

Holdfast Club Annual Awards Guidelines

I have been asked to write a series of articles for Buzz explaining the types of Annual Awards available at HMAc. Awards are given in several different categories and trophies presented at the Annual Christmas Function:

1. President's Award
2. Miscellaneous Awards
3. Model Building Awards
4. Competition events

President's Award. This prestigious award is given to a Member who has contributed in an outstanding manner to the functioning of the Club. It is usually (but not always) given to a non-Committee person who has gone beyond normal Club Member involvement and in the opinion of the President should be recognised. The President reveals the name of the person to the Committee prior to the award being made.

Miscellaneous Awards. There have been several of these that were introduced over the years and they are not always given due to the nature of them. The Committee considers these awards individually each year. Examples are:

1. Axe Award. Given to commemorate a particular physical happening.
2. Encouragement Award. Occasionally given when a student has had a particularly long and difficult transition to the first Solo Rating.
3. Bob Bouwens Award. This commemorates a popular Member from a few years ago. Bob was something of an inventor and modifier of all his models and his equipment, searching unceasingly for a "Better Mousetrap". It is a serious award and can be given to anyone who shows similar characteristics.

Model Building Awards. These awards are given following a judging session at a Social meeting of the Club. In the past, judging has been done by one person, namely me. However for 2014, I would like to have two independent persons make individual assessments of the models presented. The final score will be calculated by averaging the totals given by the two assessments. Judging sheets are always used and the results kept in Club Records. I will explain the scoring system in another article. Not every award is made every year. Sometimes no award is given.

The categories are:

1. Model of the Year. Basically this is the prestigious award achieved by presenting a really good model to a Meeting and also flying it at least once. Allowance is made for the extra effort required to scratch build a model compared with modifying a ready built plane, however due to the proliferation of "ARF" kits members are encouraged to show their latest acquisitions.
2. Johnson Award for Scale Models. This commemorates HMAc Life Member Cyril Johnson, a WW2 RAF pilot and also a Private Pilot and importantly an avid aeromodeller. Cyril insisted that this award should only be given to Scratch-builders.
3. Johnson Award for Innovative Modelling. This award is not necessarily limited to model planes, but can be anything to do with flying machines. Cyril's idea was to encourage lateral thinking and inventiveness

Competition Events. Currently the competitions at HMAc are held on the first and third Sunday of each month. (These times can vary so please keep an eye on BUZZ and the MASA Events Calendar for the latest information). They are very popular and are open to all MAAA Members. Scores are given in the various categories and records kept. Rules for Pylon are published on our Website. The events are:

1. Point 10 Pylon (Standard Class)
2. Point Ten Pylon (Open Class)
3. WW1 Combat
4. WW2 Combat
5. Fun Fly (various contests, held intermittently but aiming at an aggregate score by the year's end)

Kingsley Neumann (President)