

Northern Challenge Trophy



2018



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1. AIM:

- a) To provide a series of season long challenges with both a **Competitive** and a **Pilot Development** element.
- b) To provide a flexible approach in terms of pilot availability, weather and task type.
- c) To bring an increased focus , skill set and enjoyment to a day's flying.

2. Eligibility.

Main Tasks – Only full members of the six northern clubs. These clubs are: CSC DHPC PSC, NHGPC NYS and Sir George Cayley.

Subsidiary Hike and Fly tasks – Any full member of the BHPA

3. The challenges (tasks) will run between 1st March and 30th September incl.

- a) There will be 12 tasks (main)
- b) There will be two (subsidiary) hike and fly tasks.

The main and the subsidiary tasks will be run and scored separately.

4a. Tasks (main): (also promoted as pilot development as well as competition)

- a) Comprise different flight types from (GRID, FAI, Flat triangle, O&R, Flight to a goal, cats cradle).
- b) Be spread geographically/wind window across the club regions as far as is practical
- c) Be as inclusive as possible in terms of glider and/or pilot experience level/rating

d) They will be standing tasks between the dates above and can have multiple attempts between the set dates including on the same day. BUT ... you should aim to upload only your day best or a max of three per task across the full time period. Only your best attempt/points will count to the final total. Please resist the temptation to overload the system – you may break it!

e) Only up to the best 8 task results will score. This allows for dropping up to four tasks, that could be choosing not to fly a task or dropping worst scores.

f) All tasks will have equal weighting in terms of scoring, based around task completion and time factors.

g) The flying window is to be between 7.00hr and 20.00hr for the main 12 tasks. The late close is to allow for evening/after-work attempts. For the Hike and Fly task the window will be between 07.00 hrs and 21.00 hrs (or lighting up/sunrise time) whichever is the earlier. It also includes additional safety rules which can be found in the Task Guidance Notes

f) A set of short briefing notes will accompany the 12 main tasks to explain the rationale behind each. It is important to read them ... especially if undertaking the H&F tasks.

4b. Tasks (subsidiary): These will be longer and of a Hike and Fly nature.

- a) There will be two tasks
- b) These will be
 - i) The Lakes three Summits (34k)
 - ii) The Dales Three Peaks (54k)
- c) Separate rules pertaining to the H&F tasks (see Guidance Notes)

5. Competition Admin: The tasks will be hosted on XCMAP. This will provide:

- a) A map of the task showing cylinders (most are 400M radius; a few are different), task ID and other relevant detail including order they are to be taken in.
- b) Easy download of the turnpoints as .gpx and .wpt
- c) Easy upload by pilots of their tracklog.
- d) Online scoring showing points gained and current position by task
- e) A current leaderboard showing all tasks and pilots (to be developed)
- f) Entrants need to ensure their recording instrument is set to show their name. This is important for uploading as it will be the name that is read and shows against the submitted tracklog. There is no registration/password required.
- g) I (with CF) will administer the whole event, this places no onus on any club to do any work beyond supporting and promoting.

6. Competition Final Placings and rewards:

a) The **final total will be comprised of eight** (or up to) task scores giving final placings for the main 8 task set. To be clear – best 8/12 tasks determine final placings.

b) The Hike 'n Fly task will be ranked and scored separately with its own reward system. The route and all upload/downloads will still be via XCMAP.

b) Placings of 1st, 2nd and 3rd (final total on main task set) and the separate Hike 'n Fly will be % based on the reward pot total at season end. It's too early to say what that may be, but early indications/ promissory notes put it in the regions of £250/£300. ALL – 100% of received donation go into the prize fund zero admin costs.

Main task set: 1st (30%) 2nd (15%) 3rd (10%)

Hike 'n Fly: 1st (25%)

Draw (20%) (All entrants to be entered for the draw subject to having made a minimum £5 donation to the total prize fund).

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This will be partly subsumed into the NCT and awarded as follows:

- Will comprise of the four CSC based tasks (Clough GRID, Blease, Coniston OM, Far Whitestones) plus one other traditionally called weekend meets.
- ONLY full members of the CSC are eligible
- The final results will be pulled from the NCT

7. Other important rules:

- a) All clubs sites rules takes precedence over the tasks. In other words any site closed periods, members only, numbers limits, NO GO areas, airspace etc., **MUST be adhered to. Any flight in breach of these rules will be disqualified!**
- b) Tracklogs should be uploaded as soon as possible, but no later than 30 days after being flown.
- c) ALL pilots must take responsible decisions about weather/flying conditions (see disclaimer) . CP rated pilots will be able to attempt most tasks that stay close or near to the home task site. Any that involve an XC element requires them to be 'mentored' by a club coach which means suitably briefed. This can't be easily checked on ... so regard it as sound advice.

8. Safety disclaimer:

Safe flying: All pilots fly under their own responsibility. It is each pilot's responsibility to take all necessary actions to maintain their own safety during the competitions, and to ensure that they do not act in any way that might endanger any other pilots during the competition. It is a condition of entry to the Northern Challenge Trophy for all pilots to accept without restriction to hold the Organisers blameless, and waive all claims to compensation.

9. Other:

XCMAP LINK <http://www.xcmap.net>

With thanks to Chris Foster for his help and continuing development of the site.

Task guidance Notes are available to add a little more of the thinking behind the tasks.

I have put £100 as a starter into the final pot. All donations, however small are welcome. The full 100% will be donated to the winners/draw at the end of the season and no later than 30th November 2018.

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A ppt of the NCT is available on request