

New England Combat News

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 5 OCTOBER 2011
THE CONTROL LINE COMBAT NEWSLETTER OF NEW ENGLAND



Now Celebrating our 23rd year of Publication



The trophy winners were Joe Fustolo (1st), Paul KubeK (3rd), Neil Simpson (3rd) and Richard Sherman (1st Sportsman)

New England Championships

**JOE FUSTOLO, PAUL KUBEK & NEIL SIMPSON
ARE THE TOP THREE
RICHARD SHERMAN IS THE SPORTSMAN WINNER**

SEPTEMBER 4, 2011-WORCESTER, MA -This year's New England Championships attracted nine pilots for the twenty second annual running of this very successful Formula GX event. The location was Boynton Park in Worcester, Massachusetts. The weather was warm and humid with a cloud cover for good portions of the day..

The best starts in the first round were 725 point wins by Dick Sherman, Lloyd Seymour and Neil Simpson. In round two Lloyd and Dick mid-aired while Neil and Brian Stas flew to a low scoring draw. Meanwhile Joe Fustolo and Paul KubeK posted very good round two scores to move into contention. At the half way point Paul had the lead followed closely by Neil, Joe, Dick, Brian and Lloyd. In round three Joe got a two cut win over Paul. Next, Neil and Dick flew to a one cut apiece draw while Lloyd and Brian suffered a fly-away that hurt their cumulative scores. It would come down to the last three round four matches. In the first of these Brian got a two cut win over Richard Sherman. Next, Paul got past Dick on airtime both pilots scoring one cut apiece. In the final Joe and Neil flew to a one cut apiece draw. The final order of finish was Joe, Paul, Neil, Brian and Dick. (continued on page two)

**Brian Stas wins Wingbuster Invitational
Contest report on page two**

**Mark Rudner wins Eastern Mass Championships
Contest report on page five**

Wingbuster Invitational

BRIAN STAS, NEIL SIMPSON, & JEFF VADER ARE TOP THREE JAKE VADER WINS SPORTSMAN

SEPTEMBER 11, 2011- MIDDLEBORO, MA - nine contestants were on hand for this one. The weather was sunny and warm with a very light breeze. It was a great day for Formula GX combat.

In round one action Matt Stas was off to fast start with an 830 point win. Dick Sherman, Neil Simpson and Brian Stas were within range all posting 620 point round one wins. Matt and Dick faced off in round two and an early mid-air hurt their cumulative scores. Next, Brian got past Neil two cuts to one in a very well flown match. In the next match Jeff Vader earned a one cut win over Paul Kubek, posting his second good score and emerging as a contender, in the process. In round three Brian got past Jeff in a close match. Next, Neil and Matt flew to a one cut apiece draw that was well flown and action filled buzzer to buzzer. Round three also saw Dick stay in the hunt with a one cut win over Jake Vader. Going into round four it was Brian with a good lead followed by Neil, Matt, Dick and Jeff closely bunched and still in pursuit of Brian.

Round four would start with a match-up for the "Sportsman Gold". Jake Vader would face off against Richard Sherman. Jake had more cumulative points going in so Richard needed to win the match. Richard got the first cut but Jake fought back and got one of his own to tie the match and secure the sportsman win in the process. These kids get better and better. It won't be long before they're showing all of us the way. The final three round four matches would determine the contest winner. In the first of these Jeff got a one cut win over Glenn Simpson to take the clubhouse lead. Next Neil and Dick flew to a one cut apiece draw in a very exciting and action filled match. In the final Brian and Matt went at it in a match where each pilot got a cut, however a missed airtime gave Brian the win. The final order of finish was Brian, Neil, Jeff, Dick and Matt.

Thank You to the Wingbuster Model Airplane Club for allowing us to use their fine facility and for inviting us to participate in their annual "Pig Roast". Great food and during the break we got to check out some great RC machines. As always, thank you to everyone who shared in the judging.

Wingbuster Invitational

Formula GX Combat

9 Contestants (7 from MA) (2 from NH)

18 matches – one mid air

(E) Brian Stas-Kingston, MA	2485pts
(E) Neil Simpson-East Brookfield, MA	2040pts
(E) Jeff Vader-Franklin, NH	1950pts
(E) Dick Sherman, Andover, MA	1850pts
(A) Matt Stas-Kingston, MA	1740pts
(S) Jake Vader-Franklin, NH	1730pts
(E) Glenn Simpson-Worcester, MA	1520pts
(A) Paul Kubek-Brockton, MA	1510pts
(S) Richard Sherman, Andover MA	1430pts

NEW ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS (continued from page one)

The top three flyers plus the sportsman winner received beautiful awards. Every competitor received a T-shirt to commemorate their participation in this annual GX happening. In addition, every pilot also received a raffle prize which included a Cobra stunt ship kit, several gallons of fuel, props and GRW tanks. GRW Model Products, J&J Sales (Jim Carpenter) and Hog Heaven Hobbies all made serious cash or merchandise contributions. Thank You to all these great sponsors from all of us. A special thank you to Brian Stas who donated a RTF combat ship to the raffle. Thank You to everyone who shared in the judging of this event.

