



## **18<sup>th</sup> FAI WORLD PARAGLIDING CHAMPIONSHIP**

28<sup>th</sup> July – 9<sup>th</sup> August 2025  
PANTELEJ-NIŠ, SERBIA

Aeronautical Union of Serbia  
Belgrade, December 2022

**BID FOR 18<sup>TH</sup> FAI WORLD PARAGLIDING CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**PANTELEJ - NISH, SERBIA**



1. Name of Championship  
18<sup>th</sup> FAI World Paragliding Championship
2. Location(s) of Championship:  
Pantelej-Niš, Serbia
3. Proposed dates of Championship:  
28<sup>th</sup> July – 9<sup>th</sup> August 2025
4. Competition allowing the organizer to bid:  
We have organised many competitions of FAI2 category, two PWC comps in Nis region (last one was 2017 in this place), European Championship in Nis region 2022. Organizing team is very experienced (several big CAT2 comps including 150 pilots, also 4 PWCs, and 6 CAT1 comps including 3 XC, and 3 ACC comps).
5. Local Organiser(s):  
Aeronautical Union of Serbia,  
Željko Ovuka and Goran Vučković
6. Sporting Power:  
NAC Serbia (Aeronautical Union of Serbia)
7. Detailed Schedule of Championship:

Registration and Mandatory Safety Briefing	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> July
Opening Ceremony	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> July
Team leader briefing	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> July
Competition days	29 <sup>th</sup> July - 8 <sup>th</sup> August
Prize giving and closing ceremony	Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> August
8. Organisers, Directors and key officials.  
Organisation/Event Director: Ovuka Željko / Vučković Goran  
Meet Director: Dimiskovski Goran  
Safety Director: Ovuka Željko  
Chief Launch Marshal: Lazarevic Slavko  
Chief Goal Marshal: Branko Uzur  
Meteorologist: Zoran Petrovic  
Scorer: Srdjan Stanojevic  
Retrieve/Check in: Jelena Kracun  
HQ/Admin manager: Miroslava Golubovic  
PR: Svetlana Bradic  
Live Tracking: Jelena Kracun
9. CIVL Coordinator, Steward, Judges  
TBA if bid is accepted.
10. Pilot Entry & Team size:  
Maximum number of pilots: 150
11. Entry Fee:  
Pilot: 580 EUR  
Team Leader/Assistant: 380 EUR

Included in the registration fee:

- Opening ceremony, including defile, concert, food and drinks
- Transport by 8 seats mini vans, air conditioned, big enough for 8 paraglider bags
- Food and beverages, high quality meat, or vegan food (if asked for)
- Pilot and TLs dinner during competition
- Several parties, during competition
- Very experienced rescue team, licensed, special vehicles, ATV, and helicopter included
- Competition T shirts
- Gifts
- Speed arm
- High quality competition map
- Free SIM card, with enough internet data
- Live tracking
- Trophy for top ten male, top five female pilots, and top 3 teams.

## 12. Test Event:

Proposed date: 21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Pilot qualifications:

- 40 places reserved for Serbian pilots till 30<sup>th</sup> April
- 10 wild cards
- 100 places for all other pilots

Entry fee: 250 EUR for pilots, 100 EUR for TLs

Included in the entry fee:

- Opening ceremony, food and drinks
- Transport by 8 seats mini vans, air conditioned, big enough for 8 paraglider bags
- Food and beverages, high quality meat, or vegan food (if asked for)
- Pilot and TLs dinner during competition
- Parties, during competition
- Very experienced rescue team, licensed, special vehicles, ATV, and helicopter included
- Competition T shirts
- Gifts
- High quality competition map
- Free SIM card, with enough internet data
- Live tracking
- Trophy for top ten male, top five female pilots, and top 3 teams.

13. Launch sites:



*Main take off – Višegrad altitude 1040 ASL,*

Height above valley is 500-700m.

