



From the Commish

Though here in Connecticut there's still plenty of snow, I do sense the approach of spring. Among the vernal rustlings are heightened discussion and enthusiasm about upcoming kite events, stepped-up efforts to organize events that might stimulate new interest in sport kiting, and perhaps most importantly, rising temperatures! In addition to recounting some highlights of the latest Eastern League competition in Florida and reporting SASKC scores and current League standings, this issue of the *Phoenix* provides details about a number of events that will be held this spring and summer. Note also the new policy about registration forms that is explained on page 2.

SASKC Results and Recap

Like the two previous events of this season, the St. Augustine Sport Kite Classic was a thrill a minute. Some details about the event are provided in the article on page 3. Results from the competition, along with updated League standings, can be found on page 5.

Next Competition: MASKC

The next Eastern League competition will be the **Mid Atlantic Stunt Kite Championship (MASKC)**, April 29–May 1 in Ocean City, MD. The MASKC registration form will be posted on the Eastern League web site as soon as it becomes available. For more information about the event, contact Roger Chewning at 215-736-1850 or skyfestivals@comcast.net.

Wildwood Update

2005 marks the 20th anniversary of the Wildwood International Kite Festival (WIKF) and **East Coast Stunt Kite Championship (ECSKC)**. Organizer Roger Chewning reports that the lineup of kitemakers coming to Wildwood this May continues to grow and a big turnout is expected. In addition, the number of workshops is being increased, as is the festival in general. More activities for families will be offered, and Or Paire (sport kiter Anthony Frémondrière and Bertrand Lefebvre) will be returning from France. Anthony and Bertrand have been asked to conduct a workshop with the assistance of an interpreter. Details will be provided in the event's registration form.

WIKF/ECSKC is scheduled for May 27–30, 2005, in Wildwood, NJ. Roger Chewning has provided a list of hotels that are supporting the event. That list has already been sent via e-mail to members who have e-mail, and it is included in this mailing for members who do not have e-mail. For additional information about the event, contact Roger at 215-736-1850 or skyfestivals@comcast.net.

NJSKC 2005 Scheduled for July

This year's **New Jersey Stunt Kite Championship** will be held at Liberty State Park in Jersey City, NJ, on **July 23–24, 2005**. Note that these dates mean that NJSKC 2005 will be the tenth and final event of the 2004–2005 competition season. Rosanna Rosanova is organizing NJSKC this year. For more information, visit the event's web site at www.njskc.com or contact Rosanna at ro@njskc.com or 845-628-8245. (Note the change in e-mail address.)

Looking Ahead to the Fall

Two events have been added to the Eastern League calendar for fall 2005. The Outer Banks Stunt Kite Competition (OBSKC) will be held September 9–11, 2005, in Nags Head, NC; and the Georgia International Sport Kite Championship (GISKC) will be held November 11–13, 2005, in Tybee Island, GA. The slate of events that have requested Eastern League sanctioning up to this point is provided on page 2.

Have You Been Missing E-mail Messages?

Please remember that if you change your e-mail address, you need to let me know. Whenever I send out e-notices—and I have sent several in the last couple of months—the messages to at least a few addresses bounce back because either those addresses are no longer valid or the mailboxes at those addresses are full. If you have any doubt that I have the right e-address for you, **please confirm your address** by sending me a message at commissioner@easternleague.net. Your assistance in keeping the Eastern League's records up to date will be much appreciated!

Welcome to a New Member

One new member joined the League's ranks in February. I'd like to extend a warm welcome to **Jason Stanger** from Brooklyn, NY. We're delighted to have you aboard, Jason!

—STEPHANIE HIEBERT, EASTERN LEAGUE COMMISSIONER

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Regional Events This Spring

Regional events are typically small, low-key, *non*-Eastern League events that focus on Novices, allowing brand-new competitors an opportunity to learn about and try out competition in a relaxed, low-pressure setting. Although Eastern League points are not up for grabs at these competitions, competitors generally do earn AKA points. Having sparked the interest of many of today's top sport kite competitors, regional events represent a potentially significant contribution to the future of our sport.

Two regional events are scheduled for this spring:

- The **Richmond/Washington Regional Sport Kite Championship (RWRSKC)** is a brand-new regional event that will be held on March 26 at Loriella Park in Spotsylvania, VA. For more information, visit www.richmondairforce.com online, or contact Terry Cornell at td_crnll@yahoo.com or 757-410-0632.
- The **KONE (Kites Over New England) Regional**, now in its tenth year, is scheduled for May 14 in Nahant, MA. For more information, visit www.kone.org online, or contact Gary Quinton at gquinton@verizon.net or 781-595-7687.

