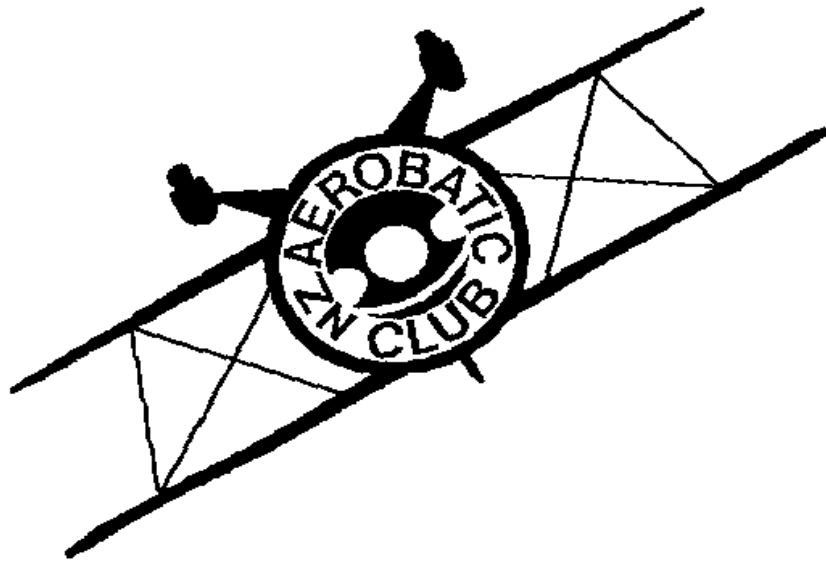


New Zealand Aerobatic Club



April 2023

STRAPPED IN TIGHT – FROM THE PRESIDENT- Morris Tull

The 2022/23 season has been our comeback year for the NZ Aerobatic Club with some great events at Mercer, Ashburton and a very successful Nationals at Masterton in March 2023.

At the AGM, the entire team was voted back in, which I will take as a vote of appreciation and success, as stated before, we have a very experienced club executive and committee these last few years, of the now 7 of us, we have 2 air traffic controllers, 3 aerobatic instructors, 2 airline captains, 5 competition event organisers or Contest Directors, and 2 video and photographic enthusiasts. We are spread out around the world but due to technology, it shows we can all contribute.

Again, a big thanks to our teams that are the Event Organisers and Contest Directors. It is many hours of work and I ask you competitors to please help them out by getting your entries in early.

I live in Dubai and operate my Pitts out of Rangiora, we have a Northern team of Mike Slack and Grant Benns who are doing an awesome job of creating and running events at Mercer, and an enthusiastic Southern team of Andy Love, Lachlan Falconer and Mike Fowler putting together events at Ashburton. We use email and WhatsApp chats to share the workload and keep chipping away at projects, it's a great team to be part of.

We are trying to keep up with the media trends and our Facebook page is full of content from our events and members activity, so please subscribe to the page. Various WhatsApp chats have fun conversations keeping us connected or providing up to date information for our events. Our website at www.aerobatics.nz has been working well however we have a new media savvy committee member in Lawrence Robinson, aka "Captain Lawrence NZ" on his media channels and he is going to help us update our media this year, something to look forward to.

The history of the winners is told by the trophies and we managed to track down all the trophies and have documented the names; we are trying to bring alive the interesting evolution of the competitor's history through the categories and planes. I want our history to reflect every competitor, organiser, judge and aircraft, not just the winners, and our events reports now reflect that.

I have compiled a fascinating history of all the aerobatic aircraft in New Zealand and especially those relevant to our club from the NZCivair website historians Dave Paull and Keith Morris; this is factual history including the good, the bad and the ugly, I promise I will post it soon.

We have a good list of all the cool aerobatic planes and current owners around the country, many of which are currently under repair or restoration and we are providing assistance and motivation to these owners to finish the project and come to our events sooner rather than later.

Our critical ground crew of volunteers is improving due to training weekends and the offer of a FREE LUNCH and offers of BEER, we still ask everyone to step up and help out with the roles on the ground, starter, spotter, judges, scribes, data entry. Please bring along a friend, girlfriend, wife, interested aviator wherever possible. We have an easy description of the role to assist and none of the roles are too difficult. If you know someone who may be interested to help, let us know and get in touch with them, tell them we can provide BEER. For the scribes and judges, we plan to standardise the shorthand remarks and comments and write a training page for you too.