Covered with grass, slope 20° - 35°, S, SSE, SW, WSW, NW, N exposure. Big enough for simultaneous taking-off of 10 pilots. (The most frequent winds come from the south quadrant with average strength of 4m/s; No power lines, no cables or other hazards. There is a helicopter landing place 200m from take-off and a lot of space for parking official and visitors' cars. There is water and shadow under the sun shelters and wood, as well as mobile toilets.





*Take off – Niška banja altitude 570m ASL,*

Height above the valley is 350m.

Covered with grass, slope 20° - 30°, NW, N, NE exposure. Big enough for simultaneous taking-off of 5 pilots. Winds comes from the mentioned exposure with average strength 3m/s. Helicopter landing place is in Niška banja (in front of take off area). There is water and shadow under the sun shelters and wood.

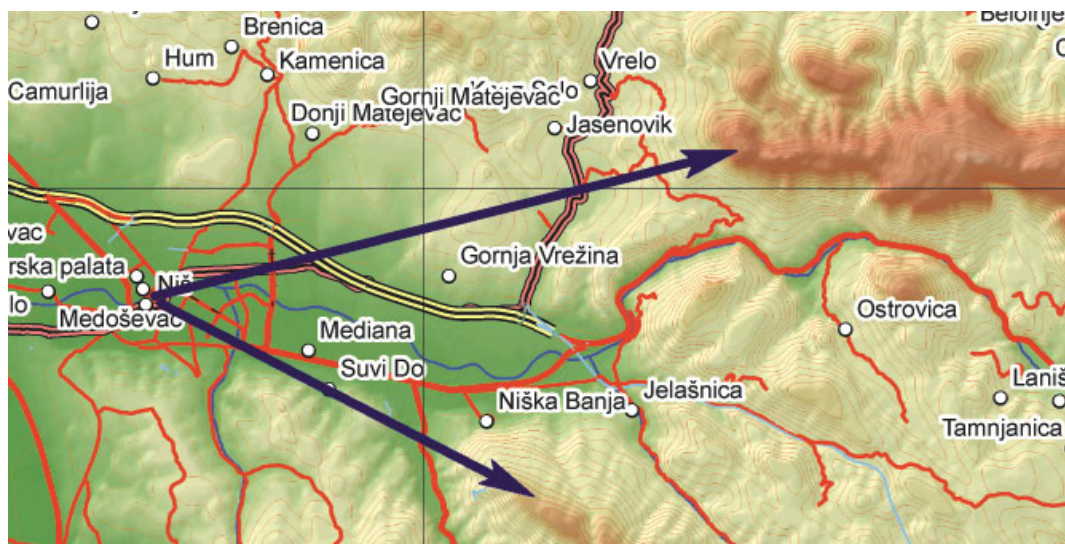
**14. Distance/access to launch site(s):**

From HQ

to main take off – *Pantelej Visegrad* straight distance is 16km, by road 45min.

to take off – *Niska banja* straight distance is 10km, by road 25min

Organiser arranges transport for competitors, officials and guests. It is possible to reach the take-off by van which is used for transport of competitors.