If you know any sport kite fliers in your area who are interested in competition but haven't tried it yet, encourage them to attend a regional. And if you can lend a hand at one of these events, please try to participate and help ensure continued interest in the sport. Bringing in new fliers is the only way to keep sport kite competition alive!

New Registration Form Mailing Policy

In late January the Eastern League Board unanimously approved a new policy regarding the distribution of event registration forms. Under this new policy, paper copies of the forms are no longer being mailed out by the League. Because the vast majority of Eastern League members now have e-mail and Internet access at home, the League's role in making registration forms available to its members will be limited to posting the forms on the web site: www.easternleague.net. All members who have e-mail will be notified when an event's registration form has been posted so that you can print it out online.

There is one exception to this new policy: *each Eastern League member who does not have e-mail will continue to receive a paper copy from the League.* These paper copies will be mailed at the time the electronic version is posted online.

The new policy reduces some of the workload for this and future commissioners, saves paper by eliminating the need to produce copies of registration forms that will never be used, and makes it much easier to make last-minute corrections to the forms.

Note that the new policy does not affect distribution of the newsletter. The *Eastern League Phoenix* will still be mailed in paper form to all members.

Eastern League Competitions in 2005

(* = advance deposit received)

Note that the absence of an event from this calendar may mean only that official dates have not yet been submitted. Each event may submit its dates as late as 4 months in advance (the time at which its deposit is due).

2004-2005 Season

***SASKC — February 25-27, 2005**

St. Augustine Sport Kite Classic, St. Augustine Beach, FL
contact: Rob Autrey, 904-377-3433, pyroflyer@hotmail.com

***MASKC — April 29-May 1, 2005**

Mid Atlantic Stunt Kite Championship, Ocean City, MD
contact: Sky Festivals, 215-736-1850, skyfestivals@comcast.net

***ECSKC — May 27-30, 2005**

East Coast Stunt Kite Championship, Wildwood, NJ
contact: Sky Festivals, 215-736-1850, skyfestivals@comcast.net

***BASKC — June 10-12, 2005**

Boston Area Sport Kite Championship, Boston, MA
contact: Greg Lamoureux, 781-925-3277,
gjkites@seasidekites.com

***ODSKC — June 24-26, 2005**

Old Dominion Sport Kite Championship, Richmond, VA
contact: Terry Murray, 804-737-7172, murray.terry@att.net

NEW! NJSKC — July 23-24, 2005

New Jersey Stunt Kite Championship, Jersey City, NJ
contact: Rosanna Rosanova, 845-628-8245, ro@njskc.com

2005-2006 Season

OBSKC — September 9-11, 2005

Outer Banks Stunt Kite Competition, Nags Head, NC
contact: Kitty Hawk Kites, 800-334-4777, events@kittyhawk.com

GISKC — November 11-13, 2005

Georgia International Sport Kite Championship, Tybee Island, GA
contact: Tom & Susan Mason, 912-898-9142,
susan.s.mason@sas02.usace.army.mil

Check the Calendar page of the web site (www.easternleague.net) for the latest information.

Key to Discipline Abbreviations

<u>First Letter</u>	<u>Second Letter</u>	<u>Third Letter</u>
E = Experienced	I = Individual	B = Ballet
I = Intermediate	M = Multi-line	F = Freestyle
M = Masters	P = Pair	P = Precision
N = Novice	Q = Quad-line	T = Train
O = Open	T = Team	

For example:

NIB = Novice Individual Ballet
MMP = Masters Multi-line Precision
OTT = Open Team Train

Note: The term "quad-line" was replaced with "multi-line" in the 2002 editions of the IRBC rule books and the AKA Appendix.

Soaked And Submerged Kite Classic??

No, that's not what SASKC stands for, but that's the name that was—with subtlety and humor—tucked in beneath the real name on the page of scores I received from the event. And that pretty much says it all. This year's St. Augustine Sport Kite Classic was the victim of gale-force winds and drenching rain—the wettest conditions of any event in recent history.

Though the beach looked quite promising on Thursday, by Friday the wind and rain had already set in (good day for bowling!), and come Saturday morning, the beach was almost nonexistent. After evaluating the situation, Chief Judge Susan Mason moved the competition to the organizers' alternate site, an inland ballpark. Thank goodness there *was* an alternate site!