Our Mentor Mentality is growing. We are planning to add mentor assistance to our website. I did not have any aviation mentor in my early career and I now try to fill these gaps for those following, to provide encouragement, to help where I can, to pay it forward where possible and even up to let people I have come to know to fly my cool plane. We are trying to spread this philosophy and encourage all of you with some experience, to take one or two under your wing and help them develop faster than they would on their own, if possible, let them fly your aircraft until they can get their own and stay in touch to provide motivation and encouragement wherever possible. Thank you again to the current crop of generous aircraft owners, David Cranna, Adam Butcher, Andy Love, Fred Zayas, who like me, share their toys.

We hope you continue to grow through your experience and abilities in aerobatics and hence move up to more capable aircraft, we also hope the aerobatic aircraft in NZ do not get lost offshore. Aircraft Syndicates are a great way to get into flying really cool planes at a reasonable cost, look around your area for like minded guys who may be able to go shares in an aerobatic aircraft with you. There are currently quite a few options, A Zlin 50, Lazer 230, and 4-5 Pitts S1 or projects currently available for purchase (KEM, MPM, PEG, JNW & JFD) if you are keen to join the growing group of us that realise the great bang for buck and just great fun these aircraft are, contact me for more info. It will be great to get these aircraft flying again. I have purchased Factory built Pitts S1S; ZK-PPS as a restoration project to be syndicated in Canterbury if you are interested in getting started.

If you have any ideas for the club, please contact any of us to move forward with them.

Stay in touch, fly safe, keep learning, but have fun.

Morris Tull - President NZAC 2023/24



THE 2023 NZAC NATIONALS

We wrapped up a very successful Nationals due to excellent weather and a full team of organisers and volunteers that allowed us to really share the workload and progress efficiently through all the flights. Grant Benns as Event Organiser with Morris Tull and Andy Love as Contest Directors.

Cloudy weather for many to get to and from the event meant the best weather was in the middle of our week for a change. Most arrived a day early, we had plenty of people, a rented van and Noel's 4-wheel drive car to get the box markers out and we managed to get everyone some practice time in the box before starting on schedule Wednesday afternoon.

A huge thanks to our outside volunteers; Noel Kinvig, Marina, Gillian Phillips, Murray Callister and Richard Wallace plus our own Simone Barry and Kym Tull helping with great food. Lawrence Robinson and Mike Fowler were awesome with their efforts on the judge line, media content, IT expertise and live scoring system.

We secured the large Aeroworks hangar close to our activity and got all the other fragile aircraft in a hangar somewhere. We made contact with the local authorities which generated a visit by the Masterton Fire department and Richard gave us an excellent, hands-on firefighting training session using dry powder extinguishers on fuel fires, fortunately we did not need to use this training at the event.

Midweek we had the Club AGM, which was short enough to be interesting and covered some good stuff. The entire committee was voted back in as a testament to a job well done over the year and as President, it was a pleasure working with this team.

Our Supplementary Information, airfield NOTAM and local operator warning notice did the job with excellent coordination of the arrivals of a citation jet, Life flight medical plane and low-level survey work by a helicopter with a huge deep water survey sensor slung below the helicopter. Unbelievably, nobody told us they were going to dismantle the Avgas pump for half a day in the middle of our flying!

Excellent lunches were prepared by Kiri from Mumma Darla's Pantry and she also catered our prizegiving dinner. Pizzas fed us one night and Kym and Simone and Des catered and cooked Thursday night.

Andy Love and Grant Benns managed the judging line brilliantly with Andy scheduling the flights. Unfortunately, Brent Griffin's G202 had a hard-to-find electrical issue that ultimately stopped it flying in the competition and Brent and Morris missed out on their comp in NUT.

The competition flights flowed very well with some great flying and close scores and competitors in every category except primary. To help everyone know what sequence is being flown by other pilots, we published the sequences being flown each day by everyone on the WhatsApp group and this added to the enjoyment of being a spectator.

