

As you can see, not a lot in it, especially at the top. By the way, the new bod I met on the slope turned out to be my old mate Des Bayliss, minus one beard. No one could recognise him, trust me. I don't think I will ever live down going to him and asking his name for entry to the competition. I don't think Des will let me anyway. **Peter Cossins, CD.**  
(Edited by Ian Cole.)

*The following comments were placed at the end of this article which were first published in the November 2009 edition of the VARMS newsletter called ASPECTIVITY.*

**Heard on the hill:** Poor old Pete getting a right royal ear-bashing from Ian Cole about his passion for power assisted aeros. Err... Ian, if we wanted to power assist why would we bother to travel to a slope, surely it would be far, far, easier and cheaper to stay home and have a flat field power assisted glider aero contest. No further comment needed.

**My response:** It's a pity this person didn't do his homework before throwing stones. On this particular day it was 'Pete' who approached me and the so called ear-bashing was mutual. Regarding comments comparing flat field electric assisted aeros to slope electric assisted aero, this shows a certain degree of ignorance. Obviously this person has not done both. If he had, he would have realised that there are differences between the two events. Also, he seems to have missed the point behind EAS, which is to curb the high number of cancellations. My timely demonstration with my electric adapted Ricochet on this same day showed that EAS are a practical solution to overcoming the days when the lift alludes us and the event has to be cancelled. If this person has a better solution, I'm sure we would all like to hear it. **Ian Cole.**



# Victorian State Championship - Slope Aerobatics

## Mt Hollowback, 2009

~ Gallery (EVENT CANCELLED) ~