The location wasn't ideal, but moving to the park at least made it possible to run the event. Anticipating the even worse conditions that were predicted for Sunday, judges, field staff, and competitors—including brand-new Novice flier Thayer Flores from Kissimmee, FL—endured miserable conditions through much of Saturday in the hopes of getting all the competition done in one day. Competitors slipped and slid, and judges struggled to write scores on soggy paper. Everyone and everything were soaked. By the end of the day, though, five disciplines—EIP, MIB, OTP, OTB, and OIF—still had not been run.



Talk about Obstacles!

As if the rain weren't enough, the ballet field at St. Augustine offered some interesting challenges to competitors, who had no choice but to fly between and around two large mounds of dirt (visible at left and at right) in the middle of the field.

Anyone who has spent much time at kite events knows that the weather can change on a dime, so we all hoped for better-than-predicted conditions on Sunday. But Sunday morning bore out the weather forecasters' predictions (imagine that). We huddled for a while under the gazebo at the park, watching the heavy rain, surveying the soggy field, commiserating about the conditions, and resisting giving in to the elements or parting company. With no letup in sight, though, eventually the decision was made to cancel the remaining disciplines and the small crowd of competitors slowly began to dissipate.



Should a Rowboat Be Standard Kite Equipment?

Had competition been a possibility on Sunday, we would have had to figure out how to cross the not-insignificant moat that had materialized overnight!

What saved the weekend for many was having access to the local community center gym for indoor flying both Saturday evening and much of the day on Sunday. Years ago, a rainy weekend—the aftermath of a hurricane actually—inspired the first indoor fly in Newport, RI; and the weather of February 26–27, 2005, did much the same in St. Augustine, FL. A lot of folks had their first taste of indoor flying and were excited to learn something about it. With experienced indoor fliers like Shawn and Patty Tinkham, Ron Graziano, and Jay Nunes to help them out, they got some valuable tips to get started. It looks like indoor-flying fever has been ignited in the South. And if the last three moist and gusty events are any indication, maybe the Eastern League *Indoor Sport Kite Association* is something to think about!



Whaa ... Whatever ... What Now?

Besides masterminding SASKC and competing together as team DoZ GuyZ, what do Mark Williams, Rob Autrey, and Ted Goodman have in common? All three were completely exhausted and downright silly by the end of a weekend spent fighting uncooperative elements to put on an event. Here's to you, guyZZZZZ. Next year is bound to be better!



Photo by Randy Greenway

*It's tough
to do a comète
on 5-foot lines,
ain't it, Alex?*

EASTERN LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Check one: New membership Renewal

Check one: 1 year (\$15 per primary, \$8 per additional) 2 years (\$25 per primary, \$12 per additional)

Amount

Primary Member: _____

Additional Members: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

Postal Address: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Make your check payable to *Eastern League*. (We regret that we cannot accept credit card payments.)
A membership card will be enclosed with the first mailing sent after receipt of your check.

Mail this form with your payment to: **Eastern League Commissioner, 12 Greenwood Circle, Seymour, CT 06483**

Recent Competition Results and Current League Standings

Results and standings are also available online at www.easternleague.net.

SASKC (Feb. 25-27, 2005)

NIP

1. T.Cornell	45.70
2. S.Meeks	38.80
3. D.Meeks	35.60
4. T.Flores*	32.07

NIB

1. E.Edelman	48.53
2. S.Meeks	45.33
3. T.Cornell	43.47
4. T.Flores*	35.87
5. D.Meeks	28.53

EIP
Could not be run.

EIB

1. R.Autrey	71.00
2. K.Galeano	54.67
3. D.Charleville	50.93
4. M.Williams	47.27
5. T.Copeland*	43.40
6. D.Coates	24.00
7. A.Cross	20.13
8. T.Haymans	8.13
9. R.Greenway	0.00

MIP

1. R.Graziano	78.10
2. S.Tinkham	70.37
3. P.Tinkham	70.30
4. A.Mason	66.27

MIB
Could not be run.

EMP

1. D.Coates	60.47
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EMB

1. D.Coates	59.00
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MMP

1. A.Mason	80.23
2. S.Tinkham	76.90

MMB

1. A.Mason	83.73
2. S.Tinkham	73.40

EPP

1. Rainman Forrest	57.30
2. Airborne Virus	19.70

EPB

1. Odyssey	51.53
2. Rainman Forrest	46.27

MPP
No competitors.

MPB
No competitors.

OTP
Could not be run.

OTB
Could not be run.

OTT
No competitors.

OIF
Could not be run.

