



Incident Report Wayne Nebraska May 20, 2022

On May 19th, 2022 STOL Drag LLC arrived in Wayne Nebraska to run an aviation event, the MayDay STOL Drag Races at the Wayne Municipal Stan Morris field.

After successfully completing the required training for all new and certified pilots on May 19th and the morning of the 20th during our waived and notamed times slots, all pilots were then ready to start the qualifying process in order to participate in the racing portion of the event itself. STOL Drag LLC had a waived/notamed time slot later that afternoon starting at 5pm in which they were hopeful for. However, wind forecasts were not conducive to run our racing qualifications when the time slot came available. During the pilot brief, the decision was made to cancel the qualification portion and call it for the day. Having winds blowing 18-23 mph favoring runway 31 (almost directly down runway 31), a number of the event pilots still wanted to go fly. STOL Drag LLC made it very clear during that briefing, with all pilots and the FAA in attendance, that this was flying at your own risk and the event was over for the day. The pilot group decided to organize a short take-off and landing practice session. At approximately 6:45pm, while on final to runway 31, the pilot, Tom Defoe, appeared to enter a stall/spin and died as the result of the accident.

STOL Drag LLC and the MayDay event made the decision to cancel the remainder of the planned activities. STOL Drag LLC, is continuing to work with both the FAA and the NTSB during and ongoing investigation.

STOL Drag LLC.