**15. Task flying area:**

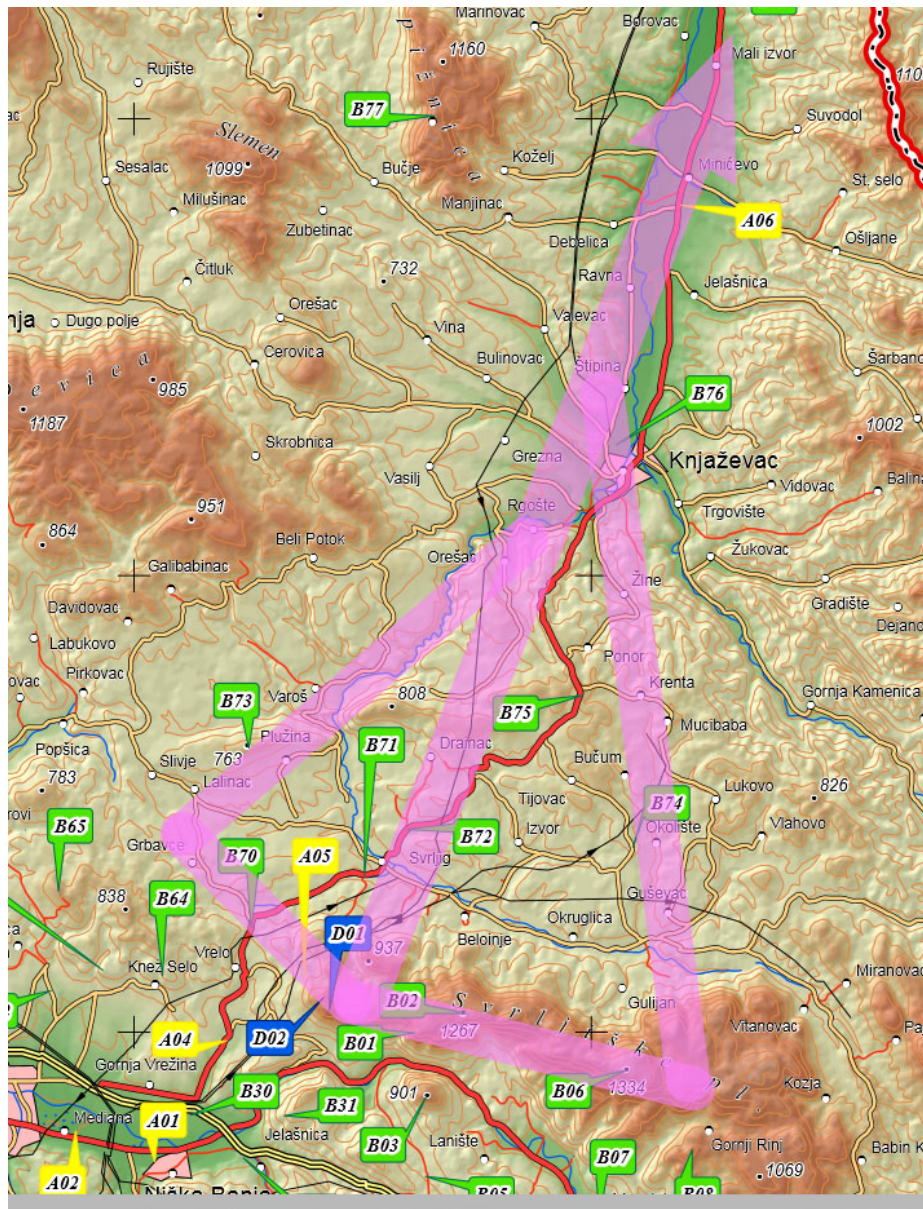
Almost all landing sites are without any obstacles, close to main asphalt roads.

Task flying area extends 80km to the North, 70-100km to the South, 40km to the East and 70km to the West from take-off. North direction extends along river Ibar's valley to the City of Zajecar or Knjazevac.

The highest hills here are at 1200m ASL and the valley slopes down to 150m, at which height is landing place in Niška banja. Attention is to be paid to the highway power-line. This area is middle populated, and all the places are connected to the motorway Niš - Pirot-Dimitrovgrad or Niš-Leskovac-Lebane/Vlasotince with asphalt roads.

Terrain is consisted of cultivated soil, fields and pastures, and in half part middle and high woods. The biggest rivers in this area, Nišava and Morava flows through the valleys, along with the motorway Niš-Pirot and Niš-Leskovac.

