

Dura-fly Retro Junior

From HobbyKing

This past summer I watched our club members fly their fleets of airplanes and came to the conclusion that I had a problem. All of my airplanes fall into two categories – the one I like to fly and the others I won't ever fly. As if in answer to this problem I received an email from HobbyKing about a new airplane they were introducing - the Dura-fly Retro Junior Plug and Fly. I read the info and watched the video five or six times and then ordered it. The total bill, including three Turnigy Nano-Tech 1300mah 25-50 C batteries, and shipping, came to a hundred sixty-seven dollars and change. The order was placed last week on Tuesday and the box came today (Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving.) HobbyKing shipped it parcel post and it arrived with one little dink in the top. Otherwise the box was undamaged.

The original box, the one featuring the model photo and general info, was packed with bubble wrap inside a larger box. The dink was of no concern. After unpacking and inspecting all the parts I found everything to be in perfect condition. To my surprise a nice quality small Phillips screwdriver and a prop wrench were included.

I installed the landing gear, which fit onto the airplane exactly as it should, and then assembled all the other parts. It was ready to fly in less than an hour. I then checked the manual to see if I got everything right. I did. I can say positively - that putting this airplane together is not rocket science.

The manual, after I actually got around to reading it, is the best one yet from HobbyKing. Probably written by the crew here in the U.S. For those of you demanding more than just English it is also presented in French and German.

The Retro Junior looks every bit the old timer, but of course it isn't. It's less than half the size of those old free flight model planes and it's made of plastic foam. And if you get real picky... it has ailerons. Above all, though, it looks like a real flyer.

The Retro Junior, along with its owner, will be out at the field the first weekend the temperature is mild and the wind drops below a hundred miles an hour.

Jim VanDeman