

NVRCFC Update

July 2020

Newsletter of the North Vancouver Radio Control Flying Club

News

Flight Line and Cones

We are required by MAAC to deploy cones marking the flight line and pilot stations. Cones must be set-up at all times while flying, even if you are flying alone. This is for everyone's safety. See the attached sheet. (There is a slight revision over the previously sent version wrt the use of a measuring cord to set up the cones)

Membership Cards

You must have your NVRCFC membership card with 2020 sticker showing while flying. The club has purchased card pouches, lanyards and belt clips. See Peyman or myself at the field to get yours.

Model Labels

All models greater than 250g must be labelled with contact info. See the attached MAAC bulletin. This is not only a MAAC and club requirement but also a Transport Canada regulation. MAAC has advised that TC will be doing club checks. If your models are not properly labelled you may be fined. The attached MAAC pdf document contains a template on the last page for printing labels. Easy!

Flying Hours Schedule

Flying hours are currently set at 10am to 5pm Mondays and Thursdays and 6 to 8pm on Saturdays. We have not yet received August hours.

Magic Box Hobbies

Reminder that Club members receive a discount and the club gets a bonus whenever you make a qualifying purchase (over \$50) and show your membership card. Magic Box is at 37th and Arbutus in Vancouver.

John Neufeld

Need servos? Flight pack batteries? Minor radio fixes? Check with John. John is a long time RC and electronics hobbyist who also reps several RC product lines. He lives in N. Van just a few minutes from the field. John sells a full line of HiTec servos and can do minor repairs (broken switches etc) to your (any brand) radio.

Tel: 604-929-7477

john_7227@telus.net

Hope you are all enjoying your summer and getting out to fly.

I found a sensational slope soaring site in the Similkameen Valley, pictures follow. Enjoy.

See you at the field!

Mike



Slope Soaring in the Similkameen

Photos by Greg Ball

High above the lush green river valley you stand in a steep alpine meadow. Surrounded by tall grass and a sea of wildflowers. The view is spectacular. The wind is steady in your face and it makes your eyes tear. You launch your glider with a strong thrust out toward the valley. The glider climbs quickly, a hundred feet or more above the slope, surfing a giant wave of lift. No motor needed here.

Trading height for speed, you loop the glider down for a high-energy pass along the ridge. The wings vibrate and the whistling rush of air is the glider's song. The speed is exhilarating. You pull straight up into a long vertical rolling climb, trading back your speed for altitude. This is alpine slope soaring!

In this powerful, endless lift you can do unlimited aerobatics, high speed carved turns, or just lazy climbing circles – all day long.

2800 feet above the town of Hedley, in the Similkameen Valley, there is an exceptional alpine slope site. Its steep meadows face south and west, generating lift from the prevailing summer westerly flow. It is a launch point for paragliders, but when they are not present it is an attractive spot for R/C soaring. (All accompanying photos were taken at this site.)

The Hedley site is reached via a 10 Km steep mountain dirt road. Access does not require a 4X4. Regular cars would need to park a short distance from the slope and you can walk in.

In the right conditions most planes will slope soar if they are slippery enough (i.e. low drag). You don't need a purpose-built glider, though they are much preferred. For learning to slope, motorized gliders are ideal. If you get into trouble or if the wind dies, you can power your way back. Slope planes need to be tough because landings are always a challenge.

If you are interested to learn more about slope soaring in the Similkameen, let me know. I will be heading back to the valley in August and would be happy to show you the sites I have found. Slope soaring offers some of RC flying's greatest thrills. But beware, it is very addictive!

The Similkameen valley, between Princeton and Keremeos, is a great family getaway destination. There is motel lodging near Hedley and plentiful camping by the river. Enjoy hiking, biking, wine-tasting and fresh Okanagan fruit galore. Hedley is about a 4-hour drive from Vancouver.

Disclaimer: The referenced site is not MAAC sanctioned and is not associated to NVRFCFC in any way. Flying there is entirely at your own risk.