It is always inspiring to watch Russell Bell fly Unlimited in his G200 if you can keep up with his sequence, well done Russell. Andy Love showed his extra practice and a well refined Free Known sequence to beat Morris Tull in Advanced in Andy's first season in this category. Steve Geard did well this year, first by getting there, with trousers, and had clearly done plenty of practice. Close scoring between Steve and David Cranna in his beautiful Extra 330LX, both aircraft are a pleasure to watch and listen to.

Sports category was the most popular with 9 competitors, many first timers and some new aircraft, well done everyone. Dave Wilkinson Buzzed his way around the box, Pierre Pechon handled the Decathlon increasingly well through the week, Des Barry smiled his way through the comp in Mo's Pitts, Grant Benns and Dave Cranna flew the RV7 gracefully well, Ross Brodie put in solid scores in Andy's Pitts. Lincoln Jones and his shiny new Pitts S2C impressed the judges with great scores, then there is Murray Rogers who tactfully took a few breaks and consistently positioned his CT4B to score very well. Chris Schadler has clearly been listening to all the good advice, putting the practice in and he guided his RV3 to a high score of 86.15% and dominance over the category, very nice work Chris. We expect many of you to move up a category next year based on these results.

In Recreational, Pierre Pechon flew the Decathlon well to score 75% in his first proper comp and he gain much valuable experience, welcome Poots!

The Unlimited, Advanced and Intermediate pilots plus other interested pilots had a fun session designing their Free Unknowns on Thursday.

Among the Unknown flights, Ross Brodie flew well to score 84.8% and take out the Sports Unknown trophy and Alan Hogan Unknown trophy. The Champion of Champion Trophy goes to the highest percentage score and was deservedly won by Chris Schadler which is quite appropriate as he has won every trophy in the season in this class.

The 4-minute Freestyle had 5 competitors signed up for it but no-fly weather on Saturday squashed that and only Morris Tull and Andy Love managed to get a flight in under the cloud on Sunday with Morris edging ahead by 0.5% to take the Freestyle Trophy home again.

Saturday was low cloud but we were treated to a 2 hour visit and guided tour through The Vintage Aviator hangar of World War One aircraft, it is such an awesome collection. Following that, we had Simone's brother; David Hawkins; who works on development of space probes to the Moon Europa, gave a fascinating presentation on the technology and information on space flight. Later that evening we had a great presentation dinner with awesome food from Kiri.

Sunday was rain and low cloud over the country so many headed home late morning and all arrived home safely to conclude an awesome event, many thanks to all.

2024 NZAC Aerobatic Nationals is - 28 Feb-3 Mar 2024; plan your vacation time now!

Morris Tull; Contest Director and President NZAC.

Full Results

2023 National Aerobatic Championships – Hood Aerodrome

Organizing Club:	NZ Aerobatic Club
Contest date:	1 st – 5 th March 2023
Event Organizer	Grant Benns
Contest Director	Morris Tull & Andy Love
Data Entry	Mike Fowler
Chief Judges	Grant Benns & Andy Love

Unlimited – Power

<i>Pilot</i>	<i>A/c type</i>	<i>Reg</i>	<i>Known.</i>	<i>Free/F Known</i>	<i>UnKnown.</i>	<i>F/Unknown</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>
Russell Bell	Giles G-200	ZK-LGT	3165.8	3549.8	2690.3	3196.0	71.40%	

Advanced – Power

<i>Pilot</i>	<i>A/c type</i>	<i>Reg</i>	<i>Known</i>	<i>Free/F Known</i>	<i>U/Unknown</i>	<i>F/Unknown</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>
Andy Love	Pitts S-1S	ZK-PUG	2400.7	2796.2	2019.8	2090.0	73.12%	
Morris Tull	Pitts S-1S	ZK-FRJ	2178.1	2238.7	1821.7	2027.0	64.90%	

Intermediate – Power

<i>Pilot</i>	<i>A/c type</i>	<i>Reg</i>	<i>Known</i>	<i>Free/F Known</i>	<i>U/Unknown</i>	<i>F/Unknown</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>
Steve Geard	Yak 55M	ZK-YKV	1278.0	1675.5	1416.50	1670.0	68.62%	
David Cranna	Extra 300LX	ZK-XLX	1169.0	1643.2	1417.0	1574.0	65.72%	

