



NAVY CARRIER

The Navy Carrier event came into being in the early 1950's. The first Nats including Carrier was in 1952, sponsored by the U. S. Navy. The Navy hosted the Nats for 25 years ending in 1972 with the Chicago area Nats held at Glenview N. A. S., Illinois.

The Carrier event today is sponsored at the Nats by the Navy Carrier Society, a group that was formed in 1977 to promote the Navy Carrier Event.

There are three official Carrier events:

Class I (319)

Scale models with 44" maximum wingspan and a maximum engine size of .40 cu. in..

Class II (320)

Scale models with a maximum wingspan of 44" and a maximum engine size of .65 cu. in.

Profile (321)

Profile scale models with a maximum wingspan of 50" and a front intake maximum engine size of .3661 cu. in.

There are unofficial events including:

Sportsman Carrier

Profile models flown under the same rules as (321) Profile except only the throttle, elevator and hook are movable in flight. Fixed leadouts. No line slides.

.15 carrier

Profile models with a front intake .15 size engine flown on 52 (52-6) ft. lines with a maximum speed of 70 mph. Only throttle, hook and elevator may be movable in flight.

Nostalgia Carrier

The three official events flown using the 1974/1975 rules.

Sig Skyray

1. Stock Sig Skyray kit (or Clone) only modification permitted is to add two wheel gear. No bonus points.

2. Fixed leadouts (Like .15), only throttle, elevator and hook may be movable in flight.

3. Max. engine size .40. Mufflers allowed, 10% fuel supplied by contest.

4. 75 MPH speed limit (ie. max high speed score=75)

5. AMA general rules and safety guidelines apply.

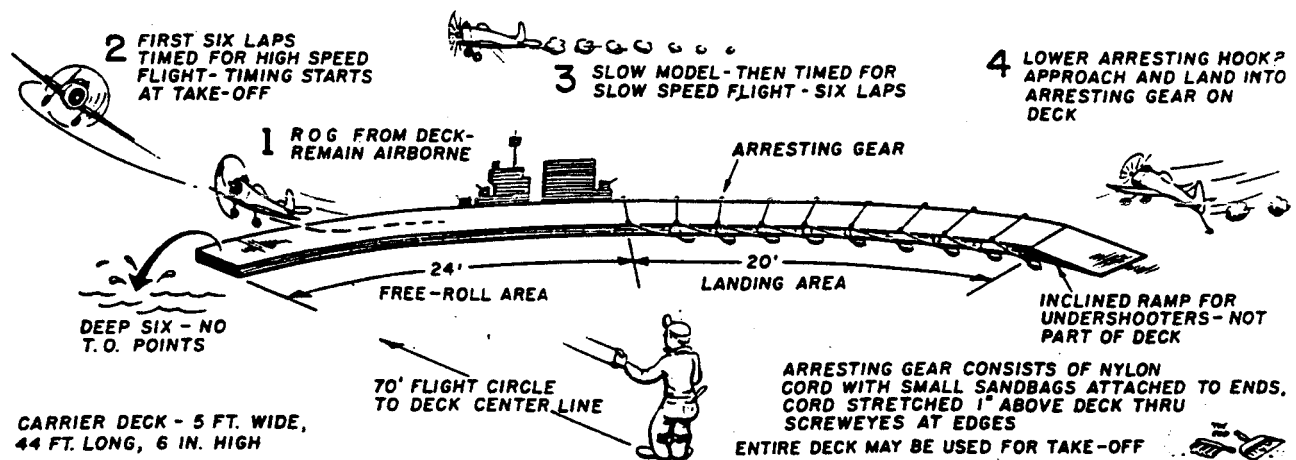
Carrier can be and is a lot of fun to fly. The first time you hook a line and the plane just sits there idling on the deck, you're hooked.

You can practice with any profile having at least 300 square inches of wing area, a three line bellcrank and handle, a reliable .35 or .36 front intake engine and 60 (60-6) ft. lines. Add a hook and go try it. Brodak has a profile Guardian kit that would make a good beginner or practice model, as well

as a serious competition model.

You can make a simple practice deck using two 6 foot 1x2s with screw eyes, one on each end and one in the middle. Add three arresting lines (1/8" dia. nylon) 18 feet long through the screw eyes with sand bags weighing approximately 5 pounds at each end of the lines. To set up the deck, put the inside 1x2 at 56 feet from the center of the circle and the second one 64 feet from the center of the circle. This will place your model on the center of the deck (60 ft.). With a little practice you will be able to land on the practice deck. When you master the small deck you should have no trouble landing on a full size deck which has 10 lines 2 feet apart. If you try for the center line you will be able to land without coming in short and hitting the ramp at the end of the deck or floating over the last line and having to go around. Each time you go around after attempting to land you will lose 5 points from your total score.

If you want to try .15 carrier there are no limitations on the type of model so you could use any .15 size model with a throttle. The .15 size model is a bit more difficult to fly than the larger models but can be a lot of fun to practice slow speed or landing approaches.



This depiction of Navy Carrier is from the article "Flying the Carrier Event" by S. Calhoun Smith, in the July, 1951 *Air Trails*. By changing a few dimensions, it is still valid today. Submitted by Patrick Meehan.

This drawing appeared in a 1999 article in the Navy Carrier Society newsletter. As it states things have not changed a lot as far as the way Carrier is flown today. Other than .15 carrier, all events are on 60 (60-6) ft. lines and timed for seven laps. You may not however use the entire deck for takeoff.