



Jury President's Report for the 11th FAI World Advanced Aerobatic Championships

2nd to 10th August 2019, Torun, Poland

Nick Buckenham (GBR), Jury President, with Elena Klimovich (RUS)



The International Jury members selected at the 2018 CIVA Plenary Conference for EAAC 2019 were Elena Klimovich (RUS), Pierre Varloteaux (FRA) and myself (GBR). Unfortunately Pierre could not attend and no substitute could be found at short notice, so all jury duties at this event were carried out by Elena and me.

The Peggy Riedinger (USA Judge) also declared at short notice that she would be unable to attend, and as a replacement judge and assistant could not be found the judging panel under Chief Judge Palo Kavka remained at six judging teams.

Overall

The event was well run by the Polish organising team, and the jury received no protests. Some issues of a relatively minor nature were quickly settled, though an important one remained unresolved: the organisers had failed to recognise the need to obtain the Ivan Tuček Floating Trophy from its home in the Czech Republic. This new trophy for the European Advanced Aerobatic Champion was introduced at the previous EAAC in 2017 and it plus a small replica should have been sought well before the event. Despite several exchanges between Elena, Jurek Makula and members of the Czech Aero Club its transport could not be arranged in time, and therefore the main trophy was not available to be presented at the final awards ceremony.

The Individual Winners at the EAAC 2019 were –

1 st place overall	Nicolas Durin	France	2019 Advanced Power World Champion
2 nd place overall	Antoine Pekar	France	
3 rd place overall	Dmitry Samokhvalov	Russia	

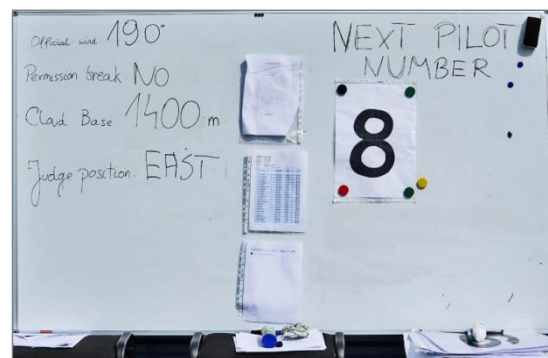
The Team Winners were –

1 st place overall	France	Nicolas Durin, Antoine Pekar and Vincent Andre
2 nd place overall	Russia	Dmitry Samokhvalov, Vasily Plotnikov and Sergey Zaytsev
3 rd place overall	Finland	Sami Kontio, Mikko Jägerholm and Tapio Pitkänen

The following key points concerned the jury during this event:

- **Drawing of lots, selection of Free Unknown figures.** These duties were well handled on each occasion, though the jury seemed to be the only ones present able to operate OpenAero on-screen to check and display the Free Unknown figures. The latter were quickly published in pdf and .seq formats for all competitors to use, and the jury received only two sequences which needed small corrections among the 36 that were lodged for the three Free Unknowns.

- Official Wind:** Despite several reminders, the Contest Director announced the Official Wind direction and hence the judging panel location at the briefing each day without prior reference to the jury. This was generally acceptable, though no account was taken of the likely wind direction trend and on one occasion that led after a short time to a change of judging position, which probably could have been avoided.
- Airfield / competitor movement information.** The organiser had not prepared clear visual representations of the airfield showing the taxi routes, box area, box entry procedures, the official wind direction, judging location, “designated secure area” (to examine aircraft defects) etc. and some competitors were unclear regarding this information. These diagrams are easy to create and must be displayed by screen projection at every briefing to ensure that all competitors are properly informed regarding flight requirements and associated safety matters.
- Weather information and wind measurements.** Comprehensive weather info was presented on-screen each morning by meteo officer Maciej Kowalski, though the projected material was not particularly clear. The wind measurements were carried out using the traditional balloon method, with good frequency for the required altitudes.
- Flight-line info board.** This essential feature was not implemented until demanded by the jury. Thereafter a white-board adjacent to the principal hangar was regularly updated with the necessary information.
- Video recording:** The video recording of all the flights was to a poor standard that in several cases was inadequate to allow the judges to determine some factual elements of a flight. The operator used a domestic quality video recorder which was only hand-held, the result being ‘jerky’ with the aircraft frequently off-screen for short periods. Some flights were not recorded due to run-down batteries and no availability of back-up equipment, and in these cases there could be no post-flight consideration of minority Hard Zero’s; these had to be rejected (no CHZ) in favour of the competitor. Organisers must recognise that video recordings play a crucial



support role in every championship, and a good standard of equipment and operator are essential to ensure accurate results.

- **Hangarage and airfield facilities.** Three aircraft hangars were available, though one was used principally for briefings and competitors meals. Each was clean and bright, providing a good standard of aircraft housing and a flight preparation area.
- **Official communication procedures.** While the organisers successfully used WhatsApp for all personal communications, they had expected all official radio communications to competitors and CIVA / organisers officials to be made via the normal airfield and box safety vhf frequencies. This was clearly inadequate and possibly even illegal, so the jury insisted that some non-aircraft-band walkie-talkie handsets should be obtained for the non-aircraft communications. These were quickly obtained and inevitably they proved invaluable. The competitor release system (into the box) was via the airfield vhf frequency (i.e. not using flag operators adjacent to the runway); this worked well and without significant problems throughout.
- **Judge paperwork, scores entry, results publication and website management.** All these duties were handled very efficiently by Pawel Szczepanowski, who should be commended for his rapid responses and the excellent quality of his work.
- **Opening and Final ceremonies.** These were both carried out on the airfield, the former in the briefing hangar and the latter using a specially constructed stage. Both were to a good standard, apart from the unfortunate lack of the main trophy as explained above.



Nick Buckenham
Jury President, EAAC 2019

