



Photo: Bob Symons

25th ANNUAL U. S. NATIONAL SOARING COMPETITIONS

The 1958 Nationals were concluded just prior to the publication date of this issue of SOARING so it is possible to list some of the final results here. The new National Soaring Champion is Dick Schreder from Toledo, Ohio, who flew his new HP-8 sailplane to victory in a closely contested battle for first place. There were seven official contest days. The first nine places were as follows:

OPEN CLASS

1. R. E. Schreder, HP-8	5905
2. H. Hutchinson, Prue 215	5797
3. H. W. Jensen, LO-150	5417
4. Graham Thomson, RJ-5	5229
5. Robert L. Moore, 1-21	5168
6. D. J. Mancuso, 1-23	4751
7. Sterling Starr, 1-26	4591
8. V. Swierkowski, Nimbus III	4047
9. J. Sawyer, Nimbus II (6 da.)	3831

In the 15 Meter Class, which was scored separately, the winner was Harold Hutchinson from Santa Monica, California. Hutch led all the way

flying his sleek Prue 215. The first nine places were as follows:

15 METER CLASS

1. H. Hutchinson, Prue 215	6340
2. D. J. Mancuso, 1-23	5179
3. Sterling Starr, 1-26	5086
4. V. Swierkowski, Nimbus III	4448
5. Robert Gomes, 1-26	3094
6. Bill Ivans, Ka-6B (3 da.)	2988
7. R. Briegleb, BG-12A (6 da.)	2962
8. Dave Lobmaster, 1-26	2925
9. Harner Selvidge, 1-26	2665

The Two-place Class was won by Marcel Godinat of Phoenix, Arizona, flying a P-R: 2083 points.

The Club/Team Class was won by the team of Kit Drew, Bill Ivans and Rudy Mozer, using Rudy's Ka-6B: 5493 points.

The contest was characterized by excellent soaring weather. Most of the contestants received their first indoctrination of mountain soaring. The above photo is the final in a series by the late Bob Symons and

shows the terrain looking SSE down the Owens valley with the Sierras on the right and the Whites and Inyo mountains on the left. Numbered items are as follows: (1) Bishop airport, elevation 4120 feet; (2) the town of Bishop; (3) the town of Big Pine; (4) Owens (dry) Lake; (5) Middle Palisade and glaciers; (6) Coyote Meadows; (7) Laws (settlement and railroad depot); (8) Mt. Whitney, elevation 14,495 ft.; (9) the town of Independence; and (10) Saline Valley.

One new National soaring record was established (subject to homologation) during the contest by Jean Arnold in the feminine single-place goal category with a 92.5 mile flight in a 1-26. The World Class goal and return record of 320 miles was exceeded by two pilots, Schreder and Jensen, who completed the task of one day, a 387 mile goal and return race to El Mirage Field and back; but a new record could not be claimed because all the rules were not met.

The next issue of SOARING will feature the complete illustrated story of this year's Nationals.