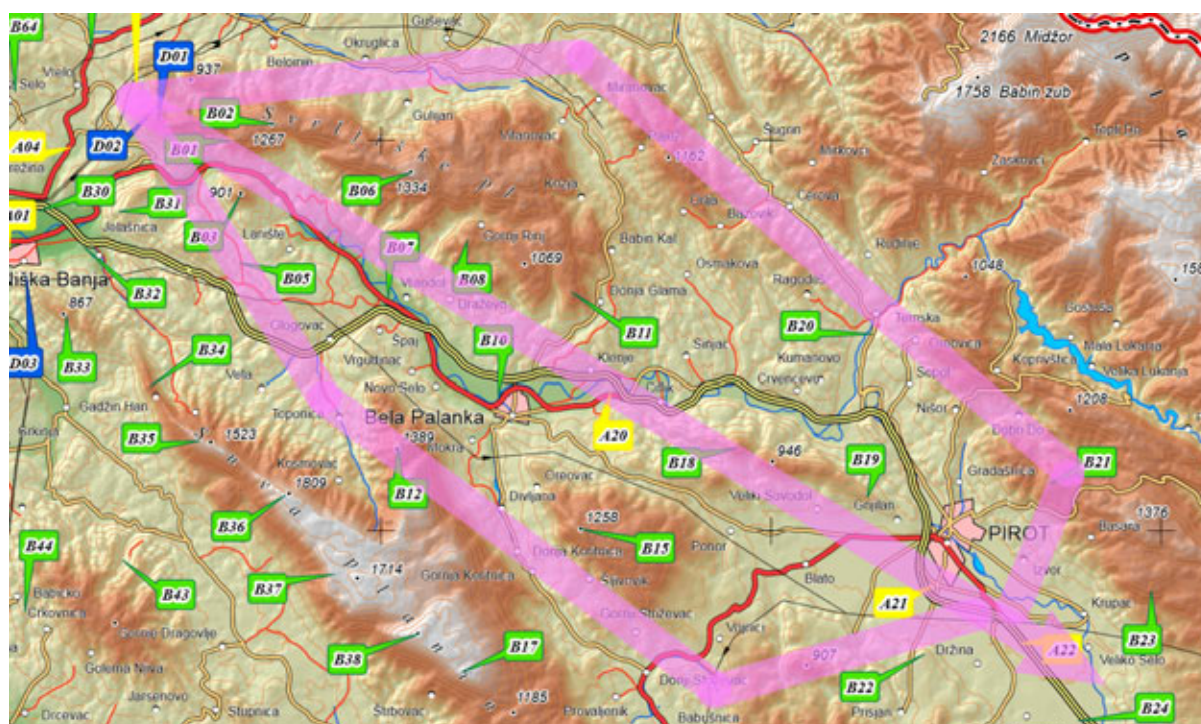
Good thermals can be expected with normal lift 3 – 6m/s.



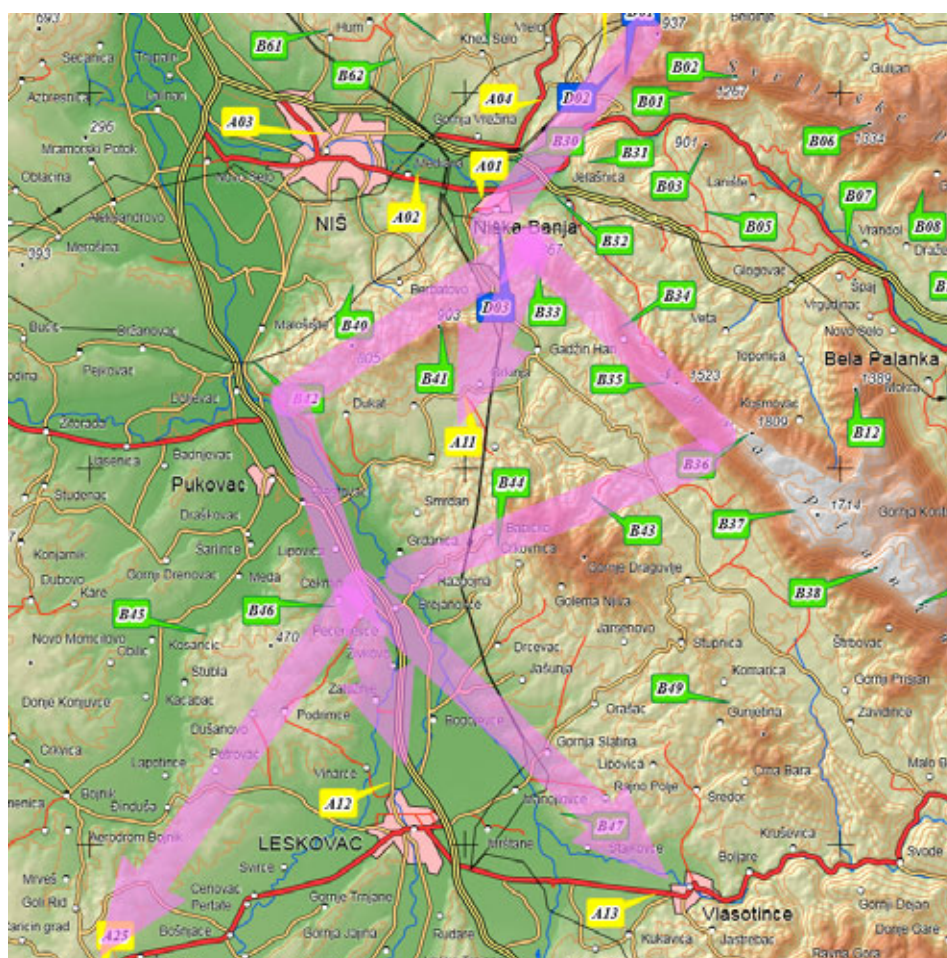
*The Playing arena towards N, in case of S, SW wind direction.*