New England Championships

Formula GX Combat

9 contestants

18 matches - 2 mid-air – 1 fly-away

(E) Joe Fustolo-Stoughton, MA	2160pts
(A) Paul Kubek-Brockton, MA	2050pts
(E) Neil Simpson-E.Brookfield, MA	1955pts
(E) Brian Stas-Kingston, MA	1755pts
(E) Dick Sherman-Andover, MA	1735pts
(A) Chris Sarnowski-Bedford, MA	1525pts
(E) Lloyd Seymour-Leominster, MA	1435pts
(S) Richard Sherman-Andover, MA	1300pts
(E) Glenn Simpson-Worcester, MA	910pts

FROM THE EDITOR: New England Combat News exists, not to make a profit, but rather, to promote control line combat in New England. It is distributed without charge to those readers who participate in New England combat contests or who support these contests through donations to the New England contest fund. The subscription rate is \$10.00/year for people who do not meet the above criterion. If you have information you would like to see in this newsletter please call or write:

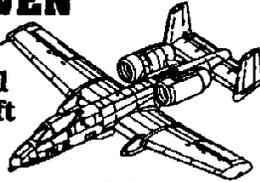
NEIL SIMPSON 129 PODUNK ROAD EAST BROOKFIELD, MA 01515
PHONE: 508-867-8702 (Home after 6:00pm) E-MAIL: podunk129@charter.net

If you make a donation or if you subscribe to this newsletter make the check payable to NEIL SIMPSONDonations go into the New England Contest Fund and are used to cover the cost of running New England control line combat contests. IF YOU WANT TO RUN A CONTROL LINE COMBAT CONTEST IN NEW ENGLAND AND YOU NEED HELP (FINANCIAL OR OTHERWISE) CALL OR WRITE NEW ENGLAND COMBAT NEWS. We want to continue to help make New England a "Hot Spot" for control line combat. New England Combat News is your newsletter-USE IT. Control line combat is your sport-PROMOTE IT.

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F2D News**
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Yankee Nipper pine center ribs - as shown on plans (3/4" white pine) in case of broken wing cores, simply cut old ones off and re-core - \$5.00 ea

From time to time, I have other items in stock - needle valve assemblies, props, bellcranks etc.

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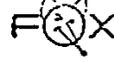
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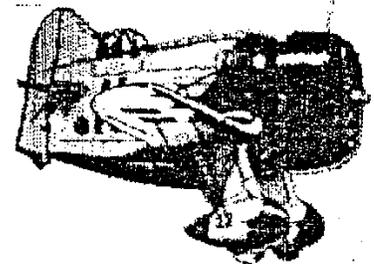
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Eastern Mass Championships for F2D Combat

MARK RUDNER, GREG WORNELL & NEIL SIMPSON TAKE THE TROPHY SPOTS

SEPTEMBER 18, 2011-MIDDLEBORO, MA- Five New England pilots were on hand for this one. The weather was mostly sunny with a moderate breeze and temperatures warming to the seventies by mid-afternoon. The Wingbuster Club Field in Middleboro, Massachusetts, was the location for what would be a great day for F2D Combat.

At the end of two rounds Mark Rudner and Greg Wornell each had two wins, two pilots had been sent home while Neil Simpson was hanging around with one win and a loss. In round three Mark gave Neil his final loss two cuts to one in a match that was action filled for the full four minutes. It would come down to Mark and Greg, someone having to lose twice, to determine this day's winner. In the first match Greg got an airtime win following some contact early in the match. Mark then came back to win two matches in a row, both by scores of two cuts to one, to secure the contest win. Both matches were exciting and well flown. At the trophy presentation, in addition to his first place gold, Mark received a Special Recognition Award, from all the New England F2D crew. The award was presented to Mark, first for bringing F2D combat to us and then for all his effort and help, to try and make us respectable at it.

Thank You to the Wingbuster Model Airplane Club for the use of their wonderful facility. Please know it's very appreciated.

