

# Introduction to RC Soaring – Greg McGill

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1. Name, background, soaring history
- 1.2. Why I'm doing this: explain gliders to folks who have been good to me
- 1.3. What I'm NOT going to do: convert any of you to soaring

## 2. What gliders do

- 1.4. How gliders work: lift, drag, weight, but where's the thrust?
- 1.5. Sources of lift: slope, thermals, dynamic lift
- 1.6. Glider performance made easy
- 1.7. Launch methods: throw, pull, hi-start, winch, discus, aero-tow

## 3. International Classes, with airplane, launch method, tasks, performance

- 1.8. F3B – Multitask (fast, min sink, min drag)
- 1.9. F3F – Slope racing (turn and burn through the gates)
- 1.10. F3H – Cross Country (just like the big boys)
- 1.11. F3J – Thermal Duration (this is just for big boys)
- 1.12. F3K – Hand Launch (not nearly as hard as it looks)

## 4. Informal gliding

- 1.13. Thermal duration (dead simple for us colonial types)
- 1.14. Combat slope (Hey! These airplanes bounce!)
- 1.15. One design slope (those colonials, again)
- 1.16. Cross country (good for geeks: most have variometers on board)
- 1.17. Dynamic soaring (you won't believe it)
- 1.18. Scale soaring, using aerotow

## 5. Variations on a theme

- 1.19. First model airplane across the Atlantic used an F3B wing
- 1.20. Nasa flew an autonomous soaring glider at Edwards
- 1.21. Biggest model airplane contest ever: soaring at Visalia

## 6. FAQs

- 1.22. What happens when you have to land?
- 1.23. What happens if you can't find lift?
- 1.24. How much do these things cost?
- 1.25. Why are they so expensive?

## 7. Conclusion: you are welcome to try my gliders, anytime