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*The Playing arena towards SE, in case of N, NW, W, SW wind direction.*



*The Playing arena towards S, in case of NE, N wind direction.*



**16. Airspace:**

During The Championship, airspace will be completely available from take-off to landing all the time. All the paragliding activities inside the flying area will be announced by NOTAM and controlled by appropriate government service (flight control).

There are no prohibited areas and no restricted access areas except Airport Niš.

**17. Weather:**

Time of competition is selected in such manner to provide most often wind directions from south-west and nice and warm sunny days with low precipitation. Recommended maximum wind speed on launch and for task flying is up to 6m/s.

Thermals usually appear from 11:00 to 18:00, but not stronger than max 7m/s.

There are no strong valley winds.

**18. Meteorology:**

July and August are characterized by the average number of sunny days from 10.3 to 12.7 with moderate winds variable in direction. Rainfall is insignificant and is of convective origin (summer rains).

According to meteorological statistics and our 20 years long paragliding experience, the best period for flying is July-August. The best time of the day for early launch is 11.30 AM.

For forecasting we use data received from Republic Weather Bureau, meteo service at the Airport Niš (16km from take-off) and from Anti-hail defence service which has a meteo-radar.

Automatic wind station is positioned at the take-off.

We measure speed and wind direction at the take-off continually.

**19. Transport:**

The competitors will be transported from the HQ to take-off, and from landing place to the HQ by 8 seat vans. The vans are air-conditioned. Equipment will be transported by same vans, together with pilots.





**20. Safety issues:**

Local meteorological conditions: there is no specific areas of rotor, strong valley winds etc.

There are some power line issues, only close to the City of Nish.

**21. Rescue/Medical Services:**

During the competition a doctor and ambulance will be available all the time at the take-off and landing area. For serious injuries, evacuation to hospital (Clinic of Orthopaedics and Traumatology) will last 10 minutes max. All hospitals in Nis area will be available for competitors and participants of this Championship.

On the goal line one emergency vehicle will be engaged from that particular city. All of the vehicles are properly equipped. Also at the take-off, we will have one emergency vehicle. Medical departments in cities of our task area have special services for taking care of severe injuries. Helicopter, prepared with urgent specialists with appropriate instruments to take care of any serious injury. The helicopter crew needs 10 minutes to prepare from the moment of receiving the emergency call. The more distant points can be reached very fast depending of the distance to it. Helicopter will be waiting on Niš airport. Normally, response time will be maximum from 30 minutes to 60 minutes.

