

Commandant's Award 2012

Report

1. Introduction

Commandant's Award 2012 (CA) was held at the Hall of Chu Hai College of Higher Education on 11 Aug 2012 (Saturday). 13 teams from 6 different Wings under the Operations Group and Training Group have entered the competition. In addition to the teams, there were approximately 100 guests and HKACC members giving their support to CA by attending the presentations.

2. Adjudicators



Commandant (4th from right), adjudicators (Capt. Hood Hon - middle; Mr John Wagstaff - 4th from left & Dr Anna Tso - 3rd from right) and HKACC officers.

Photo taken by Instr Edward LAU of Photo Flt.

The adjudicators for CA were:

Capt. Hood HON Senior Training Captain, Cathay Pacific Airways
Mr John WAGSTAFF President of Hong Kong Air Traffic Control Association
Dr Anna TSO Assistant Professor, Department of English, Chu Hai College of Higher Education

The adjudicators were responsible to mark the scores for all teams, which is listed in the next paragraph.

3. Team List and Results

The first 3 teams were:

Position	Unit	Topics
Champion	105 Sqn	Ground to air / air to ground emergency signals (including lighting and pyrotechnic)
1 st Runner-up	C Sqn	Secondary effects of flying
2 nd Runner-up	108 Sqn	Visual Flight Rules and Instrument Flight Rules

The complete list of participating teams is as follows:

Rank	Sqn	Topic	Score
1	105	Ground to air / air to ground emergency signals (including lighting and pyrotechnic)	154
2	C	Secondary effects of flying	149
3	108	Visual Flight Rules and Instrument Flight Rules	146
4	501	ATIS	145
5	103	Flight computer, determine the heading based on route, wind speed and wind direction	137
6	206	Navigation lights, quadrantal height rule and separation rule	135
6	404	Pressure gauges, effects of flying due to errors or malfunction of the gauges	135
8	308	Fronts and the weather charts: efforts of fronts on aircraft	134
9	507	Right of way rules for aircraft	133

10	304	Aircraft maintain on its course by ground equipment and the radio	132
11	401	Air spaces and their constraints to flying	121
12	402	Signs of aviation map (the landscape of an imaginary 50 nautical mile route)	111
13	506	Common systems in aircraft	105

The scores among teams were close. The time control of most teams was good except one team receiving penalty due to presentation overrun.

4. Highlights of Speech by Commandant



Commandant chatting with one of the participating teams before his speech.

Photo taken by Sgt Instr KEUNG of Photo Flt.

It was our greatest honour to have **Air Cdre Norman LO, JP AE**, Commandant of the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps to come to CA and gave us a speech.

The Commandant appreciated the preparation done and the presentation made by the participating teams. He highlighted that English is the most commonly used

language in the aviation field. He believed the experience of this competition would prepare the participating cadets for future challenges, which could be an interview or the pursuing of their career in the aviation industry. At the end, the Commandant stressed that the process, instead of the result, was the most crucial experience to the participants.

5. Highlights of Speeches by Adjudicators

Capt. HON was happy to see some good presentations by the participating teams. He reckoned that to make a good 10-minute presentation, a lot of preparation work was required. He suggested participating teams to enhance their preparation to avoid mistakes, e.g. altitude / attitude and pitot tube / pilot tube. He also commented that some presentations were lengthy and full of information. He believed the teams have learnt from the competition and the experience would benefit the participants for the rest of their lives.

Mr WAGSTAFF pointed out that English was a developing language and new words could be seen from time to time. He quoted the Oxford English Dictionary and shared with the audience the new words in the last update of the Dictionary: *catastrophizing*, *overthink*, *cool hunter*, *bromance* and *exit strategy*. At the end of his speech he congratulated to all participants, and reckoned that all participants were winners although only a few would be given prizes.

Dr TSO appreciated the presentations introducing aviation knowledge to her. She had the following observations to the presentations: (1) too much information contained in some presentations; (2) lack of eye contact with the audience and teammates by presenters; and (3) pronunciation issues e.g. the *r* sound in *right hand side* and *aircraft*.

6. Other Comments by Adjudicators to the Participating Teams

- Good rapport among teammates despite being a bit nervous
- Good to invite adjudicators and audience to answer questions
- Be mindful of the use of articles e.g. “Good afternoon, ~~the~~ judges...”
- Useful to have accurate and neat translation of difficult jargons given on slides

- Good to introduce the content at the beginning and wrap up at the end
- Pronunciation issues: *explain, game, controlled, yourself, class, flight, used*
- May try presenting without reading from scripts as eye contact is important
- Choppy face

Individual teams may approach the undersigned by email for specific comments made to them by the adjudicators.

7. Presentation of Prizes & Souvenirs and Photo-taking

The Commandant presented the new trophy to 105 Sqn, the Champion of Commandant's Award 2012, after the speeches. The prizes for first and second runners-up were conferred by Capt. HON and Mr WAGSTAFF respectively, whereas the consolation prizes for the remaining 10 teams were conferred by Dr TSO.

The Champion was given \$1000 worth of book coupon, whereas the first and second runners-up were given \$800 and \$500 worth of book coupon respectively as a token of recognition. Teams outside the top 3 were given \$100 worth of book coupon regardless of ranking as a token of encouragement.

Hon Gp Capt CHAN Kwok Chiu, Senior Honorary Officer of the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps, was very kind to represent the Corps to confer the souvenirs to the 3 adjudicators and the representative of Chu Hai College of Higher Education.

A photo-taking session was held immediately afterwards with the Commandant, Senior Honorary Officer, Honorary Officers, adjudicators, other officers and the first 3 teams.



Photo of the Commandant, SHO, Honorary Officers, adjudicators, other HKACC officers and the first 3 teams. Photo taken by Sgt Instr KEUNG of Photo Flt.

8. Acknowledgements

The Aviation Education Wing would like to thank the Centenary of Powered Flight in Hong Kong, a campaign led by the Civil Aviation Department, for the kind sponsorship of the competition.

Special thanks for the Department of English of Chu Hai College of Higher Education, which was very kind to provide the venue for CA.

Our Wing would also like to thank the Commandant and Hon Gp Capt CHAN Kwok Chiu for their precious time to attend the competition.

In addition, the competition would not be a successful one without the support from Adult Training Wing, General Service Training Wing, Skills Development Wing, Vocational Qualification Unit, Photo Flight and the participating teams.

More photos are available at AE Wg's facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/hkacc.aewing> and Photo Flt's facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/HKACCPhotoFlight>.

9. Conclusion

The competition aimed at arousing cadets' interest in the aeronautical field and enhancing the English speaking ability among the cadets. Subsequent to the competition, participating teams and other cadets are encouraged to seek further aviation knowledge and to practice their English which are beneficial to their future development in the Corps and the aviation industry.

Comments are welcome from all parties for the good of the competition. Meanwhile, we would like to wish the participating teams all the best in their studies and Corps lives.

Steven PANG
Fg Off
for OC AE Wg