

From: Patrick Brown <n7fhb@wickenburg.net>
Date: August 22, 2012 4:28:24 AM MST
To: Art Bross <kc7gf@rfstuff.com>
Subject: 2012 Wickenburg Thunderbird 150 race route

Up Date and changes from yesterday

Here is my proposed race route. It is 152 miles. The link will take you to a flight plan of the route.

<http://skyvector.com/?ll=34.27791322106779,-113.06849062010053&chart=25&zoom=3&plan=A.K2.E25:G.34.37961579492992,-112.66118276030661:A.K2.E51:G.34.54790440384158,-113.4472>

Turnpoints with accurate GPS coordinates

Start Wickenburg Airport

Turn 1 Kirkland Junction

34 deg 22.28' N
112 deg 39.93' W

Turn 2 Bagdad Airport

34 deg 35.71' N
113 deg 9.92' W

Turn 3 US 93 and Burrow Creek Bridge

34 deg 32.73' N
113 deg 26.62' W

Turn 4 Bob Ways Airstrip at US 93 and Date Creek

34 deg 12.89' N
113 deg 3.71' W

Turn 5 Eagle Roost Airpark

33 deg 54.88' N
113 deg 10.07' W

I also attached a Google Earth photo.

Here is some information from a recent race in Indiana. After your group helped with my race I told other race hosts. Hams at other races have worked out great.

Link to the air race forum and excerpt of the ham comments:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SARL-Racers/message/9327>

"A new addition to the Indy Air Race this year was the Indiana Ham Radio Operators. Taking the idea from races in Taylor and Wickenburg, we began communicating with Mike Palmer several months ago. Assembled under Palmer's leadership, the Amateur Radio Emergency Services radio team was stationed at the Start, Finish, and each Turn.

In addition to using the race to hold an emergency exercise of their own, their presence and preparedness meant if help was needed it would never be far away, and any call would be handled in the most professional and highly trained manner.

Using ground spotters, voice and digital communications, hams reported status updates to a Command Center at the Start Line.

Voice communication around the entire course was made possible by linking ham radio repeaters together by using (IRLP) Internet Radio Linking Project technology. Repeaters are connected via the internet to a single station, thus making it possible for all ground volunteers to communicate all around the route. This is a controlled environment managed by the Command Center.

Digital communication was achieved by having the Turn Coordinators connected via GPS / Computer / Ham Radio. This technology allowed them to send "text messages" via ham radio to each other, and allowed them to "see" each other on their computers. By going to www.aprs.fi, they view a map and locate each other so they know exactly where each is.

This team was fabulous and everyone who saw them in action was highly impressed. The Indiana Ham Radio Operators are now considered a "must-have" for every Indy Air Race in the future".

Thanks,

Jason Rovey
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