

# 2019 FAI DRONE RACING WORLD CUP REPORT

by Bruno DELOR

2019 has been the fourth edition of the FAI Drone Racing World Cup (F9U class).

## CALENDAR

### World Cup Challenger Series

There were initially 26 contests from 21 different countries registered in the FAI Calendar for 2019.

The three following contests have been cancelled:

- HellGate FPV Drone Cup Slovakia in Levice (Slovakia) on 6 & 7 July due to issues to organize the contest.
- Grand Prix de France Drones Racing in Landres (France) on 13 & 14 July due to a non sufficient number of competitors registered.
- Royal Adelaide Show FPV in Adelaide (Australia) on 30 August to 8 September due to a lack of volunteers for the organization.

So, finally, 23 contests from 19 different countries have been considered for the World Cup ranking.

Event	Location	Dates	Code
Race Of Drones Oulu	Oulu (Finland)	12 March	FIN
MajFlaj	Skopje (North Macedonia)	11-12 May	MKD-1
World Cup Drones FAI F9U El Yelmo	El Yelmo, Andalucía (Spain)	31 May-2 June	ESP-1
Seoul Drone Race World Cup	Seoul (Korea)	1-2 June	KOR-1
World Cup Latvia Drone Racing	Cesis (Latvia)	15-16 June	LAT
Partouche Drone Race World Cup	Forges-les-Eaux (France)	6-7 July	FRA
German Drone World Cup	Nördlingen (Germany)	13-14 July	GER-1
Belgium FAI Drone Racing World Cup	Gouy-lez-Pieton (Belgium)	20-21 July	BEL
Belarus Drone Racing World Cup	Minsk (Belarus)	10-11 August	BLR
Moscow Cup	Moscow Region (Russia)	17-18 August	RUS
German Drone Championship	Craillsheim (Germany)	17-18 August	GER-2
UK Drone Racing Open International	Barkston Heath, Grantham (United Kingdom)	24-25 August	GBR
F9U World Cup Italy	Magreta di Sassuolo, Modena (Italy)	7-8 September	ITA
EPFL Drone Racing Cup	Lausanne (Switzerland)	13-15 September	SUI
Mazovia Drone Racing	Warsaw (Poland)	14-15 September	POL
Pam Cup	Plovdiv (Bulgaria)	14-15 September	BUL
Daegu Drone Race World Cup	Daegu City (Korea)	21-22 September	KOR-2
Lithuania Drone Racing World Cup	Vilnius (Lithuania)	21-22 September	LTU
Phoenix Drone Racing	Prilep (North Macedonia)	12-13 October	MKD-2
Sevilla Drone World Cup	Sevilla (Spain)	25-27 October	ESP-2
Drone Tokyo 2019 Racing & Conference	Tokyo (Japan)	1-2 November	JPN
FAI Hong Kong Open Drone Racing Championship	Hong Kong	16-17 November	HKG
TIRT Drone Racing World Cup	Taoyuan (Chinese Taipei)	7-8 December	TPE

### World Cup Masters Series

World Cup Masters Series has been introduced this year. Finally, one Masters event hold in 2019: FAI Jeonju World Drone Masters in Jeonju city (Korea) 1 to 3 November. The number format was 50 competitors with 20 slots for the best placed competitors in the current World Cup ranking.

Note: The FAI North American Drone Masters was initially planned 10 and 11 August in Hamburg, New York (USA). MultiGP President has informed FAI mid July the event will be finally run as a US MultiGP event, but not as a FAI event. So, the event has not been sanctioned as a FAI Masters Series event.