Sportsman – Power

<i>Pilot</i>	<i>A/c type</i>	<i>Reg</i>	<i>Known</i>	<i>Free Known</i>	<i>Total</i>
Chris Schadler	RV3	ZK-WCO	1168.8	1191.3	86.15%
Murray Rogers	CT4B	ZK-JMW	1151.7	1191.3	85.55%
Lincoln Jones	Pitts S-1S	ZK-LDJ	1185.3	1113.0	83.90%
Ross Brodie	Pitts S-1S	ZK-PUG	1123.8	1155.2	83.15%
David Cranna	RV7	ZK-RVQ	1056.3	1114.3	79.20%
Grant Benns	RV7	ZK-RVQ	1104.8	1038.0	78.20%
Des Barry	Pitts S-1S	ZK-FRJ	1104.3	939.5	74.60%
David Wilkinson	One Design	ZK-EZG	1080.5	960.7	74.50%
Pierre Pechon	Decathlon	ZK-REF	932.8	981.0	69.85%

Sportsman Unknown

<i>Pilot</i>	<i>A/c type</i>	<i>Reg</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>
Ross Brodie	Pitts S-1S	ZK-PUG	1153.8	84.8%	
Lincoln Jones	Pitts S-2C	ZK-LDJ	1132.3	83.3%	
Chris Schadler	RV3	ZK-WCO	1131.7	83.2%	
Grant Benns	RV7	ZK-RVQ	1125.2	82.7%	
David Cranna	RV7	ZK-RVQ	1095.8	80.6%	
David Wilkinson	One Design	ZK-EZG	1065.8	78.4%	

Pierre Pechon	Super Decathlon	ZK-REF	1022.7	75.2%
Murray Rogers	CT4B	ZK-JMV	1010.5	74.3%
Des Barry	Pitts S-1S	ZK-FRJ	868.7	63.9%

Recreational – Power

<i>Pilot</i>	<i>A/c type</i>	<i>Reg</i>	<i>Known.</i>	<i>Free/F Known</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>
Pierre Pechon	Decathlon	ZK-REF	753.8	734.7	75.15%	

4-minute Free Style

Morris Tull with 87%.

Andy Love with 86.5%

Trophies;

Best Newcomer – Lincoln Jones

Most Improved – Lincoln Jones

Grey Wings – Grant Benns

Dip Stick – Des Barry, static line / flat battery / wrong coordinates for box marker, Chris losing his unknown sequence, Grant making Marina sick in RV, Airport Authority for closing pumps during event.

Most helpful – Mike Fowler, amazing IT

expertise. **Champion of Champions –** Chris

Schadler **North Vs South –** South

Alan Hogan Trophy – Ross Brodie

4minute Free Style – Morris Tull

Photos;

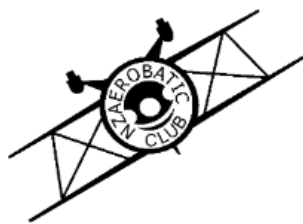








Thanks Everyone, it was a great week; let's do it again next year! Cheers Mo.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & PRESIDENTS REPORT

New Zealand Aerobatic Club – 2023 Annual General Meeting.

