

April 26th, 2015

Hello GSBC Prize Evaluation Committee:

Team SHARP very much enjoyed competing in this year's Global Space Balloon Challenge. We request consideration for the following prizes:

- 1) **Most Helpful Team:** We mentored four other Winnipeg high school teams with their designs, builds, launches and recovery. We met several times face to face and we answered many, many e-mails prior to the launch. We provided our balloon filling apparatus to the other teams so they could make copies. We helped them at the launch site and with the tracking, chase and recovery. We provided three teams the use of an amateur radio call sign for their Byonics APRS trackers (VE4SHS-5, VE4SHS-15 and VE4SHS-6 for The Net Force, Gopher Space and The Jimmies, respectively). The wind was gusting at launch and one team lost its 1200 gram balloon (but not their payload). Team SHARP provided the Net Force team with one of our spare 1200 gram balloons and some helium. Team SHARP can take considerable credit for getting the other four Winnipeg GSBC teams airborne for the first time.
- 2) **Most HABs Launched from a Single Site in One Day:** As per above. Five 1200 gram balloons were launched between 16:20 and 16:45 UTC from behind Morden Collegiate in Morden Manitoba on April 24th, 2015. Each team (SHARP, Net Force, Gopher Space, F.R.E.E. and the Jimmies) launched their own balloons. SHARP organized the event, chose the launch site based on atmospheric conditions and supported all the teams.
- 3) **Most Charitable Team:** Team SHARP's SOAR-1 payload was dedicated to increasing awareness for the Canadian Cancer Society and The Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation. The Canadian Cancer Society is holding its national campaign this month. We worked closely with their representatives in Winnipeg leading up to the launch and we are providing them with photos on this novel campaign for their literature, etc. The pink SOAR-1 payload was decorated by students in the charities logos and ribbons marking our participation in a larger school wide campaign which SHARP helped initiate. The Shaftesbury High School effort continues till the end of April and involves fundraisers and a "Brave the Shave". Many photos are being taken and posted on the SHARP web site.
- 4) **Most Educational Initiative:** By mentoring four other high school teams, SHARP has made it possible for scores of Winnipeg students to participate in this year's Global Space Balloon Challenge. A HAB program has begun at a sixth school (Miles MacDonnel) but they were not ready in time. They did send a teacher (Brian Dentry) to observe. In addition, we have had "followers" in other Manitoba schools including a school in Wanipigow (a small first nations community on the east side of Lake Winnipeg), and at Morden Collegiate where many students were able to "cut class", come outside and view the launches. The Wanipigow school attempted to use the SOAR-1 amateur radio repeater. Their science and geography teacher (Dante McLean, VE4FDM), set up a radio his students.

Evidence for our submissions is accumulating on the SHARP Wiki at <http://shsballoonproject.pbworks.com>

Thanks for your consideration;

Robert Striemer (VE4SHS)

Teacher | | Shaftesbury High School

Winnipeg, Canada