CURRENT LEAGUE STANDINGS

NIP

1. T.Cornell	68
2. S.Meeks	48
3. A.Burchfield	41
4. T.Vezzi	31
5. V.Stefanelli	21
L.Stonestreet	21
7. B.Sumpter	19
8. D.Meeks	17

NIB

1. E.Edelman	100
2. T.Cornell	56

3. S.Meeks	51
4. T.Vezzi	33
5. D.Meeks	32
6. A.Burchfield	31
7. E.Brown	17
8. B.Sumpter	8

EIP

1. A.Albosta	111
2. T.Haymans	32
3. R.Autrey	27
D.Charleville	27
D.Coates	27
6. M.Conklin	25
7. R.Greenway	21
8. T.Goodman	14
9. A.Husz	12
10. K.Galeano	11
11. W.Smoot	9
12. M.Williams	5

EIB

1. A.Albosta	97
2. R.Autrey	67
3. D.Coates	52
T.Haymans	52
5. A.Cross	50
6. K.Galeano	49
7. D.Charleville	46
8. M.Mosman	34
9. E.Bertholf	23
M.Williams	23
11. M.Conklin	16
12. A.Husz	10
13. R.Greenway	3

MIP

1. R.Graziano	145
2. S.Tinkham	105
3. P.Tinkham	83
4. M.Moore	51
5. A.Mason	48
6. A.Contzius	26

7. L.Bates	11
M.Epstein	11
9. M.Owens	10
10. H.Owens	7

MIB

1. R.Graziano	92
2. S.Tinkham	63
3. P.Tinkham	58
4. A.Contzius	43
5. R.Rosanova	29
6. M.Owens	26
7. A.Mason	25
8. M.Moore	23
9. M.Epstein	17
10. L.Bates	9
11. M.Jones	6
12. L.Willoughby	3

EMP

1. D.Coates	52
2. M.Mosman	26

EMB

1. D.Coates	73
2. K.Berg	27

MMP

1. S.Tinkham	103
2. A.Mason	48
3. J.Nunes	43
4. M.Orso	16

MMB

1. S.Tinkham	106
2. A.Mason	71
3. M.Orso	52
4. D.Smith	34
5. J.Nunes	30
6. B.Vanderslice	23
7. L.Bates	13

EPP

1. Rainman Forrest	58
2. Airborne Virus	22
The IRS	22

EPB

1. Odyssey	102
2. Rainman Forrest	51
3. Tangled Mess	29
4. Wing Nuts	22

MPP

1. Wright Brothers	31
2. Air Therapy	24
3. ShivaDivas	17

MPB

1. Skywalkers	74
2. Wright Brothers	37
3. Ms.Matched	36
4. Air Therapy	30
5. ShivaDivas	23
6. Poseidon	0

OTP

1. Team BOTT	29
2. DoZ GuyZ	27
3. Team Ginsu	22

OTB

1. Smitty & Girls	62
2. Jones Beach 4	48
3. DoZ GuyZ	27
4. Team BOTT	19
5. Team Ginsu	14

OTT

1. That's My Line	58
2. Heaven Help Us	29
3. Poseidon	24
4. The OldenBads	22

OIF

1. A.Albosta	53
2. C.Weir	26
3. M.Mosman	21

* Not an Eastern League member at the time of competition.

CREDITS AND INFORMATION

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The *Eastern League Phoenix* is published irregularly by the Eastern League Sport Kite Association. Inquiries should be directed to Stephanie Hiebert, Eastern League Commissioner, 12 Greenwood Circle, Seymour, CT 06483, 203-881-9608, commissioner@easternleague.net. Back issues can be found online at www.easternleague.net. The next issue is scheduled for publication in *mid-May*.

Annual membership dues are \$15 per individual, plus \$8 for each additional household member for one year; \$25 per individual, plus \$12 for each additional household member for two years. To join, send a check made out to "Eastern League" to the address above.

The **Eastern League Board** currently consists of the following members (the number of votes each person has is shown in parentheses following the name): Rob Autrey & Mark Williams (1, SASKC), Roger Chewning (3; MASKC, ECSKC, & NYSKC), Jim Cosca (1, OBSKC), Ted Goodman (1, flier rep), Stephanie Hiebert (1, commissioner), Greg Lamoureux (1, BASKC), Tom & Susan Mason (1, GISKC), Terry Murray (1, ODSKC), Rosanna Rosanova (1, NJSKC), and Shawn Tinkham (1, flier rep).

Visit the Eastern League's web site at www.easternleague.net for the most up-to-date information.

Eastern League Products for Sale

Field Director's Pocket Field Reference

Laminated 3x5 card, two-sided.