- **Opening remarks/Welcome – Morris Tull** Time: 19:02, March 2nd 2023.
- Apologies – Trish Stevens.
- Attendee's: Morris Tull, Andy Love, Russell Bell, Mike Fowler, Dave Cranna, David Wilkinson, Grant Benns, Iain McPhail, Des Barry, Kym Tull, Lincoln Jones, Pierre Pechon, Murray Rogers, Murray Callister, Brent Griffin, Steve Geard, Lawrence Robinson, Chris Schadler, Noel Kinvig, Richard Wallace, Mike Slack, Lachlan Falconer.
- Minutes of Previous AGM - Read by Andy Love
- Matters arising from the Minutes nil
- Adoption of Minutes 2022
By Morris Tull seconded Grant Benns
- **Presentation of Annual Report – Morris Tull**
Covid is now behind us and it's great to see our members back flying. We are hopefully moving forward from the economic crisis. A few years ago, we moved the Nationals forward to avoid cyclonic weather, we may have got lucky this time. Excellent to see the new aircraft at our event. One Design, Extra 330LX, Super Decathlon, Pitts S-2C. Congrats to all the new Pitts pilots around, Ross, Lincoln, Des. Both regional events went well. Organizationally; we are in a great position with event templates for future events. Credit to Grant for Procedures Manuals. Big thanks to efforts to train new judges. Big thanks to NZWA for the cooperation and support with our pt 149 approved events. Mike Fowler's tech inputs acknowledged.
Lawrence Robinson's contribution with media, promotions. Thank you to my committee, you have been a great team to work with. Morris.
- **Adoption of Annual Report**
By Murray Rogers seconded David Cranna
- **Presentation of Accounts – Andy Love**
- Adoption of Accounts
By Morris Tull seconded Steve Geard
- **Vice President's Report – Mike Slack**
Adoption of report
By Morris Tull seconded Mike Fowler
- **Contest Director Reports**

North Island Akro Fest – Mercer. Grant Bennis. Proposed: Steve Geard/ Dave Cranna. First time, held at Mercer. Big success. Building on the unique scoring system from the Brian Langley. Andy emphasizes the importance of these two events for feeding new competitors to Nationals and into our Rec/Sports classes.

South Island Akro Fest – Ashburton. Andy Love. Proposed: Iain McPhail/ Ross Brodie. Great growth and potential at the new site, Ashburton. Plans already under way for the 2023 event, 30th Nov – 2nd Dec.

Election of 2023 Executives and Committee;

- President – Morris Tull
Nominated by Chris Schadler seconded Grant Bennis
- Vice President – Mike Slack
Nominated by Morris Tull seconded Grant Bennis
- Treasurer/Secretary – Andy Love
Nominated by Morris Tull seconded Mike Fowler
- Election of Committee/President/Vice
President/Treasurer Committee nominees
Grant Bennis, nominated by Morris Tull seconded Andy Love
Mike Fowler, nominated by Morris Tull seconded Russell Bell
Lachlan Falconer, nominated by Morris seconded Iain McPhail
Lawrence Robinson; media / promotions, nominated Morris Tull seconded Grant Bennis.
- **General business**
Morris talks of continuous positive improvements, the one percent. Communications via WhatsApp, maintaining a clear difference from chat to official group.
Grant highlights mentor program, Tim Marshall has started this at North Shore. Key is to geographically reach out to all corners of the country. Endorsed by Morris. Conversation about awareness, presence, public knowledge and promotion – television, airshows etc. Acknowledgement to our families for their support.

Closing remarks, Morris thanked everyone for attending and wishes all the best with their flying over the rest of Summer and the months ahead

Morris proposes AGM accepted and complete. Seconded Mike Fowler.

Meeting closed: 19:40

FROM THE Vice President – Mike Slack

I will be helping with the Mercer events and committee workload.

FROM THE Secretary/Treasurer – Andy Love.

Subs are due, I will be finalising the financials then working on the Southern events with the team.

FROM THE Sequences Coordinator – Grant Benns.

We are in the final stages of confirming our 2023/24 sequences based on the IAC ones and getting them loaded on our website and the Open Aero library for the NZAC 2024 sequences. The Free Known figures are already confirmed from CIVA and will be loaded too.

FROM THE Media/Promotions – Lawrence Robinson & Mike Fowler.

We hope to have some new media and website up and running this season.

FROM THE Committee team/Mentor program/etc

New content to assist developing pilots is coming this year.

SUBS ARE DUE.

2023 – 2024 SUBSCRIPTIONS

***** Now Due *****

Subscriptions for the 2023-24 season are unchanged and are now due. You must be a financial member of the New Zealand Aerobatic Club to participate in club events and receive the E-newsletter.

Please forward your bank transfer for \$35.00 to: NZAC 06-0807-0351020-00

The Treasurer, NZ Aerobatic Club

49 Halpin Dr, Lincoln, Canterbury 7608

(021) 818 816 or torque_roll@hotmail.com for further information

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Name:

Address:

Phone Numbers:

Email:

Date of Direct Payment to ANZ Bank 06 0807 0351020 00

If Direct Bank Transfer, please include name in transfer detail and also fill out your address details above and email to the Andy Love to keep our contact records updated.

