

Chief Judge's Report – the 31st FAI WAC

Leszno Airfield, Poland
 August 3 to 14, 2022

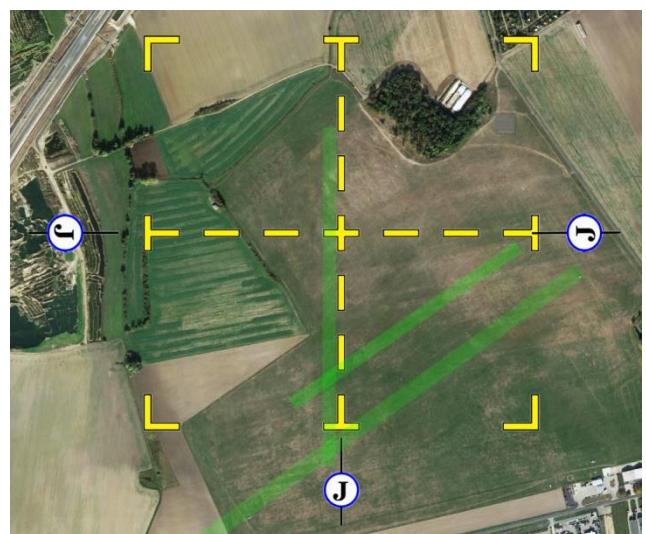
Chief Judge: Nick Buckenham (GBR) with Leif Culpin.

Judges: Quintin Hawthorne (RSA), Willy Gruhier (FRA), Esteban Moulin (BEL), Marty Flournoy (USA), Violeta Gedminaite (LIT), Eladi Lozano (ESP), Gabor Talabos (HUN).



Performance Zone and Judging positions

The airfield at Leszno is almost large enough to accommodate a full 1000m square box, with three judging locations prepared. Only the east and south positions were used during the championship, the west position fortunately not being required – it backed onto a swampy area that was thought likely to have unwelcome insects. The east position was slightly less than the desired minimum 150m from the box edge, while the south position was fine. The west position was further from the near side of the box, though not ultimately employed.



The organisers erected all the equipment for the judging panel promptly for each session, with good umbrellas to shade each judge's station and an open tent behind the Chief Judge's position where a moderate range of refreshments were also placed each day.

Video recordings

Despite considerable previous experience at major championships the standard of video system provided for this top-class event was barely adequate. When reviewing post-flight recordings the monitor was normally located for the panel in the back of the operators van where it was clear that –

- The stability and focus of the image was sometimes poor, making it difficult to accurately assess and interpret target moments during the flight.
- The bright environment in the van made identification of errors difficult; some review sessions late in the day were therefore held in the airfield sky-dive centre, where we were able to assess flights and potential errors more easily.

The importance of rapidly available, good quality, visually stable recordings of flights cannot be over-emphasised. They are ultimately the only way to resolve whether Confirmed HZs should or should not be awarded when there is initial HZ disagreement for a figure between the judges. At this championship there were occasions when confirmation / denial of some HZs by video review were difficult to resolve. Organisers **must** employ appropriate recording equipment, otherwise there is a real chance that the final results at a major championship may be calculated using wrong marks because adequate video standards have not been provided to resolve tricky HZ assessments.

Warm-Up Pilots

Warm-Up flights throughout the competition were made to a good standard by Mike Ciliberti (USA) and later also by Rodolfo Natale (ITA) whose lower experience in Unlimited category events led to simpler demonstration flights with figures selected by the jury.

Score-sheet transmission to the Scoring Office

The approved sets of judges' score-sheets were collected in batches and taken quickly to the scoring office. We understand the marks were entered and results calculated and posted online at regular intervals, and were not aware of any subsequent issues.

Flying standards

Programme flying throughout the championship was generally to a very high standard. The few competitors with overall scores below 60% were generally safe, though concern was expressed by judges of various pilots given Low penalties – not all of which however were sufficiently unanimous to be accepted.

Standard of Judging

The data below shows an assessment of the output from all judges. I am confident that this panel provided a balanced and sound assessment of the performances that we witnessed. Individual assessments are as usual available on the CIVA Results website.

Nick Buckenham
WAC-22 Chief Judge



WAC 2022		RSA	BEL	FRA	USA	LTU	HUN	ESP
Lotnisko Leszno 3rd to 13th AUG 2022		Quintin Hawthorne	Esteban Moulin	Willy Gruhier	Marty Flourney	Violeta Geminaite	Gabor Talabos	Eladi Lozano
All Judges		RI 8.65 [4]	RI 8.79 [4]	RI 12.95 [4]	RI 13.47 [4]	RI 14.20 [4]	RI 17.70 [4]	RI 39.09 [4]
Use of Marks:	No	%						
HZ - Hard Zeros	520	3.2	81	3.5	76	3.3	81	2.6
PZ - Perception Zeros	201	1.2	17	0.7	12	0.5	28	1.2
Marks from 0.0 to 6.5	3076	18.8	414	17.8	807	26.0	542	23.2
Marks from 7.0 to 10.0	12518	76.7	1820	78.0	1837	70.2	1700	72.9
AV - averages	9	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0
Total marks	Pilots/Judge	16324	2332	167	2332	167	2332	167

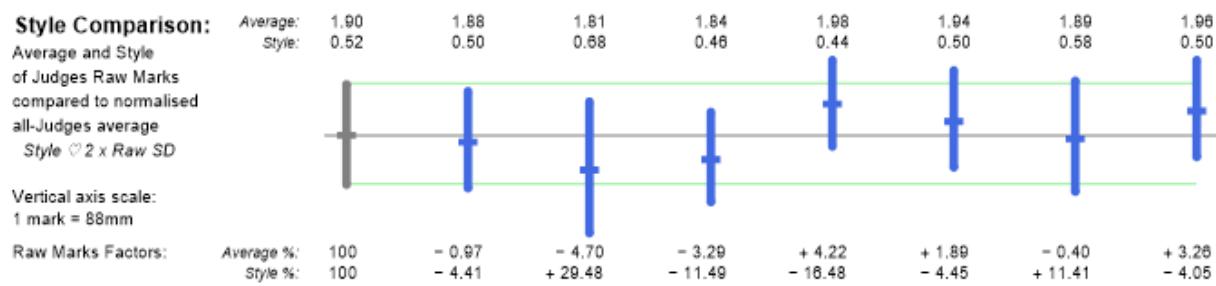


Figure anomalies									
HZ to fitted value	67	0.4	6	9	11	6	11	9	15
Mark to confirmed HZ	127	0.8	9	17	33	12	14	14	28
PZ to confirmed HZ	7	0.0	-	-	2	1	1	2	1
PZ to fitted value	15	0.1	5	-	-	3	2	5	-
AV to confirmed HZ	2	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
AV to fitted value	7	0.0	-	-	1	-	3	1	2
Lo to fitted value	124	0.8	21	17	6	29	17	13	21
Hi to fitted value	40	0.2	2	3	4	5	9	2	15
The 60% Rule	49	0.3	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Total figure anomalies	438		50	53	64	63	64	55	89

Review of Perception Zeros								
PZ's accepted = 35	5	6	5	4	1	8	6	
PZ's rejected = 166	12	6	23	26	7	48	44	
Totals per Judge	17	12	28	30	8	56	50	