

## **49<sup>th</sup> Multi-class Nationals – Dalby - October 2010**

The organisation for the nationals is now gearing up. The website is live at <http://www.ddsc.org.au/dalby2010/index.html> thanks to Mike Codling. A lot of pilots have expressed their interest in attending, so if you are planning to join us please email me.

We have our first sponsor, hopefully the first of many, in TMS Consulting <http://www.tmsconsulting.com.au/> . Last year in 2009 TMS sponsored the Australian team to the pre-worlds at Previtza, there is a link to their website from the comps page, and we appreciate their on-going support for our competition flying.

Over the summer I spent a couple of days at both the club class and multi class nationals. Every group of contest organisers tries to do better than their predecessors and learn from what they did. We had pilots from our club at both comps so between us we have a few good things we will copy, and some new ideas to put into practice. If you flew in one of those competitions and have any suggestions or good ideas you think we should know about, please email me.

I noticed a couple of weighing penalties on the score sheets. No organiser or scorer likes imposing penalties, but we have a responsibility to run a fair competition and try to find the best pilot, not the pilot who flies the most overweight. In the months between now and October most gliders will have their Form 2 inspection, this would be a good time to have your glider weighed and find out how much water you can legally carry. It is an entry requirement, and it is in the competition rules, that gliders must be operated within their legal weight limits, every day!!

Back home we have also been starting preparations. We plan to base operations in the Dalby Hang Gliding Club hangar, which is next to the tie-down area, rather than in a marquee over by the old Sunstate Soaring hangar. Using this hangar means that pilots can walk rather than drive to briefing. It also makes it easier to see the data projector images for the weather and task setting. We used it for the Easter comp in 2009 and it worked well.

We have started discussions to get tugs. The simple facts are that there are only six gilding club Pawnees in Queensland. Even if we are fortunate enough to be able to get all six, we will still need at least one more. Regrettably, in the six years since we were last at Dalby, Stow has retired and he and his wonderful 180 will not be available to us.

If you want any more information, please go to the competition website or email me at [rhenderson@iinet.net.au](mailto:rhenderson@iinet.net.au)

Ralph Henderson