

2026

Frank Ehling

International 1/2A Texaco Postal Challenge

The International 1/2A Texaco Postal Challenge for 2026, marks the forty-first year for the Challenge.

The Covid-19 pandemic was a factor of the reduced number of teams participating in the event. Also due to Covid the 2022 event was not flown. In 2020 we had five teams fly, they were; SAM 27 (Napa, Sonoma, Marin Counties, CA), SAM 78 & 95 (Czech Republic), SAM 119 Mocenok, Slovakia), and SAM 114 (Germantown, OH). SAM 114 served as host being the 2019 winner. In 2021 we only had three teams participating and SAM 114 was again the winner. SAM 114 had been very busy with preparing for the 2023 SAM Champs and other events so they were happy to have another club run the event. For 2023 SAM 27 and Mike Clancy volunteered to do the job. There was no event in 2024 due to Mike Clancy's illness and injuries. Everything seems to be back in order so we will run the event. *We are looking forward to significant participation this year. Please join us.*

The rules for the International 1/2A Texaco Postal Challenge are per the **2025 SAM Official Rule Book**: minimum 8 ounces per square foot of plan-form wing area, .049 Cox reed valve engine, 5.1 cc integral fuel tank, and propeller limited to 8 inch maximum diameter. ROG or hand launch permitted

An individual's score is the sum best two of three 15 minute max flights. A max flight is worth 900 points. The team score is sum of the top three flyer's scores. Flying must be completed on the day chosen by the team within a window which **begins on September 1 and closes on November 30**. This broad window is intended to provide favorable flying conditions in both the Northern and Southern hemispheres.

Rule deviation in order to increase participation — a plane may be flown by multiple pilots as separate entries. E.g., a club that has only one Half A Texaco flyer could have two additional pilots fly his plane and as a result would have a full entry for the contest.

I will be sending out this announcement several times prior to the window.

This is a very enjoyable event as team members work together. This competition has been around for a long time. Let's keep it going.

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Half A Texaco flyers of SAM 27