Three Mountain service teams will be available all the time on the take off and by the race route. Rescue teams will be equipped by live trackers, and radio communication devices, in contact with rescue team manager, and HQ.



**22. Safety Management Plan:**

- The doctor will be on take-off, together with rescue team.
- Local ambulance team will be on take off
- All teams are equipped with live tracker
- All teams are under HQ rescue Coordinator who is controlling whole rescue operations
- Local police of every region will be announced by organizer before competition starts
- Local police of every region will be announced daily depending of race direction

- All major ambulances, hospitals will be informed about the competition in order to secure priority in case of pilot injury
- Directorate of Civil Aviation of Republic of Serbia will secure helicopter's NOTAM, and all other needs in case of emergency
- There will be no rescue charges in case of injury
- Safety Director will control rescue operation together with Rescue Manager.
- Competition Safety Manager will control all other aspects of incident (controlling of accident area, media control, etc)

**23. Communications:**

Official frequency during the competition will be 146.675 MHz. Each team is allowed to use its own VHF frequency within range 144-146 MHz.

Live trackers will be provided.

Mobile phone coverage in some places is good. Local SIM cards will be secured for all pilots, for free. There are several mobile operators (Yettel, MTS, A1, Globatel).

**24. Liaison with police, military, public services:**

There will be cooperation concerning securing of the competition with the police.

There was not any bad history regarding competitions, pilots, etc.

**25. Insurance:**

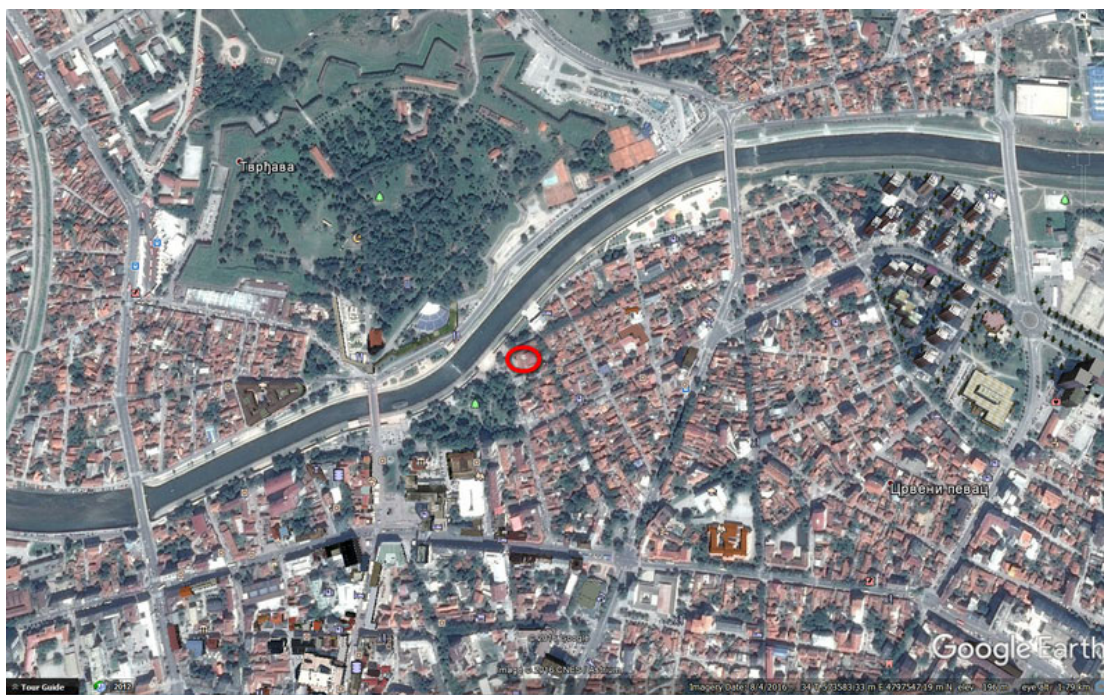
Documentary proof of insurance (in English or Serbian) covering public liability risk to a value of Euros 800.000,00 must be presented to the organizers before the start of the championship, as well as a personal accident insurance covering medical assistance and repatriation (section 7).

