

Introducing the NWSS ALES Achievement Program

This year, the NWSS will begin a new contest achievement program to promote popular ALES (Altitude Limited Electric Soaring) class events. The intent is to reward contest participation and ALES in general using a format very similar to that offered by the League of Silent Flight (LSF), specifically in the way they tabulate contest points in their Level achievement program. In our new ALES achievement program, with each day of contest participation, an NWSS member may calculate a points amount towards a total that, once a minimum amount is accumulated, will result in an NWSS ALES MASTER classification. Once that minimum is accumulated, a form can be submitted to the NWSS



scorekeeper. Upon verification, a notification will be published in our newsletter and listed on the website. At the end of the contest season, at the NWSS Banquet held on Tournament Saturday, the achievement will be honored and the recipient awarded a special pin denoting his or her ALES Master status.

Points are calculated in the following fashion:

$$(\text{Participant Score} / \text{Winner Score}) \times 100 \times (1 + \text{number of participants with lower score}) = \text{POINTS}$$

Once a total of 3000 points are accumulated, the winner is awarded the classification of NWSS ALES Master.

The following rules apply:

- 1) Any event format or scoring method is allowed although we recommend that CD's or organizers use the new AMA Event 631 ALES format and scoring method. The only stipulations are that at least 3 scoring rounds be flown on that day (or weekend if it spans more than one day), that there be at least two participants and that all ALES participants be scored as a group with each other only (no mixing of classes.) Flights may be flown separately as a flight group (man-on-man) or mixed with other classes in typical thermal soaring fashion. The number of participants in an event is defined as those contestants that scored (any) points. No-shows, early withdrawals, etc. are not counted.
- 2) It is allowed to submit each days results as a separate event if the CD scores it as a two-day contest.
- 3) This program is open to NWSS (with AMA) members only, though the submitted contest need not be held in the Northwest (e.g. traveling to out-of-area contests is OK) nor held as part of the NWSS Soaring Schedule (club contest are OK). We encourage participants to travel throughout the NW and sample all of the ALES events now being held throughout the region.

This program starts immediately. Contests held earlier than this announcement are allowed for submission provided you can obtain the correct scores and CD signature. Have fun and good luck!