

SAM 35 VOETSAK TRIBUTE RACING RULES FOR 2023.

1. Model to be built exactly to the 70% of full size Voetsak Tribute drawing available from Derick Scott at www.model-plans.co.uk, or the Vintage Model Company full kit or Belair part kit, with 2.5" diameter balloon wheels (no streamlined or thin section wheels; 65mm foam type are OK). **Clarification for 2023. No lightened or built up construction is permitted on the fuselage, wings or tail surfaces, all must be balsa sheeted as per the plan.**
2. 50ft. length control lines (model centre to handle centre) plus or minus 3.0", 0.012" thick, stranded carbo steel wire. No line groupers allowed. Wrist straps must be worn. Carbon steel stranded lines are now mandatory rather than stainless steel. As it has been found that moving the rear control line guide hole closer to the front hole improves the handling of these models generally and a lot in windy conditions, the rear hole centre may now be moved forward to no less than 1 centimetre from the front lead out hole centre.
3. An AM 25 diesel engine is the only permitted power and must be standard and not modified in any way e.g. re-bored with a lightened piston, or gas flow modifications, or modified nva/venturi dimensions.
4. Any size of fuel tank may be used, though around 15cc is recommended. Fit a 2.0" diameter replica tin (or other material) canister tank on the front side of model for authentic appearance (mandatory). Fuel cut outs are not required, but if any individual pilots wish to fit them for personal safety purposes they may be fitted to their model, but any other use during a race will result in a DQ because of any unfair tactical advantage which might be gained.
5. Do please fit a mini Ron Moulton pilot bust made by Dave Banks specially for this model if you possibly can,
6. Hand-start only. No electric starters allowed. 1 minute warm up period if desired once both models are brought into the circle before a race. The CD will give a 5 second countdown when both teams are ready, the pitman not touching the model or engine until zero/Go, when the stopwatches are started.
7. 60 lap heats for the qualifying rounds, **to be flown 1-up, or 2-up if preferred**, then a 60 lap final.
8. Maximum heat time is 7 minutes, to include at least 1 mandatory pit stop. Penalty for no pit stop will be +2 minutes added to actual time recorded for 60 laps. If no pilot completes the full 60 laps, the whole number of completed laps actually done will determine placing.
9. SAM 35 will run 6 events at selected venues & times for 2023: the 3 events at Old Warden modelling weekends, **from 10a.m. until lunchtime only on the Saturday of each event**, at the Festival of Flight on Sat 13th May, at a newly announced event on Sat 22nd July, and the Scale Weekend on Sat 16th September), plus the 3 SAM 35 events at BMFA Buckminster (the Spring Gala on Sat 15th April, Retrofest on Sat 24th June, and Octoberfest on Sat 14th October). Dave Cowburn is our nominated, ongoing stalwart CD for these. If you wish to be included on the SAM 35 Voetsak Interest Group email distribution list for news and updates on events, contact stevebetney@aol.com.
10. 1 pilot, 1 pitman per model. A proxy pilot may be nominated by the model owner/entrant if desired/necessary
11. A hard hat is compulsory for the pitman.
12. Pilot's centre circles of both 5 ft. and 10 ft. radius to be marked out for the timed laps and 2 up races respectively, & an outside circle to be marked out at 10 ft.+ 18" + line length = 61.5 ft. from centre. Pitmen to move the model to work safely outside of this outer circle marking.
13. Usual rules about good & safe general standard of construction, & model must be fitted with a spinner nut of minimum nose radius 7.5mm, not the standard AM hexagon prop nut, to comply with BMFA c/l rules. (Note: the AM 25 has a 1/4" x 26tpi – BSF crankshaft thread.)
14. Commercial wooden, plastic or nylon propellers only may be used, unmodified apart from balancing; no carbon fibre or glass-filled APC etc. types.
15. Pilots to walk forward at all times whilst flying, not backwards, no leaning back, or hogging the centre to make the other pilot have to walk around if flying 2-up. **Clarification for 2023: Pivoting at the centre of the circle is OK when flying 1-up in both the 10 lap sprint and 60 lap race, but not for 2-up races.** No whipping is allowed beyond the first take off lap, and it is strongly recommended that the handle to be held close to the chest for all but very inexperienced pilots. Only one warning per heat will be issued to the pilot by the CD, and a second transgression will result in disqualification
16. Pull test of 10G minimum.

SAM 35 VOETSAK TRIBUTE RACING LEAGUE TABLE FOR 2023.

For this year onwards, following inputs and to widen the interest and participation in Voetsak Tribute racing, a Postal League Table approach is being introduced, as there are flyers in at least the South Bristol and Barton Clubs who are unable to travel to some or all of the SAM 35 events. The donated cash prize fund for 2022 will not apply in 2023, as it was a one-off to promote these events post-Covid restrictions.

As mentioned in Rule 9 above, SAM 35 plans to hold 6 qualifying VT events at the noted dates, **and qualifying flights may be made only on the Saturday morning at these between 10am and lunchtime, not as previously at any time over the whole weekend.** This is to limit demands on the CDs' time, and to not monopolise the circle and permit it to be used for other control line model types to promote interest in sports flying.

There will be no points scheme for each event's race placings as for previous years, and no "best 3 scores" approach for rankings at the end of the year. Instead we will just regularly publish the overall rankings each Club's race by time (or laps completed in the 7 minute maximum), and for each calendar month of the season, each individual team's overall ranking by their best time achieved across all participants in all Clubs during the year to date for the overall League Table. This should promote interest and momentum for the VT action over the season.

All Clubs may nominate up to 6 dates and locations for their own races in advance (by March 31st if possible) to the VT League Table coordinators (central volunteer and results' spreadsheet owner Dave Raynor of South Bristol (bradleystoker@btinternet.com), and Steve Betney as SAM 35 contact (stevebetney@aol.com)).

So, in summary, the Rules are:

1. The published 2023 SAM 35 Rules for VT racing, available at www.sam35.org.uk will apply for all events.
2. A CD must be identified in advance for all events, and timekeepers/lap counters may be appointed as available for each race on the day.
3. All results and photographs to be sent to the coordinators by email, identifying email addresses for all entrants, within 1 week of the event taking place please, to enable regular and current League Table times placings to be published to all interested parties. Please include a note of any time which has been recorded by teams flying 2 up and not flying individually, an asterisk (*) identifier by their recorded time for the League Table will be fine.
4. The central coordinator will log all results on a master spreadsheet as soon as possible after each month's results are notified to him, and the year to date overall ranked placings table for publication to the Voetsak Interest Group email d/l, and in Club websites and magazines/newsletters and Aeromodeller magazine.
5. Certificates may be presented and awarded by each Club's event sponsor, for awarding on a local basis at the season's end. SAM 35 will provide one mounted Ron Moulton bust to each winning team at their events, and in addition donate one RGM bust to each other participating Club for award to their highest placed team in the final overall League Table.

SAM 35 VOETSAK TRIBUTE TIMED LAPS EVENT RULES.

All rules are as above, except the event will be for the fastest time for 10 laps from a rise off ground (RoG) launch, with the pilot staying at all times within the 5 ft. radius centre circle. **Pivoting at the centre is permitted.** This should give participants in Voetsak Tribute events at least 2 flights on the day, subject to time constraints in the case of a large number of entries in the main racing event.

The timing starts when the engine has been started and model is released, at the CD's discretion either after a 5 second countdown or when the team indicates that they are ready.

The average time from 2 stopwatches will be taken.

Results will be published, but do not count as part of the ranked League Table.