Eastern Mass Championships

F2D Combat

5 contestants

Mark Rudner-Cambridge, MA	5-1
Greg Wornell-Wellesley, MA	3-2
Neil Simpson-E.Brookfield, MA	1-2
Brian Stas-Kingston, MA	0-2
Paul Kubek-Brockton, MA	0-2



The top three were Mark Rudner (1st), Greg Wornell (2nd) and Neil Simpson (3rd)



Mark Rudner also received a "Special Recognition Award" for his important contributions to the success of F2D Combat in New England

F2D News - October 2011

Mark Rudner

rudner@mit.edu

Many of you have noticed that the frequency of F2D News posts has been slowly dropping over the last year or so. For those who don't know, my time here in New England is now up; this week I will embark on a journey that will take me through Europe for 3 months, after which I will finally land in Columbus, Ohio where I will start the next phase of my life. Once I get settled I will try to start writing again, but it may be a while until you hear from me. Before going, however, I want to give one more huge thanks to the entire New England Combat Association for everything over the past 8 years.

Much has happened since the last time I wrote: since July, the European Championships, the New England Cup, the US Team Trials, and most recently the Eastern Massachusetts Championships have all taken place. This was the first time I was able to experience a European Championships, traveling to Czestochowa, Poland via Riga, Latvia to pitch in as a mechanic for Team Latvia. The European Championships was a competition of the highest caliber. The level of flying among the top contenders was extremely high. Under the direction of Boris Faisov, the Russian team seems to have elevated its game to impressive new heights. Be prepared for a new era of Russian professional dominance in the sport, akin to the Soviet dominance in the 1980s. The word on the street was that their team gathered for 10 days of solid practice before the competition; it showed. Hard work and dedication truly do pay off. Witnessing this high level of flying opened my eyes to the potential of how we could be flying, and motivated me to start training with renewed vigor and determination.

Just a week after the European Championships, we gathered again in Plymouth, MA for the second annual New England Cup. This time the event went international, with two Canadians (Pat Mackenzie and Yaroslav Melnikov) in attendance, in addition to domestic competitors from across the country. The field was beautiful as always, and I believe great fun was had by all. The holder of the New England Cup is Andrey Nadein of Philadelphia, PA. Second and third places went to Pat Mackenzie, and Yaroslav Melnikov, respectively. A huge thanks goes out to everyone who came out to help put on another 1st class event.

Next up was the Team Trials, hosted by the Strathmoor Model Club of Detroit, MI. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday were all extremely hot, with temperatures up to the mid-90s. Sunday was a bit more mild, but also brought a strong downpour midday that forced us to take a brief break from flying. Some technical issues about the rules were raised before and during the competition. The first regards the new rule about mechanics moving outside of the 22 meter pitting circle. The rule book states that mechanics shall only move around the circle while outside of the 22 meter line. However, no penalty is described for failing to do so. The common interpretation seems to be that a 40 point penalty should be given for running inside the 22 meter circle. This seems logical, but how strictly should it be enforced? In Detroit, a very strict interpretation was applied (mechanics must enter

(continued on next page)

and exit the pitting circle radially; even a few steps in the circumferential direction inside the 22 meter line were considered an offense). The rule was applied consistently and fairly to all competitors, but led to a large number of penalties although there was never any danger of interfering with an opponent's pit. Is this the intent of the rule? Some clarification would be helpful. Also, the role of the yellow card came into light, as early as the pilots' meeting. How liberally should yellow cards be given? Compared with other contests such as the European Championships, it seemed like yellow cards were treated rather lightly here, given out much more freely. For example, at the pilots' meeting we were all warned not to fly with our free hands on our hips (elbow pointing out), as contact of the elbow with an opponent would be considered interference. This seemed rather harsh; under this interpretation, many of the world's top pilots would be heavily penalized for their natural flying style. These questions aside, three strong pilots found their way to the top. Our team in Bulgaria will consist of Allen Deveuve, Cary Minor, and Andrey Nadein. The first alternate is Josh Ellison, who turned around a disappointing performance in 2009 to an impressive display this year. He worked really hard preparing for the contest, and it clearly showed. It's great to see another young pilot with the combination of skill and determination coming up in the ranks. Keep an eye on Josh for the coming years!