## PARTICIPATION

	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>Number of contests</b>	9	16	22	<b>24</b> + 9 %
<b>Number of organising countries</b>	7	12	17	<b>19</b> + 12 %
<b>Number of registrations</b>	327	575	1004	<b>913</b> - 9 %
<b>Averagenumber of partipants per contest</b>	36	36	46	<b>38</b>
<b>Number of competitors placed</b>	229	434	669	<b>566</b> - 15 %
<b>Number of concerned countries</b>	17	37	41	<b>46</b> + 12 %
<b>Number of juniors (under 18 years)</b>	18	76	133	<b>149</b> + 12 %
<b>Ratio of juniors</b>	8%	18%	20%	26%
<b>Number of concerned countries</b>	4	18	23	<b>28</b> + 22 %
<b>Number of women</b>		6	13	<b>15</b> + 15 %
<b>Number of concerned countries</b>		6	9	<b>11</b> + 22 %
<b>Number of participants placed in:</b>				
<b>9 contests</b>				<b>1</b>
<b>8 contests</b>				<b>1</b>
<b>7 contests</b>			1	<b>4</b>
<b>6 contests</b>	1		9	<b>5</b>
<b>5 contests</b>		7	10	<b>9</b>
<b>4 contests</b>	2	7	12	<b>15</b>
<b>3 contests</b>	11	11	34	<b>50</b>
<b>2 contests</b>	66	113	144	<b>103</b>
<b>1 contest</b>	149	296	459	<b>378</b>
	<b>229</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>566</b>

	Competitors number	Seniors	Juniors	Women
ARG Argentina	1	1		
AUT Austria	9	8	1	
BEL Belgium	23	20	3	
BLR Belarus	14	13	1	
BRA Brazil	1	1		
BUL Bulgaria	8	5	3	
CHI Chile	1	1		
CHN People's Republic of China	22	5	17	3 (with 2 juniors)
COL Colombia	1	1		
CRC Costa Rica	1	0	1	
CZE Czech Republic	3	2	1	
DEN Denmark	2	1	1	
ESP Spain	20	16	4	1
EST Estonia	2	2		
FIN Finland	19	18	1	
FRA France	37	29	8	1
GBR United Kingdom	17	13	4	
GEO Georgia	1	0	1	
GER Germany	23	16	7	
HKG Hong Kong, China	23	20	3	
HUN Hungary	3	2	1	
INA Indonesia	2	0	2	
IRL Ireland	3	3		
ITA Italy	21	20	1	1 (junior)
JPN Japan	34	29	5	2
KOR Korea	67	21	46	1
KUW Kuwait	1	1		
LAT Latvia	22	15	7	2
LTU Lithuania	21	18	3	
LUX Luxembourg	4	4		
MAC Macau, China	2	2		
MKD North Macedonia	6	6		
NED Netherlands	5	5		
NOR Norway	5	5		
PHI Philippines	8	5	3	
POL Poland	28	22	6	1
POR Portugal	1	1		
RUS Russia	17	12	5	1
SIN Singapore	2	2		
SRB Serbia	16	16		
SUI Switzerland	16	14	2	
SWE Sweden	8	8		
THA Thailand	4	0	4	1 (junior)
TPE Chinese Taipei	35	28	7	1
UKR Ukraine	5	5		
UKR United States of America	2	1	1	
	<b>566</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>15 (with 4 juniors)</b>
<b>46 countries</b>		<b>28 countries</b>	<b>11 countries</b>	

## CLASSIFICATION

The total World Cup score for each participant is the sum of their best four contest results (numbers of points). For each participant, one contest result per organising country is considered for the World Cup placing (better number of points for any organising country in which he has scored in two contests).

The winner is Thomass PETERSONS (Latvia) with 191 points, followed by two juniors: SungJu PARK (Korea) with 177 points and Pawel LASZCZAK (Poland) with 151 points.

Five juniors are placed in the top 10, and 12 of the 23 contests have been won by a junior.

In the following sheet, are mentioned for the columns corresponding to the results:

- Country abbreviation code of the contest as for example FIN or GER-1 (see correspondence on the calendar page 1).
- Placing and number of competitors placed; for example, 1/39 means first place with 39 competitors placed.

