

# GBRCAA Championships May 2021- by Mike Rieder

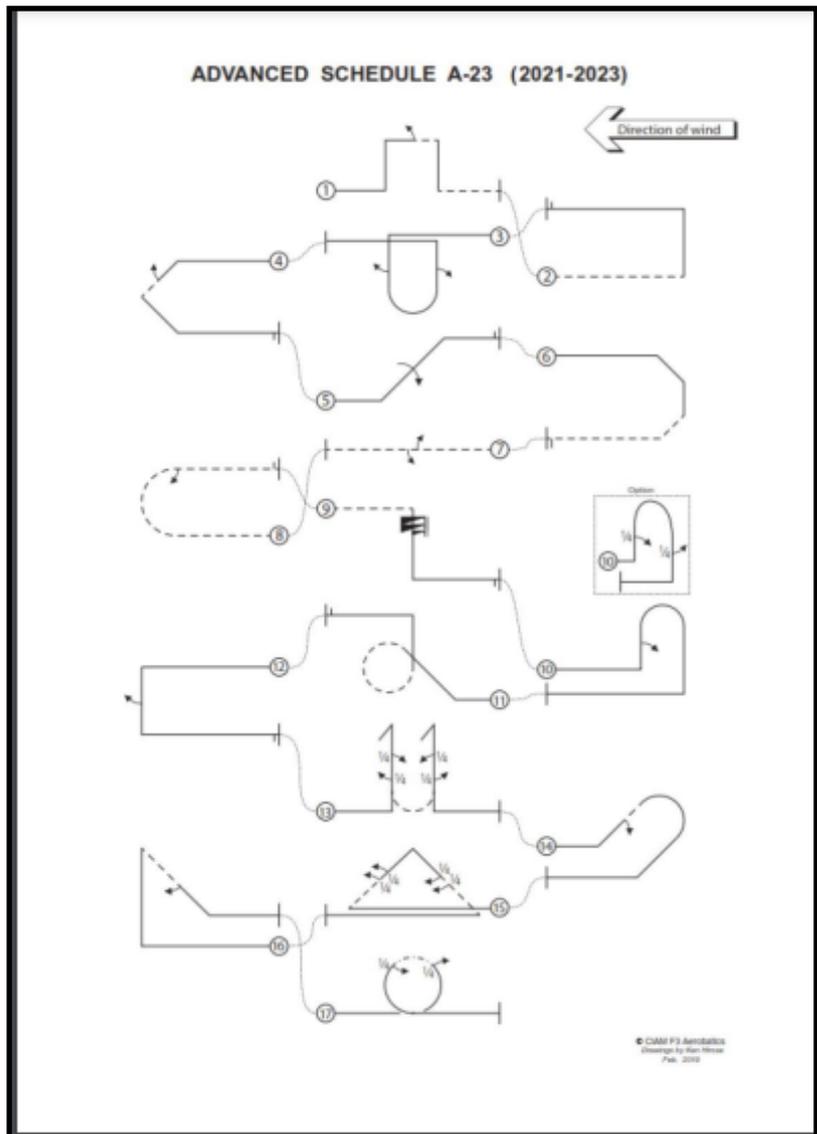
Held at Buckminster 15th and 16th May 2021, you can read the GBRCAA blog by going to <http://www.gbrcaa.org/smf/index.php?topic=6433.0> (use your browser back button to return to this report).

BMFC members, Mark Allen and I both entered the competition in the Masters class. This was the first of the season and followed the long COVID lay-off. Being a two-day event and held at Buckminster meant we could camp over and I took the opportunity to go up on the Thursday so I could add two practice days prior to the comp.



This was very valuable prep time for me, due to trying to get back up to standard as well as having to cope with learning the new schedule as I have moved up from the intermediate class that I competed in last year.

Masters Schedule:



The weather forecast was not great, so with 17 entrants we were expecting to get only a limited number of flights in. However, the weather gods were on our side and we ended up with 3 flights each per day, which doesn't sound much, but its enough when you're competing, judging and supporting other flyers. We started at 9am with Pilots and judges briefings. The first flight was 9.30am and we finished the day just after 6pm.