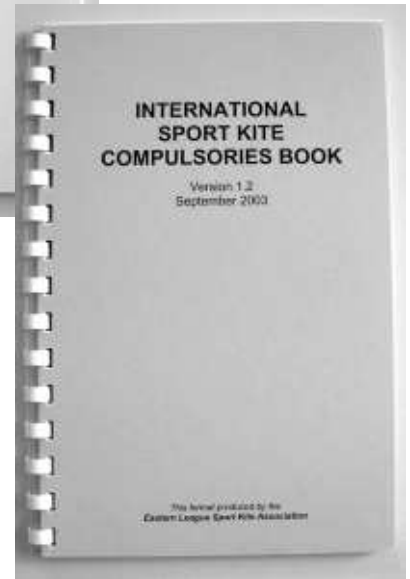
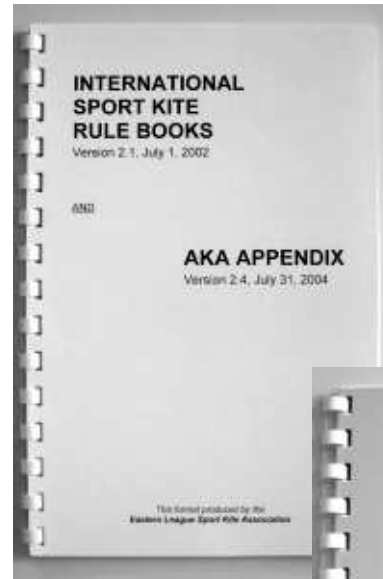
Members and nonmembers: \$1



International Rule Book

Contains both competitors' book and judges' book + AKA appendix; 5 3/4" x 8 1/2"; 70 pages; spiral-bound with clear plastic cover.

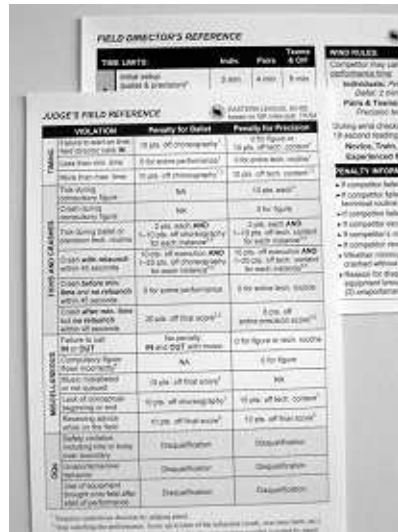
Members: \$5, nonmembers: \$6



International Compulsories Book

Diagrams and explanations of all compulsory figures; 5 3/4" x 8 1/2"; 94 pages; spiral-bound with clear plastic cover.

Members: \$6, nonmembers: \$8



Judge's/Field Director's Field Reference

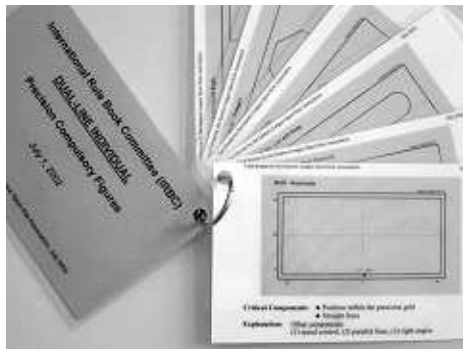
(partial picture) Laminated 5x8 card; judge's ref. one side, field director's ref. on the other.

Members and nonmembers: \$2

Compulsory Figure Sets

12 figures per set, on six double-sided, laminated cards; specify dual-line individual (DI), dual-line pair (DP), dual-line team (DT), multi-line individual (MI), multi-line pair (MP), or multi-line team (MT).

Members: \$4 per set / \$15 for all four AKA-sanctioned sets (DI, DP, DT, MI) / \$22 for collection of all six sets
nonmembers: \$5 / \$18 / \$26



Hats

Cotton twill; full logo on front; two colors: (1) black with khaki bill, (2) khaki with black bill.

Members: \$12, nonmembers: \$15



Cooler Bags

12-pack capacity; insulated, waterproof; front zipper pocket, rear mesh pocket; detachable/adjustable shoulder strap; two colors: (1) royal blue, (2) forest green.

Members: \$16, nonmembers: \$20



Pocket Knife

Seven functions; approx. 3/4" x 3"; dark red, engraved in gold with EL name.

Members: \$4, nonmembers: \$5



Carabiner Multitool

Carabiner + key ring and three tools; approx. 2" x 3" closed; cobalt blue, engraved in silver with EL name and web address.

Members: \$3, nonmembers: \$4

How to Get This Stuff

Eastern League merchandise is available at most EL-sanctioned events, or you can obtain any of these items via U.S. mail by contacting EL Commissioner Stephanie Hiebert at 203-881-9608 or commissioner@easternleague.net.