1	PETERSONS Tomass	LAT	191 points	FIN	1/39	47 points	LAT	1/46	48 points	BLR	1/48	48 points	POL	1/46	48 points
2	PARK SungJu Jun	KOR	177 points	GER-1	1/45	48 points	BEL	4/58	37 points	KOR Masters	5/50	44 points	TPE	1/59	48 points
3	LASZCZAK Pawel Jun	POL	151 points	FRA	2/43	44 points	BEL	8/58	33 points	SUI	1/35	42 points	KOR Masters	9/50	32 points
4	SPACEK David	CZE	141 points	LAT	3/46	41 points	BEL	7/58	34 points	GER-2	8/45	33 points	POL	8/46	33 points
5	PETERSONS Kristaps	LAT	134 points	FIN	10/39	30 points	LAT	6/46	35 points	BLR	9/48	32 points	POL	4/46	37 points
6	CHOI JoonWeon Jun	KOR	133 points	GER-1	10/45	31 points	BEL	3/58	41 points	BLR	3/48	41 points	KOR-2	21/71	20 points
7	WIDELL Nikolas	FIN	131 points	FIN	8/39	32 points	LAT	13/46	28 points	SUI	3/35	36 points	LTU	6/45	35 points
8	LASZCZAK Bartlomiej Jun	POL	127 points	FRA	10/43	31 points	GER-1	5/45	36 points	SUI	17/35	19 points	KOR Masters	6/50	41 points
	RAUDINS Oskars	LAT	127 points	FIN	12/39	28 points	LAT	2/46	44 points	BLR	13/48	28 points	POL	14/46	27 points
10	ROUSSEAU Killian Jun	FRA	124 points	ESP-1	1/23	28 points	FRA	1/43	48 points	BEL	1/43	48 points			

An Excel file with the complete results can be downloaded on the following webpage of the FAI website:  
<https://www.fai.org/world-cups/drone-racing-2019>

## FAI DRONE PERMISSION

The possibility to issue FAI Drone Permissions has been introduced in 2017 to accommodate the fast-growing sport of Drone Racing and help pilots who found difficult or too expensive to obtain a FAI Sporting Licence from their NAC.

In 2019, FAI has positively considered some NAC formal request to refrain issue of FAI Drone Permissions for their country.

Detailed data about FAI Drone Permissions delivered in 2019 are available on the next page.

FAI Drone Permissions have been issued to 207 persons. This number is significantly less than for 2018 (355) which is a clear progress.

In addition, only 123 of those persons (224 in 2018) have effectively used their FAI Drone Permission to compete in a World Cup contest. 50 % of those persons are resident from only 4 countries: Hong Kong (23), Switzerland (15), Serbia (11) and Italy (10).

Use of a FAI Drone Permission is justified by the difficulty to get from the NAC a FAI Sporting Licence (no recognition of drone racing as an air sport, too long delay), or by an amount to pay to get it considered prohibitive.

	World Cup competitors number	FAI Drone Permission delivered considering the country of residence	FAI Drone Permission used for World Cup contest	
			Number	Competitors percentage
ALG		1		
AUT	9	2		
BEL	23	1		
BLR	14	1		
BRA	1	1	1	100%
BUL	8	6	4	50%
CAN		1 <i>with CHI nationality</i>		
CHI	1	1	1	100%
CHN	22	2 <i>including 1 with HKG nationality</i>	1	5%
COL	1	1	1	100%
CRC	1	1	1	100%
CRO		1		
CZE	3	1		
DEN	2	4	1	50%
EST	2	2	2	100%
FIN	19	14 <i>1 with IND &amp; 1 with PHI nationality</i>	13	68%
FRA	37	3 <i>1 with POL nationality</i>	3	8%
GBR	17	2	1	6%
GEO	1	3	1	100%
GER	23	5 <i>1 with IND &amp; 1 with POL nationality</i>	1	4%
HKG	23	28 <i>1 with AUS, 1 with CHN, 1 with FRA, 1 with JPN &amp; 1 with USA nationality</i>	23	100%
HUN	3	2		
INA	2	1		
IRL	3	3 <i>1 with ESP, 1 with LTU &amp; 1 with ROM nationality</i>	3	100%
ISR		5		
ITA	21	14	10	48%
JPN	34	2	3	9%
KOR	67	2		
LAT	22	8	5	23%
LTU	21	3	4	19%
MAC	2	3	2	100%
MAR		1		
MEX		2		
MKD	6	1	1	17%
PHI	8	3	3	38%
POL	28	1	1	4%
POR	1	4	1	100%
RUS	17	1		
SIN	2	4	2	100%
SRB	16	12	11	69%
SUI	16	31 <i>1 with POR nationality</i>	15	94%
SVK		6		
TPE	35	2	1	3%
UKR	5	6	5	100%
USA	2	9	2	100%
	<b>518</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>32%</b>
	<b>38 countries</b>	<b>45 countries</b>	<b>30 countries</b>	