Finally, this past weekend was the last event that I will get to fly in as a native New Englander (at least for now). We flew single airplane F2D at the luscious Wingbusters Field in Middleboro, MA. In addition to a great day of flying, this contest gave us a chance to test a prototype (alpha) version of Alex Prokofiev's new contest management software. The software provides a quick and convenient interface for pilot registration (linked to a self-growing database of pilots' ID information), automatically performs a random draw for all rounds through the competition, taking care to avoid repeat matches (and to separate pilots by teams if desired), tabulates scores, and keeps track of all results in a convenient table. The program is still in development, but the basic nuts and bolts were in place and it performed beautifully. The biggest benefit is that the automatic draw function saves a lot of time and energy, while the other features also help to grease the wheels of contest administration. Finally we have arrived in the 21st century! As for the contest itself, we had 5 entries (Paul Kubek, me, Neil Simpson, Brian Stas, and Greg Wornell). The level of flying all around was pretty good, especially considering the stiff wind and difficult double-layer puffy cloud conditions. In the third round I had a very exciting match with Neil Simpson that went full bore for the entire 4 minute period. It was a memorable, hard-fought match, befitting of my final contest here. In the end, the results were: 1st Mark Rudner (5-1), 2nd Greg Wornell (3-2), 3rd Neil Simpson (1-2). Thanks guys for a great send-off. It was truly a pleasure to have one last chance to fly with you. Looking forward to seeing you all again in the future!

This is Mark Rudner, signing off...

2011 Eastern Mass Championships for F2D Combat - September 18th - Brian Stas Photos



Mark Rudner



Paul Kubek



Greg Wornell and Mark Rudner-Final Match



Mark's Award



2011 New England Championships - September 4th - Brian Stas Photos



Joe Fustolo and Lloyd Seymour



Paul Kubek, Neil Simpson and Chris Sarnowski



Dick Sherman (always nice equipment)



Richard Sherman



Glenn Simpson gets Neil's machine airborne



Brian Stas has Paul Kubek's airplane ready to go

2011 New England Championships - September 4th - Brian Stas Photos



All eyes skyward, for one of many good matches



Paul Kubek with a strong second place finish



Joe Fustolo's Nipper was damaged in the final, but survived until the end



Joe receives his first place award



Final match action

2011 Wingbuster Invitational -GX Combat - September 11th - Jeff Vader Photos



Matt Stas and Paul Kubek



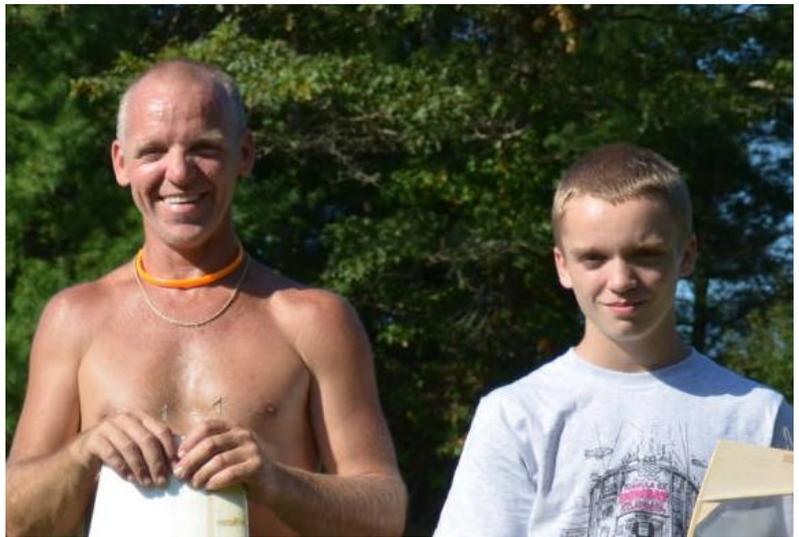
Final Match-Brian & Matt Stas



Glenn Simpson and Jeff Vader



Jake Vader and Richard Sherman



Team Vader- Jeff and Jake



The top finishers were Brian Stas (1st), Neil Simpson (2nd), Jeff Vader (3rd) and Jake Vader (1st Sportsman)

2011 CONTEST SCHEDULE

All GX Combat unless noted otherwise

10/2	Fall Finale -Worcester, MA
10/9 10/16	North County Shootout-Leominster, MA
10/23	Wingbuster Shootout-Middleboro, MA F2D Combat-single airplane rules
10/30	GX Fall Fly-Off / Post Season Contest - Middleboro, MA

2011 Regular Season Points Championship

(thru 9/11/11)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Total Accum Points</u>	<u>Total Possible Points</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Stas, Brian	63	70	90
Fustolo, Joe	17	20	850
Simpson, Neil	59	70	843
Stas, Matthew	16	20	800
Vader, Jeff	31	40	775
Sherman, Dick	33	50	660
Kubek, Paul	30	50	600
Sarnowski, Chris	30	50	600
Simpson, Glenn	30	60	500
Sherman, R "Sherm"	21	50	420
Seymour, Lloyd	4	10	400
Vader, Jake	16	40	400
Carpenter, Jim	0		0
Lord, Dana	0		0
Parizo, Dave	0		0
Seymour, Kevin	0		0

Position in the season point standings is determined by the percentage column. The formula to determine percentage is total points accumulated divided by total possible points. Points are awarded in descending order for the first ten places in each contest (1st Place = 10pts, 2nd Place = 9pts etc.) Total possible points is the number of contests participated in multiplied by ten. Participation in no less than 50% of the New England regular season GX meets is the eligibility requirement for a season championship award.