Overnight storage

My first flight was not great, I got blown out (we have to stay on a constant line approx 150m out) and got some competition nerves which meant I cocked up a couple of manoeuvres! I scored 287.75 and Mark did much better with a 339.75. Next round I started to settle and got 344.25 with Mark on 315.25 and in round 3 I got 354.5 and Mark on 329.25, note that we drop the worst score for every 3 flights so over two days we flew 6 rounds and dropped our worst two scores.

Day two had a bit lighter wind from a different direction. The scores were 335.3, 345.8, 344.8 for me; and 339.5, 351.3, 327.3 for Mark.

So the final result was that I came in second and Mark third. Which I am personally very pleased with as there were competitors from all over the country including a number from Scotland.

Competitors				Total	Flight no 1 Finished		Flight no 2 Finished		Flight no 3 Finished		Flight no 4 Finished	
					Net	Norm	Net	Norm	Net	Norm	Net	Norm
Russ Bowey (930)	Snr		GBR	1043.75	334.00	334.00	<del>311.50</del>	<del>311.50</del>	353.00	353.00	356.75	356.75
Mike Rieder (929)	Snr		GBR	1034.00	<del>287.75</del>	<del>287.75</del>	344.25	344.25	354.50	354.50	335.25	335.25
Mark Allen (940)	Snr		GBR	1008.50	339.75	339.75	<del>315.25</del>	<del>315.25</del>	329.25	329.25	339.50	339.50
Chris Bond (939)	Snr		GBR	880.25	<del>278.00</del>	<del>278.00</del>	278.25	278.25	287.00	287.00	315.00	315.00

Mark receiving his 3rd place certificate



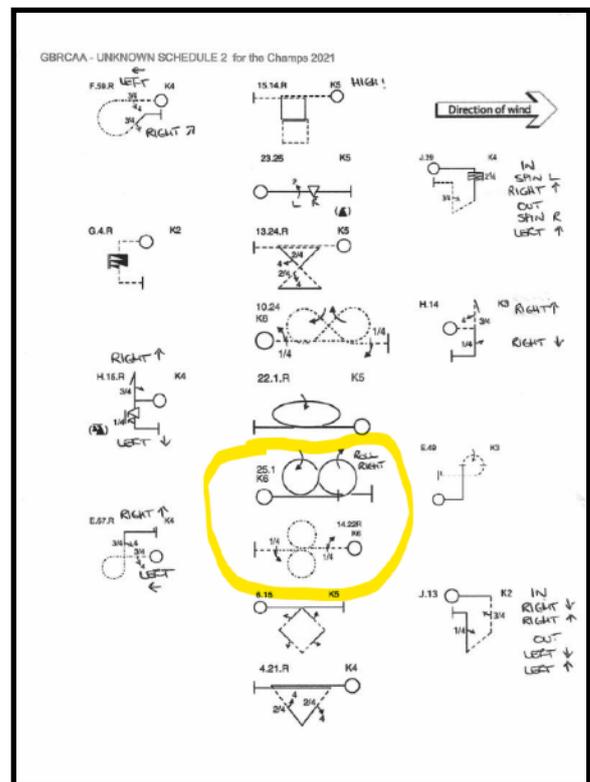
It was a brilliant competition due to favourable weather, great venue, some amazing flying to watch and a really nice group of flyers to spend time with.



I also had the pleasure over the weekend of judging a couple of the classes which is very rewarding but does tax the brain due to the amount of concentration needed.

One of the judging tasks I had was to be one of the wrong manoeuvre judges for the unknown flights this involved sitting to one side of the main judges and following the flight to make sure the pilot was doing the manoeuvres as per the generated schedule ie snapping the right number of times, rolling at the right point and through the correct number of degrees so he came out the right way up (or in knife-edge) etc;.

This I found a real challenge as the schedule is computer generated (then checked) but not announced until the morning of the flight so competitors can't practice apart from with a stick plane! So trying to read the aresti diagram whilst following the flight is not easy, how on earth the guys at the top do this is beyond me, but maybe one day!! The two figure of 8's manoeuvres (highlighted) were great to watch one being done in knife-edge the other with a combined roll each way, ie one slow roll to be completed while flying each half of the 8.



As always if anyone wants to know a bit more about F3a or fancy learning some of the manoeuvres we would be more than happy to help out. Also one of the competitions is coming to Knettishall on the 4th of Sept. If you want to spectate please contact Peter Jenkins.

For the insatiably curious I have added a larger image of the 'unknown' schedule (ed):

