



# Knettishall Competition Report

## 6th July 2019

We ran the 2<sup>nd</sup> GBRCAA Competition at Knettishall on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2019. It would have been too much to expect the same baking hot weather we had last year and it turned out to be - too much to expect! Nevertheless, 20 pilots were entered, 10 of whom were in Clubman - the entry class. I do not recall such a large Clubman entry list in the 7 years in which I've been in the GBRCAA.

Thanks to Ken Seymour who manned the gate from before 8 am to allow access to the site by the competitors and judges.

Within short order, we lost an FAI pilot, George Drever suffered alternator failure in his car and never got to us, and one of the Clubman entrants realised that his wings were still at home! Nevertheless, the remainder cracked on with the job in hand.

Thanks are due in no small measure to Garry Peacock and Eugene Anker for volunteering to judge for the whole day. This turned into a bit of a chore after lunch when the forecast front went through and brought not only a change in wind direction but also rain and eventually low cloud which put a stopper on things when one of the contestants aircraft faded from view in cloud! He continued undaunted but no one else chose to tangle with the elements after that.

Bury Model Flying Club was represented by 3 pilots flying in 2 classes. Mark Allen and Peter Jenkins were flying in the FAI(P) class and Mike Rieder, a recent joiner, was flying in Clubman.

In FAI, having had his motor burn out 8 days before in his Agenda, Peter Jenkins was first up with his Citrin but Mike Wood had the edge on him with his AJ Acuity and edged into first place. Mark Allen continued his improvement in his flying and recorded his highest scores to date. Keep it up Mark!

Masters was down to 2 pilots while Intermediate had 3 entries.

In Clubman, Mike Rieder, flying an Allure, won 2 of the 3 rounds putting in a strong performance in Round 3 to win with a comfortable margin.

Meanwhile, Ron Spencer had set up the BBQ and tea and coffee making facilities and kept that going all day. Ron Gray, who unfortunately had to pull out of the competition, had done a grand job in tidying up the site and lent his BBQ equipment. Ian McDowell was the 2<sup>nd</sup> man on the BBQ and carried out spotter duties at other times. Mike Rieder was pressed into painting the aerobatic box lines a week ago and also took his turn as a spotter. The need for spotters was brought home to competitors when during a particularly low cloud period, 3 light aircraft decided that “it was better being on the ground wishing they were in the air than the other way around”. After they were politely asked to park their aircraft at the end of the runway, our proceedings continued.

So, a big thank you to the Bury MFC from the GBRCAA for allowing the use of Knettishall for this competition and also for their excellent preparation of the site and provision of sustenance all day. The GBRCAA has also paid the Club a fee for the use of Knettishall.

*Report by Peter Jenkins*

*Photos courtesy of Mark Allen and Peter Jenkins*