Aeronautical Union of Serbia will provide specific insurance for the pilots who need it and it will be available to be purchased on site (third party liability, extra individual coverage).

The organizer will have liability insurance to cover the event.

**26. Event Headquarters:**

The Championships HQ will be at the Hotel "Ambasador" or in "Officers home" in centre of Niš, where there will be a information desk, briefing room for team leaders and facilities. There will be a room for Championship officials (for meetings, rest, etc.) equipped with computers and internet access, as well as a press room. There will be a separate FAI official's room.





*Competition HQ*



*Glider preparing room in HQ*

There is possibility of changing HQ to hotel “Tami” where was European championship HQ.

**27. Local facilities:**

The City of Niš offers different solutions for accommodation of the participants:

- Hotel;
- Houses to rent;
- Restaurants and Pubs;
- Supermarkets;
- night-bars
- many other facilities.

Hotel prices vary from 12 EUR to 70 EUR, depending of class of hotel. Organizers will negotiate prices in order to be the best offer to the participants.

**28. Competition website:**

Before, during and after the competition, all necessary information about the FAI 18<sup>th</sup> World Paragliding Championship – Pantelej Niš 2025 will be available at the official Website

<http://www.vss.rs> and <https://civlcomps.org>

Website will be active from the 2024 or earlier. During the competitions, all results will be uploaded on the website, after every task.

**29. Visas, Vaccinations:**

Pilots from most countries enter Serbia without visa. For pilots who need it, we'll provide easy getting visa in our Embassies all over the world on invitation letter basis. It is not possible that anyone will be refused to enter to Serbia if fulfil basic criteria.

There are no recommendations for any kind of vaccinations.

**30. Early arrivals:**

All pilots are welcome to arrive whenever they want. Local organizer will secure transportation to take off.

**31. Finance and sponsorship:**

The Championship will be sponsored and supported by:

- Ministry of Sports of Serbia,
- Niš City Assembly
- Aeronautical Union of Serbia
- Local Sponsors

**32. Early arrivals:**

For all competitors who arrive earlier, the local club will take care of them, and help them to find accommodation, to organize transportation, etc. It is not important when pilots will arrive.

**33. Customs & equipment importation:**



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Customs arrangements for temporary importation of gliders will be published on our web site.

Normally, there is no problems to import paragliding equipment. Customs will be notified about this competition on time.

**34. Sponsorship:**

City of Niš, Ministry of Sport, and some companies will be sponsors of this event. We already got promises from these institutions.

**35. Finance:**

City of Niš, Ministry of Sports, NAC Serbia will anticipate in competition budget.

Pilot entry fee percentage in whole budget will be maximum 60%.

