



It's time to start getting prepared for the 9th South Island Akro Fest. If you like aerobatics, either flying them or watching them. You don't want to miss this event. Every year it keeps growing and improving. From its humble beginnings in 2015 at Omas aerodrome, with only a few competitors and two trophies to fly for. We are now a prominent event on the New Zealand aviation calendar. Even though the event is a few months away, preparations are well underway.

Following the improvements made for the 2022 event we want to continue to refine and improve the event still further. Registration will be available using the form attached to this email and via our website aerobatics.nz. We will run two Whatsapp groups, a social and formal one.

The *entry fee* for competitors will be \$230.00. For our volunteers, the fee is \$115.00. NOTE: These fees include x3 lunches, Fri and Sat night dinners.

Organisers are unchanged from last year. Contest Director: Lachlan Falconer 021 258 1454 Lachlan.falconer@yahoo.co.nz Event Organizer and Chief Judge: Andy Love 021 217 9170 torque_roll@hotmail.com

Location & Dates 30th November – 2nd December 2023 at Ashburton Airport, Canterbury

Timetable (Subject to Change, Weather, Serviceability and Acts of the Event Organiser)

Tues-Wed 28th – 29th November 2023

Arrivals Registration / Check In / Technical Inspection / Un-Official in Box Training (must be authorized by Andy or Lachlan)

Thursday 30th November

8:00 Check In / Technical Inspection / practice

11:00 Briefing

12:00 – 12.30 Lunch

12:30 – 17:00 Knowns commence

19:00 Dinner at the Phat Duck Brew Bar (360 West Street, Allenton, Ashburton)

Friday 1st December

8:00 – Briefing

9:00 – 12:00 Competition Flying – Knowns

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 17:00 Competition Flying – Free-Knowns

18:00 Hangar BBQ with our host, the Mid-Canterbury Aero Club, Unknown Sequences Handed out

Saturday 2nd December

8:00 Briefing

9:00 – 12:00 Competition Flying – UnKnowns

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 14.30 Competition Flying – 4 min Free-Style

14:30 – 16:00 Competition Flying – Vintage

18:00 Pre-Dinner Drinks

19:00 Awards Dinner at the Ashburton Aviation Museum

Sunday 3rd December Depart at your leisure.

Entries & Registration

Everyone intending to help or compete at Akro Fest need to register using the form which can be found at our website, aerobatics.nz. Registration has opened and Closes **15th November**. To complete the registration process, you will need to have ready to attach to the email current copies (either scans or pics) of: Pilots Licence Pilots Medical BFR Aero BFR Proof of Public Liability Insurance (\$2 million minimum) LLDA (if required) Free Known Sequence (OpenAero URL Code) (if required). You must be a member of the NZ Aerobatic club to compete (cost \$35). For Akro Fest we have a single-entry fee for competitors and a separate one for volunteers, so you can enter as many categories as you wish. But you must fly a different aircraft type for each category. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the event organiser. You will need a valid reason and to fill the drinks fridge ;P. Please get your registration in on time to help the event organisers.

Full event refunds will be available if withdrawal is notified to the event organiser or the contest director in writing before the 15th November. After this date, refunds (or partial refund) will be at the discretion of the event organiser. These refunds are normally only provided for those that can't attend the event due to weather, aircraft unserviceability or some unforeseen reason. If you need to withdraw or are unable to attend, please contact the event organiser or contest director ASAP, as early notifications assist in event planning. For those that were awarded trophies and cups last competition, it's now time to polish them up, have them correctly engraved and send them to the Contest Director (Andy Love, 49 Halpin Drive, Lincoln 7608) before the 15th November 2023. Please contact Andy if you have any concerns. A courier is probably the cheapest and fastest way.

Correspondence Once you have registered

You'll be added to the WhatsApp Groups and receive emails concerned with this event. As mentioned earlier, we now have two groups, Social and Official. You are expected to have WhatsApp

downloaded on your phone. If you don't have WhatsApp, please buddy up with someone that does and ask them to pass any information onto you. A daily WhatsApp message will be sent out with the flight order at the end of the morning briefing. The App will also be used for any changes to the direction of flight, event times etc. Regulations Once registered, those competing will receive an email copy (or link) to the Competition Procedures Manual for you to read and understand.

Trophies to be Presented

Primary (Charlie Elliot Cup)

Recreational (Omaka Cup)

Sportsman Trophy

Intermediate (Pam Collings Trophy)

Advanced Trophy

Unlimited (Alister Yeoman Trophy)

Vintage Class (Wayne Edwards Memorial Trophy)

Highest Scoring Biplane (Rangitata Island Trophy')

Most Improved Pilot

Aircraft

We have secured an Alpha (R200) thanks to the South Canterbury Aero Club. If you wish to fly the Alpha in the competition, then please indicate this at the time of registration. Landing fees are expected to be paid by those flying. Ashburton charges are very reasonable at \$10 per day.

Hangarage

Ashburton airfield has seen an increase in aircraft be housed there, which is great for our flying community. The side effect is there's no guarantee of hangarage. If any hangarage becomes available, it will be offered first to those with aircraft that are most vulnerable to the elements (eg Pitts / Tiger Moth). Please remember to bring your aircraft covers, tie-downs and chocks. Fuel is available from the onsite RD Petroleum pump. Please ensure your BP card has been registered with RD Petroleum and is enabled.



Aerobatic Box

This is the approximate location of the Aerobatic box at Ashburton. Note that it is located immediately to the north of the airfield. The Judges area will be slightly further south towards the airfield than indicated here and will be located just within the airfield boundary fence. Ashburton For more information on Ashburton, check out the local website for visitor information: <https://midcanterburynz.com/region/visitor-information-centre/>

Accommodation

There are plenty of options for accommodation. You can find yourself an AirBnB (I've heard rumours of some groups already with a house, so there might still be beds going), Reach out to others through the Social WhatsApp group. Two prominent accommodation providers are the Hotel Ashburton and The Suites Ashburton. They offer very competitive deals. Please contact them for more info: RESERVATIONS Phone: 0800 330 880, Email: info@hotelash.co.nz Harvey & Sally at The Suites Ashburton. ADDRESS: 507 - 509 West Street, Ashburton, New Zealand PHONE:+64 03 307 0399, FREE PHONE NZ: 0800 427 428 EMAIL:stay@thesuites.nz

If you have any questions, please contact either Andy or Lachlan for assistance. Remember, registration is required for everyone, pilots and helpers. Closes 15th November 2023.