

Eastern Soaring League

Minutes of October 4, 2014

The annual meeting of the Eastern Soaring League was called to order at the Daniel Boone Homestead in Birdsboro, Pennsylvania on October 4th, 2014 at 8:15 AM by President Josh Glaab. Approximately 30 members were in attendance.

Josh opened the meeting with a welcome message and reviewed the meeting agenda.

Old Business:

Secretary's Report – David Beach summarized the minutes of the 2013 meeting. A motion to approve the minutes of the 2013 meeting as posted on the web site was made and carried.

Treasurer's Report – David Beach provided a summary of the league finances as follows.

Starting Balance on 1/1/2014: \$5,084.47

Estimated 2014 Income: \$2774.25

Estimated 2014 Expenses: \$1797.36

Estimated ending balance on 12/31/2014: \$6061.36

A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made and carried.

President's Report – Josh spoke briefly on the league's activity in 2014. He noted he was preparing an update to the 'League Rules and Procedures document which he plans to post in the forum area of the web site. He stressed the need for prior notification and uniform enforcement of no-fly zones at contests. Josh also noted occasional malfunction of winches under high tension. There was a short discussion of the reduction in activity within the Hand Launch division.

Webmaster's Report – David mentioned the recent 6 hour web site outage experienced by all sites hosted at DiscountASP.Net due to a significant coordinated attack. The list of proposed enhancements to the web site for the 2015 season include giving CDs the ability to email and/or send text messages to all registered contest attendees as well as some additional efforts to reduce the quantity of bogus web site registrations. David also requested that other ideas for off-season site enhancements be emailed to him.

Winchmaster's Report – Chuck mentioned that the new winch frames are holding up well and he is in the process of replacing some of the brake belts. The topic of building out the fifth frame was brought up, but the group decided that it would not be necessary at this time.

Electric Division Update – David noted that the first year of an ESL Electric Division has been successful and brought out several first-time attendees to soaring contests.

New Business:

The concept of the definition of who is an ESL member was discussed. At the current understanding, anyone who enters an ESL contest is an ESL member who can vote. The ESL has TD, DHLG, and ES divisions.

The ESL website and email distribution lists were discussed. Many did not know of the need to go to the Google groups website and request to be added to the ESL DL.

A discussion regarding the need and relevance for ESL By-Laws was discussed. Several voiced a desire for defined By-Laws. Others thought that what we have now is not broken and desired to not have to write down a lot of explicit rules. No action was taken on this.

Elections:

Luis Bustamante was nominated to continue as Scorekeeper and elected by a unanimous show of hands.

Kerry Cochrell was nominated for President and unanimously elected.

Steve Lucke was nominated to continue as Quartermaster and unanimously elected. In his acceptance speech Steve also noted his appreciation of the assistance provided by Pete, Luis, Josh, Joanne and others in providing transportation support for the league equipment.

Anker Berg-Sonne was nominated for the position of Secretary/Treasurer. Anker accepted the nomination prior to the meeting since he was unable to attend. Anker was also voted in by a unanimous show of hands.

The position of Historian will go unfilled in 2015, as Anker announced he is stepping down from that position and apologized for the lack of progress in documenting the early days of the league. It was noted that George Hill, Josh Glaab, and Fritz Bien were the only members in attendance at this meeting that joined the league in its first year.

2015 Calendar Planning – Preliminary dates for Thermal Duration, Electric, and Hand Launch contests were reviewed. Next year will see the return of LASS (Lancaster, PA) to the ESL calendar. Other changes to some of the TD contests were discussed and will be published to the web site when confirmed by the host clubs. John Jenks noted the possibility of contests being affected by FAA Temporary Flight Restriction notices. Discussion followed which concluded with the notion that ‘contest site swap’ might be a possibility if logistically feasible.

Jeff Sanford noted that Rick Bothell is currently testing new USA built F3J/B winch. There are many of Rick’s hands free retriever customers in the ESL who are very pleased with Rick’s products. His web site is <http://www.handsfreeretriever.com>.

Josh encouraged those present to come to the J-Tour Finale in Warrenton, VA in two weeks.

The meeting was dismissed at 9:30 AM.