New England Contest Fund
 6/1/2011 through 9/20/2011

Date	Description	Category	Amount
	BALANCE 5/31/2011		87
6/5/2011	Granite State Championships	Entry Fees	120
6/5/2011	Granite State Championships	Trophy Expense	-54
6/5/2011	Paul Kubek	Contribution	12
6/12/2011	Silver Lake Invitational	Permit-Sanction Expense	-120
6/26/2011	Ernie Carosela (.32 Engine)	Contribution	30
6/26/2011	Dana Lord	Contribution	10
6/26/2011	Chris Sarnowski	Contribution	5
6/26/2011	Brian Stas	Contribution	20
6/26/2011	Len Minick Memorial	Entry Fees	60
6/26/2011	Len Minick Memorial	Trophy Expense	-9
7/17/2011	Wingbuster Summer Sizzler	Permit-Sanction Expense	-25
7/17/2011	Wingbuster Summer Sizzler	Trophy Expense	-54
7/17/2011	Wingbuster Summer Sizzler	Entry Fees	75
7/17/2011	Paul Kubek	Contribution	5
7/26/2011	Len Thibault	Contribution	50
7/31/2011	107th RC Flyers Donation	Donation Expense	-50
7/31/2011	107th RC Flyers GX Shootout	Trophy Expense	-54
7/31/2011	107th RC Flyers GX Shootout	Entry Fees	120
7/31/2011	107th GX Shootout	Permit-Sanction Expense	-20
7/31/2011	Chris Sarnowski	Contribution	20
7/31/2011	Joe Fustolo	Contribution	50
8/14/2011	Salmon River Shootout	Trophy Expense	-54
8/14/2011	Salmon River Shootout	Entry Fees	75
8/18/2011	Chris Sarnowski	Contribution	25
9/5/2011	New England Championships	Entry Fees	270
9/5/2011	New England Championships	Raffle Prize Expense	-45
9/5/2011	New England Championships	Trophy Expense	-297
9/5/2011	New England Championships	T-Shirt Expense	-218
9/5/2011	New England Championships	Permit-Sanction Expense	-195
9/5/2011	Neil Simpson	Contribution	195
9/11/2011	Wingbuster Invitational	Trophy Expense	-54
9/11/2011	Wingbuster Invitational	Entry Fees	135
9/11/2011	Wingbuster Invitational	Permit-Sanction Expense	-25
9/18/2011	Eastern Mass Championships	Trophy Expense	-54
9/18/2011	Eastern Mass Championships	Entry Fees	75
9/18/2011	Wingbuster Model Airplane Club	Donation Expense	-150
9/18/2011	Eastern Mass Championships	Permit-Sanction Expense	-25
	BALANCE 9/20/2011		-64

**2011
North County Shootout
Formula GX Combat**

Leominster High School-Leominster, MA

**October 9th, 2011
First Match 10:00 am
AMA Sanctioned**

Trophies for top two plus first in Sportsman

**2011
Wingbuster
Shootout**

**Wingbuster Club Field
Middleboro, MA
October 23rd, 2011**

**F2D Combat
Single Airplane Rules**

**Prizes for top Three
First Match 10:00 am
AMA Sanctioned**

Rumors Facts Etc

CONTEST FUND: The contest fund is in the "red".
If you've been thinking of donating now would be a
good time.



**Ken Hargreaves sent us this photo - No, he wasn't involved, but he was there
to witness this most expensive "mid-air"**

2011
Fall Finale Combat Tournament
Formula GX Combat

Boynton Park-Worcester, MA
(near the Paxton, MA line)

October 2nd, 2011

Registration 9:30am - First Match 10:00 am

AMA Sanctioned

Trophies for top two plus first in Sportsman

Take 495 or the MASS PIKE to Interstate 290

In Worcester pick-up 122 North towards Paxton

Near the Paxton line just after the entrance to the Worcester Airport take a right hand turn marked

Mower Street (442-512) Follow Mower Street into the park

2011
Wingbuster
Fall Fly Off

Post Season Contest October 30th, 2011
Wingbuster Club Field Middleboro, MA
AMA Sanctioned

Formula GX Combat

Trophies for top two plus first in Sportsman
Season End Awards will also be presented