FAI Gliding Commission

ZAQ/0345/09/2023

At the outset, I would like to thank you for the trust you have placed in us to organise the Junior World Championships, and the 13.5m World Championships on the same date. I would like to assure you that, as in our national competitions, the championships will be organised at the highest level. We have held the competition twice this year, with more than 70 pilots competing in each event. We also had guests from France and Romania. We are currently already in the preparation phase for the main event on 13–27 July 2024.

I am addressing my request to you in order to adjust the fees for participation in the competitions. Since your acceptance of the bid to host in 2019 a lot of factors considered when making the bid have changed. Our competition got shifted from 2023 to 2024 because of COVID. Also the economic situation has changed quite dramatically through the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine. I would therefore like to adjust the fees to the following level:

ENTRY FEE 850 EURO
TOWING 80 EURO
CAMPING 10 EURO

Between 2019 and 2022, a number of things have happened that have significantly increased the cost of doing business globally and aviation, broadly defined, has also been affected. One of the elements influencing the cost of organising the competition is the price of AVGAS aviation fuel, which has risen considerably compared to the period in question. Of course, during the COVID-19 pandemic for a short period it was cheaper. However, after the number of flights rose after the pandemic and the outbreak of war in Ukraine, there was an upward trend and, comparing the extreme prices, the difference when buying one litre is PLN 2.65 net, as we can see in the graph below.
Another significant factor that has affected the costs of organising competitions in general is the rising inflation rate, which of course has become a problem not only in Poland, but in our reality, comparing only to the EU average, it has been much higher. This is the annual average in recent years.
Inflation, ever-increasing labour costs, and other economic factors have also led to significant increases in other services that accompany the competition, such as catering, electricity, and aviation insurance, which are up by 40%.

In addition, the increase in the entry fee is also dictated by the increase in the FAI sanctioning fee for competitor participation to €55 per pilot.

I do not wish to burden you with further comparisons or statistics, as there would certainly be material for a separate article on this. I would very much like to ask you to look favourably on price adjustments at the JWGC and WGC.