REGIONAL EVENTS; MERCERCOMP, North Island Akrofest & HAGAD.

The delayed report on the North Island Akro Fest is now up on the Website.

Next event will be the Q?? Competition, yet to be organised.

SOUTHERN REGION; SOUTH ISLAND WINTER TRAINING & Akro Fest.

The Delayed report on the 2022 South Island Akro Fest is now up on the website.

Next South Island Akro Fest is 30th Nov to 3rd Dec 2023 at Ashburton



Event organisers; Andy Love, Lachlan Falconer and Mike Fowler.

A 2 ½ day training weekend was held in Ashburton over the weekend of 27th to 29th May 2022. The intent of the training weekend was to provide the opportunity for NZAC members to get some critiquing, provide training of new judges and scribes plus expose those interested in aerobatics the chance to experience flying upside down with an instructional trail flight.

Friday was predominately critiquing for our club members. Andrew Love provided two briefings, the first on “What the Judges are looking for” and the second on “Using OpenAero”. A number of new attendees joined in to observe and to have a go on the judging line to see how things operate.

Saturday was the busiest day with Lachlan Falconer presenting “An Introduction to Judging and Scribing.” This was followed by attendee pilots flying in the box to provide the new judges (9-10 peoples) with an opportunity to apply their new skills. This proved to be of great value. After the training session, John Lamont provided a short brief on the requirements for obtaining an LLDA. This was followed by a presentation by Mike Fowler on his experience of “His first competition”.

Next Judging and winter training, Fri 26th May – Sat 27th May 2023, South Canty Aero Club. Timaru.

The AEROBAT’S CALENDAR

New Zealand Aerobatic Club National Competition dates in the future;

This is the premium event of the Aerobat’s calendar. We fly over six categories, Primary, Recreational, Sports, Intermediate, Advanced and Unlimited plus a 4- minute Freestyle. The competition is open to everyone (financial NZAC members, that is) who can turn an aircraft upside down and want to fly for fun. Winning is an optional extra. The sequences for the 2023/24 year we will be flying are available on our website www.aerobatics.nz

Dates for our Nationals are the first week of March and for the next few years are:

2024 NZAC Aerobatic Nationals – 28th Feb – 3rd March 2024

2025 NZAC Aerobatic Nationals – 26 Feb – 3rd March 2025

Classic Fighters Omaka. 7-9 April 2023.

Oshkosh 24-30 July 2023

Reno Air races. 13-17 Sep 2023, The last one at Reno.

World Advanced Aerobatic Championship. Las Vegas 24th October to 4th Nov. 2023.

Wings over Wairarapa 24-26 Nov 2023. Hood Aerodrome.

South Island Akrofest. 30th Nov to 3rd Dec 2023. Ashburton

North Island Akro Fest. TBA Mercer.

MercerComp Q? TBA. Mercer.

Have a Go at Aeros Day. TBA. Mercer.

Judging and winter training, Timaru. Fri 26th May – Sat 27th May 2023, South Canty Aero Club.

Need to know MORE?

President: Morris Tull +971506449584. Dubai /WhatsApp
morristull@gmail.com

Vice-President: Mike Slack 021 648486. slackie@aerobatics.co.nz

Secretary: Andy Love 021 818816. torque_roll@hotmail.com

Useful websites:

New Zealand Aerobatic Club website: www.aerobatics.nz

Facebook group: [New Zealand Aerobatic Club](#).

Federation Aviation International: civanews.com. This has the Free Knowns manoeuvre catalogue essential for competition flight and international event news.

International Aerobatic Club: www.iac.org. There are lots of sequences and information for members of the IAC, it is an offshoot of the EAA.

Civil Aviation Authority: www.caa.govt.nz includes vast amounts of information useful to pilots and aircraft owners.

The www.BiplaneForum.com where the experts hang out to share a lot of knowledge on all aspects of aerobatic aircraft and maintenance and tips. Search here first for your technical questions.