2008 Non-Sponsored Pilot Competition at the IRCHA Jamboree

Thanks for your interest in the 2008 Empire Hobby I.A.N. (IRCHA Amateurs National) non-sponsored pilot competition! Why a name like *that* you ask, and what's with the guy holding the heli on a stick? Since it seems that the whole "Idol" thing has been way overdone, we felt that the character from the movie *Joe Dirt* exemplifies the spirit of this competition. So if your a little "rough around the edges", still wear a mullet, outdated but have big plans and are generally fun-loving, this is the place for you! Fun, simple and highly rewarding.

Up for grabs is a spot in the 2009 XFC (and if that wasn't enough) the winner will also earn a one year sponsorship with Empire Hobby.

This competition is designed simply to give pilots that are talented and have worked hard at refining their skill a chance to showcase just how far you've come. In a nutshell, "all eyes on you", Not to mention this is a great way for you to gain some exposure and maybe become the next top sponsored pilot! All this fun without the added pressure of competing against the industry's top sponsored pilots. What more could one Joe ask for.

This is not necessarily a novice event but if you think you've got what it takes Joe, then you'd better sign up!

The competition will be held at the AMA Helicopter site during the 2008 IRCHA Jamboree. We will be hosting a dedicated flight station for the competition.

General Rules of the Competition:

1. Any pilots wishing to join the competition will need to complete the registration form (below). In order to be considered for selection in this non-sponsored pilots competition, all applicants must meet the following criteria (item #2) in order to maintain fairness and the spirit of this event.

2. All participants shall not be affiliated with any helicopter manufacturers, distributors, retailers or radio manufacturers. We are just talking about helicopter and radio sponsorships only. We do understand that some of you may receive help in regard to blades, batteries, servos, etc., so we are allowing this privilege as long as the participants do not receive any help in any cost of the helicopter kit or transmitter. Just to be clear, we can't accept pilots with major sponsors that are simply choosing to fly different gear.

3. **Registration is FREE**! Upon being selected to compete, all pilots will be required to report to the flight station 30 minutes prior to the start of the competition. We will have a short pilot's meeting and afterwards pilots will draw numbers for the order of their flight. No pilot shall be allowed to switch numbers with another pilot.

4. On the 15th of August, Each pilot will be given a 4 minute flight to the music of their choosing (CD only), that you have supplied. **There will be NO required maneuvers.** Just show us what you can do and impress the judges with your skill. The judging will be based on difficulty of the maneuver, precision and choreography. It's just that simple!!!

5. The top three (3) pilots at the end of the day on the 15th will compete on Saturday the 16th of August. Once again each pilot will fly for 4 minutes. You are free to elect new music and/or routines for the 16th, but this will not influence your score either way.

6. We welcome any brand of helicopter you may choose to fly but it must have at least a **550 MM rotor span or greater.**

7. Each pilot is required to have a spotter. The spotter will be required to give the music cue as well as signaling the start of the pilot's 4 minute flight. We will have a time keeper on hand that has the right to stop the music and signal the judges should the flight need to be terminated if the pilot exceeds the 4 minute flight or should otherwise disqualify.

8. We all like to see a pilot touch the ground or mow the grass during his or her flight but we want to promote safety first! No pilots shall allow any part of the helicopter to touch the ground or grass during their flight with the exception of one takeoff and one landing. Should a pilot touch, the competition timekeeper will signal for the flight to be terminated. Unfortunately, a zero score will be given to any unfinished flights, meaning if you crash within the 4 minute flight then your score is zero :-(

9. Each pilot will be given 90 seconds to start his or her machine and be on the flight station ready to fly. Each succeeding pilot will need to be on deck and ready. This will allow the event to run smoothly and avoid excessive down time.

10. We will designate a no fly zone area to keep pilots, judges and crowd safe. Details will be discussed during the pilots meeting. Transgression of the no fly zone WILL result in disqualification.

11. Don't forget to look professional. Please bring your own starter, NiCad glow driver, and required tools with you. We encourage pilots to have fun and help each other out but having your own equipment will speed up things and will avoid any unnecessary delay on the flight line.

12. Pilots are required to assemble back in front of the Empire Hobby booth 30 minutes after the 15th pilot has flown so we can proudly announce the top three pilots that will fly in the final day of the competition.
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13. We will be limiting the competition to 15 pilots.

This event is intended for all pilots to have fun either flying or just watching. We want to keep it simple to keep the pressure off of the pilots, judges and administration. So register soon and start practicing! See you at the 2008 Empire Hobby I.A.N. Competition.

Pilots wishing to register should complete and sign the registration form attached in this package. Submitting a short video or link to one of your You Tube videos would be great but is certainly not required for selection. Please return you registration and any questions to Andy Panoncillo at APSERVO@AOL.COM

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