**Name:** Željko Ovuka

**Signed:**

**Position in Organisation:** Secretary General

**Date:** 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022



Budget for 18th FAI Worlds Paragliding Championship, Serbia 2025		
150 pilots, 10 task days + practice task		
EXPENDITURE	EUR	NOTES
<b>PREPARATION (over 2 years)</b>	<b>6.000</b>	
Administration, post & bank charges, stationery	2.000	Includes bank transfer fees, accountant charges, etc
Travel expenses for organisers, volunteers	2.500	Meetings, etc
Setting up & maintaining website	1.500	Including logo design, hosting etc
<b>COMPETITION</b>	<b>87.850</b>	
FAI Sanction Fee	4.000	
FAI Officials (5): Travel, accommodation, meals, daily allowance, car rental	8.000	Allow for 2-3 days more than no of comp. days: 500each travel; 80/day each food & lodging; 10/day x 3 jury allowance; 2 cars x 2 weeks rental
Rental of suitable HQ building/rooms/marquee for briefings (180 people+), meeting rooms, scoring room.	4.000	City Hall, or hotel
Rental/buy IT & equipment for HQ, launch, goalfields/target etc	6.000	IT requirements, computers, software, printers & wifi, phones/mobiles, noticeboards, giant screens etc. Live tracking will be used
Road, airspace, turnpoint maps for pilots, team leaders & HQ	1.500	Design/artwork & print costs, consider several large examples for HQ and Launch
Tshirts	3.000	Count in pilots, team leaders, drivers, staff, volunteers, press, VIPs, sponsors
Trophies, day prizes, gifts for pilots	2.550	FAI medals & diplomas, trophies, champagne, local souvenirs.
Transport	18.000	PG comp: transport normally included. Factor 3 buses and/or 6 minibuses. Transport for staff, press, VIPs, fuel for volunteers.
Medical services (doctor, paramedic, ambulance etc)	10.000	helicopter standby, ambulance, doctor, paramedic, etc
Rental & cleaning of portable toilets	2.000	
Weather forecasting (presentations, daily soundings etc)	1.000	
Packed lunches for pilots/TLS	7.800	3C/13 flying days/200 persons
Contingency	20.000	Improvements to launch, equipment purchase/rental, insurance, extra personnel, Live Trackers rental
<b>PERSONNEL</b>	<b>31.750</b>	
Fees for Meet Director, Safety Director, Event organiser, Launch Marshal, Scorer etc.	23.000	Increasingly common that key personnel are remunerated for these positions of high responsibility, skill and experience. May also need to cover travel and accommodation/food expenses
Food/expenses for organisers, staff, volunteers, helpers 15 days	8.750	
<b>CEREMONIES &amp; SOCIAL EVENTS</b>	<b>26.200</b>	
Opening & Closing Ceremonies	20.000	Buffet for 200+ people, music/entertainment, flags, decorations.
Other social events (bbq, live music evening etc)	6.200	bbq, live music, social program
<b>MEDIA &amp; PROMOTION</b>	<b>13.000</b>	
PR or Press person/services prior to & during event	2.000	
Official blogger, photographer, video cameraman, film maker	2.000	Writing task reports, press releases, providing photos or video footage to news agencies, web tv etc.
Short Film of the event for promotion of sport, region etc	4.000	
Promotional items: stickers, pens, mugs, postcards etc	2.000	
Press hospitality, local media coverage, souvenir programme, newsletters, advertising etc	3.000	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>164.800</b>	

PROJECTED INCOME		
Pilot fees	87.000	150 pilots x 580C sanction fee
Team leader fees	3.800	10 x 380C
Grant from local/host town	10.000	
Grant from county or region		
Grant from government sport department or similar	30.000	
Grant from national Federation or NAC	10.000	
Sales of promotional items, productising	4.000	
Sponsorship	20.000	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>164.800</b>	





# VAZDUHOPLOVNI SAVEZ SRBIJE AERONAUTICAL UNION OF SERBIA

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Web site: [www.vss.rs](http://www.vss.rs), E-mail: [office@vss.rs](mailto:office@vss.rs)



ACTIVE MEMBER

*Belgrade, 04<sup>th</sup> December 2022.*

*FAI/CIVL*

<b>CONFIRMATION LETTER:</b>	<b><i>Official bid to host the World Paragliding Championship 2025</i></b>
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Dear Sirs,

In the name of the Aeronautical Union of Serbia I would like to confirm our intention to present our bid to the FAI/CIVL Commission to host the World Paragliding Championship 2025 in Serbia.

The Championships would be held in Nish region, the same location where the two World Cups were held in last years, and European Championship. This place is offering numerous advantages: ideal paragliding terrain, good weather conditions, low cost facilities, an easy transportation accessibility and the local authorities' enthusiasm to strongly support the event. Also, local Paragliding club „Grunf“ and Paragliding club „Ares“ organized a five National Championships, 2 Paragliding World Cup, several PGA competitions, and many local competitions.

We will be pleased to present the bid in person during the CIVL plenary meeting in Portugal.

I would like to thank you in advance for your time dedicated to the evaluation of this bid.

Sincerely Yours,

President  
Labud Bulatovic

