

2023

Frank Ehling

International 1/2A Texaco Postal Challenge

The International 1/2A Texaco Postal Challenge for 2023, marks the 38th year for the Challenge. The Covid-19 pandemic was a factor of the reduced number of teams participating in the event. Also due to Covid the 2022 event was not flown. In 2020 we had five teams fly, they were; SAM 27 (Napa, Sonoma, Marin Counties, CA), SAM 78 & 95 (Czech Republic), SAM 119 Mocenok, Slovakia), and SAM 114 (Germantown, OH). SAM 114 served as host being the 2019 winner. In 2021 we only had three teams participating and SAM 114 was again the winner. SAM 114 has been very busy with preparing for the 2023 SAM Champs and other events so they were happy to have another club run the event. SAM 27 and Mike Clancy volunteered to do the job.

The rules for the IPC are per the SAM Official Rule Book: minimum 8 ounces per square foot of plan-form wing area, .049 Cox reed valve engine, 5.1cc integral fuel tank, and propeller limited to 8 inch maximum diameter. An individual's score is the sum best two of three 15 minute max flights. A max flight is worth 900 points. The team score is sum of the top three flyer's scores. Flying must be completed on the day chosen by the team within a window which begins on September 1st and closes on November 30th. This broad window is intended to provide favorable flying conditions in both the Northern and Southern hemispheres.

In an effort to increase participation we are trying a couple of rules changes which were used in the 2022 SAM Champs. The upper date for plane designs is now 1964. The new planes must still fit the description of an old timer. Also, a plane may be flown by multiple pilots as separate entries. E.g., a club that has only one Half A Texaco flyer could have two additional pilots fly his plane and as a result would have a full entry for the contest.

I will be sending out this announcement several times prior to the window.

This is a very enjoyable event as team members work together. This competition has been around for a long time. Let's keep it going.

Attached is a Chapter entry form that you are welcome to use. See this form for information on where to send scores.

Mike Clancy
SAM 27



Half A Texaco flyers of SAM 27