Kite Pian

arold Ames and David Ashworth think big by getting small. For March's Blossom Kite Festival, they made fourteen 2' rokkakus. Flown on spools of sewing thread by children plucked from the audience, the kites performed just like larger rokkakus during the epic pint-sized battle. Ultimately, a 5-year-old was left with the last kite in the sky, and he was paraded around the field on his jubilant father's shoulders.

Materials

- 22" of 3.1 g/m² polycarbonate coated polyester ripstop fabric (Icarex PC-31). Accept no substitutes. This fabric is normally available in 54" widths, so you can get two kites from one 22" piece
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ 48" long, 0.070" diameter carbon fiber rods, custom cut to fit each kite.
- 2.5" Superthane tubing Clear NSF-61 Polyurethane Tubing, 0.063" ID, 0.125" OD, 0.031" Wall. You will need to cut four pieces 0.25" long to make bridle stoppers and two pieces 0.65" long for spar tee fittings.
- Six 0.062" vinyl end caps
- Six pieces of .375" wide grosgrain ribbon cut to 1.25" for spar pockets



- 20# International Game Fish Association (IGFA) Green spot line (tight tolerance polyester) or Flyline Backer line for bridles. Recommend using white for the bridle and flourescent yellow for the tow point loop
- · Polyester sewing thread
- One spool cheap cotton sewing thread to use as flying line. Cheap and disposable as the lines will get tangled up and it is NOT worth the time to untangle, which delays the flow of the battle. Cut the time between heats down to get your short attention span contestants back in the battle sooner! You should bring spares. **K**



