

eSoaring



Web Site and Forum - www.eSoaring.net

An introduction to competitive

Radio Controlled Electric Powered Thermal Soaring

BRIEF SUMMARY OF the BMFA Height Limited eSoaring RULES.

Models Eligible: **OPEN Class** - Any electric powered glider up to four metres wingspan. **Two Metre Class** - Any electric powered glider up to two metres wingspan.

Flying Rules: There is a ten minute target flight time from a launch height of 200 metres, with extra points awarded for landing at the end of the flight within a ten metres landing target. The motor-on launch time, up to a maximum of 30 seconds, is included in the total flight time but points are deducted for landing before OR after the ten minute target flight time. The competition is flown in "slots" with several pilots flying at the



same time. For each slot, the competitor with the highest score (flight + landing bonus) receives 1000 points. Competitors with lower scores are then awarded a proportion of the winner's score i.e. $\text{score} \times 1000 / \text{winner's score}$.

OK - it sounds straightforward, so WHY SHOULD I GET INVOLVED? Well - competing is **GREAT FUN** and an excellent way to meet other like minded modellers and improve your modelling knowledge and flying skills. Everyone involved is very enthusiast about *eSoaring* and you will be given as much help as you want.

WHAT SORT OF MODEL DO I NEED ? - The *eSoaring* competition class has been specifically developed to suit a wide range of RC (Radio Controlled) model gliders, whilst keeping costs at a reasonable level. We have model flyers competing with anything from very simple rudder / elevator models of 1.5 metres wing span to over 3 metre wingspan "full house" gliders.

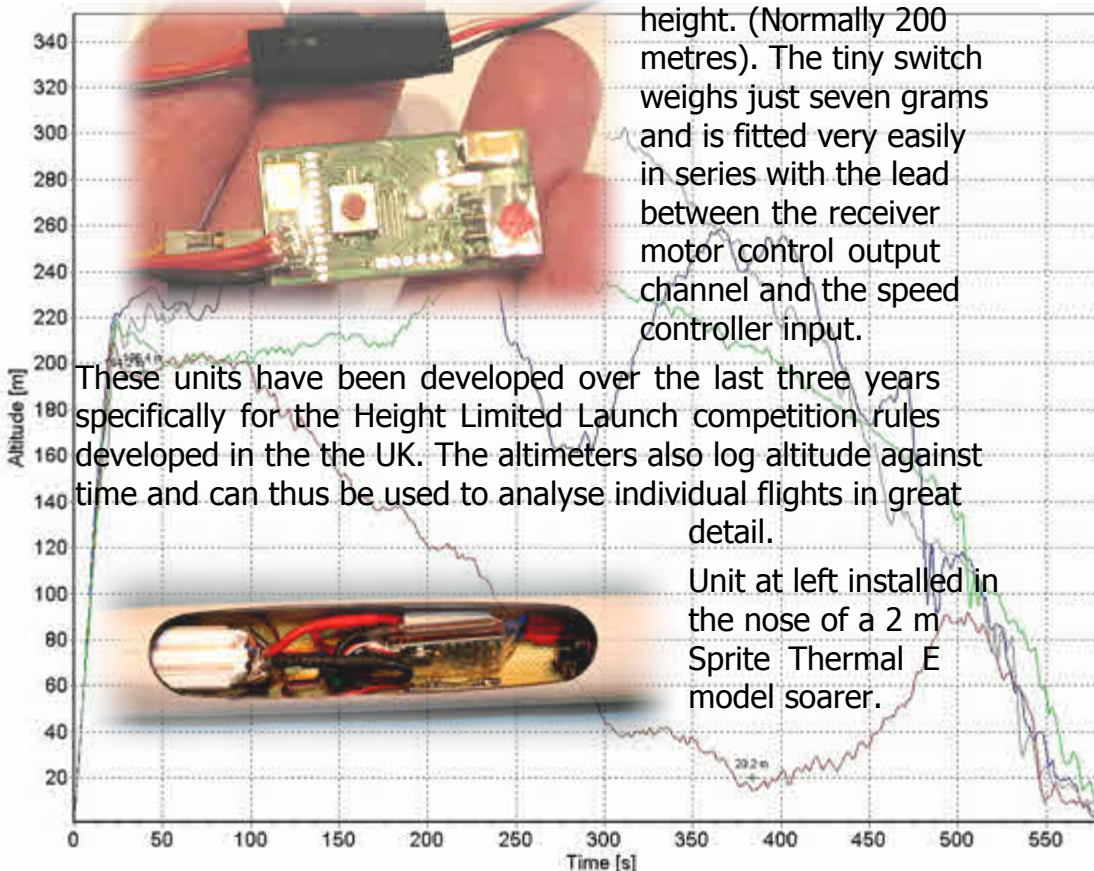
CAN EVERYONE COMPETE ON AN EQUAL FOOTING ? -

The key to the success of the *eSoaring* class is the very simple limit placed on the initial launch height of the model - irrespective of model size, weight or power level used. 200 metres is NOT high enough to enable a 10 minute flight without thermal assistance and so the pilots skill in seeking out and using thermal lift becomes essential if the ten minute maximum flight time is to be achieved.



HOW IS THE LAUNCH HEIGHT CONTROLLED ?

Specially designed altimeters switches are used to automatically cut the electric drive motor so that the model completes its launch phase at the set height. (Normally 200 metres). The tiny switch weighs just seven grams and is fitted very easily in series with the lead between the receiver motor control output channel and the speed controller input.



INTERESTED AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ?

The best way is to go to the Web site and discussion forum at www.eSoaring.net Our web site contains most of the answers to any questions you may want to ask. If you don't have Internet access please contact anyone listed below - they will all be very willing to help.

Email: Info@eSoaring.net for any extra information or:

Telephone any of the existing participants listed below:

Martin Bell - 01933 663763 (Northamptonshire)

Mike Proctor - 01904 489386 (Yorkshire)

Steven Mettam - 01270 588921 (Cheshire)

Mick Barnett - 01384 343328 (Worcestershire)

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Colin Lucas and Easy Glider Pro