General Notes

Some quick points to make about what we're attempting and how we will go about things over the next several days:

First and foremost, the idea is to have fun, get some flights in, fly to some targets, experiment with new ideas, and again...have fun!

Remember, we are essentially flying "fun flights" without a waiver. Each pilot will be responsible for their own weather briefings, calling flight service, or any other pre-flight activities you determine necessary prior to a typical flight you would do on your own.

You will be provided tasks that you may fly if you so choose. Tasks will be posted to the electronic notice board (ENB) around 6am or shortly thereafter. Evening flights will mostly be for fun with less organization as far as task calling is concerned. Through the week there may be a hard target or electronic task that is posted for fun, but those electronic only tasks will not be scored for any sort of sanction points. Using logger marks gives us the option to score hard targets beyond the Measured Marker Area, which may be limited in size given our small scoring team. However, we may run a Pilot Declared Goal, Fly ON, or even a Land Run or Elbow at the end of a flight. This is a good reminder to please read all of the task rules and how they work. If you have questions, please see information at the bottom of this page.

If the weather looks marginal where tasks will not be called, we will attempt to post this information to the ENB by 5:30am. You could consider 6am and 6pm to be your unofficial "briefing times." Locations where pilots can ask questions may be posted, with one possibility the Country Inn/YMCA parking lot. Remember, this is a BYOM – bring your own marker event and no roll call will be read, therefore, attendance is highly optional.

Furthermore, you can watch the notice board to see the status of the tasks. If the tasks are "Pending" then the tasks are not yet open for scoring. The following is an explanation to the possible statuses you may see for a flight:

PENDING

Flight and task setup is complete. Ready to fly. Targets will not be open until the flight goes to a "Live" status. One could potentially be driving around looking for a launch site to prepare for flight once the tasks go "Live."

LIVE

Flight is in progress. Measurements can be recorded.

COMPLETE

Flight is complete. No more measurements can be recorded. Ready for scoring.

CANCELLED

Tasks have been cancelled. Visible to all.

Land owner relations is extremely important and given the current circumstances extra caution must be used. If a group of balloons are wanting to use a common field, please only send one representative to the door and ask for blanket permission. It is highly encouraged that whoever goes to the door is wearing a mask, out of respect of who is on the other side of the door. There may be a location or two used as a Common Launch Area where masks will be required by all who enter, so please have those available to you and your crew if you choose to launch from the specified CLA where this would be required.

Finally, Friday afternoon there will be an informal open forum/Q&A session about the Balloon Live app, and possibly OziExplorer/OziTarget. This will be held at The Country Inn & Suites in Indianola. The time is tentatively set between 2pm – 5pm. No presentation, just show and ask questions and get familiarized. If there is still interest and people are not able to attend, there will be another one Saturday afternoon from 4pm – 6 pm.