

FAI Sailplane Grand Prix report for IGC Plenary Meeting 2016.

Summary

2015 was another very busy year for the SGP management team (SGPT).

The 6th SGP series started in June 2014 with a very successful event at Rennes in France and concluded with the 6th series final in September 2015 in Varese.

The SGP team continued to improve the guidance to event organisers on the presentation of the races and contests. Nevertheless it is still a problem with some organisers of national events not providing sufficient resources to create a satisfactory media output.

6th SGP Final 2015 Varese Italy.

The 6th SGP final was very successfully held in Italy, the event was well supported by local partners.

There were 6 competition days and the new World sailplane Grand Prix champion is Maximilian Seis from France becoming the youngest ever gliding World Champion.

The SGP management team (SGPT) provided the competition director and the core International media organisation to support the excellent local team provided by ACAO in Calcinato.

The initial arrangement to use Flarm to provide the tracker data did not work sufficiently well in the practice period for satisfactory race presentation. At the very last moment we changed the data collection to Yellow Brick trackers which worked extremely well providing excellent coverage for the competition. The last minute change placed a significant financial burden on the LOC but the change was made possible with financial support from the IGC.

SGP media audience for 6th Final

Estimated event viewership via the SGP web site: 5,000 viewers per day 63,000 sessions during the period, (Sisteron 93,000) Major countries: Italy, Germany, France, Poland, United States, UK

Viewer demographics, Peak age groups (equally): 25-34, 35-44, 45-54. 90% Male

Social media outreach: Averaging 20,000 persons per day, peaking at 35,000 persons on final day. Social media outreach slightly more female and youth oriented than the web site viewership (peak age group 25-34. Active social media participants slightly older than core viewership (peak age group 45-54).

We do not have the statistics for the local or repeated web sites such as Soaring Spot but the audience on these second tier sites was considerable.

7th series.

The call for bids for the 7th series was very well supported with 10 bids for national SGP events and three bids for the final. The SGPT allocated the events according to the schedule below.

7th SGP Series (2016)

	Chile	Vitacura	23 Jan-30 Jan, 2016
	Spain	Cerdanya	17 Apr-24 Apr, 2016
	Russia	Usman	1 May-8 May, 2016
	Italy	Varese	14 May-21 May, 2016
	France	Rennes	4 Jun-11 Jun, 2016
	Austria	Niederöblarn	18 Jun-25 Jun, 2016
	UK	Bicester	9 Jul-17 Jul, 2016
	USA	Ionia	24 Jul-31 Jul, 2016
	Germany	Musbach	6 Aug-13 Aug, 2016
	World Final	Potchefstroom	5 Nov-12 Nov, 2016

Tracker and presentation system.

During 2015 the SGPT in conjunction with FAI made an agreement with Silent Wings to produce a dedicated presentation studio that would function with any tracker system and be available for FAI events. The version used during the SGP final proved to be very successful. The SGPT have negotiated a special agreement with Silent Wings making the studio is available for all SGP events.

Scoring system.

The 7th series will be scored with a dedicated scoring system that has been developed for SGP events. This will reduce our reliance on 3rd party providers. The current version of the scoring system is the first step toward a real time scoring system for live SGP scoring.

8th Series.

The SGPT are currently discussing the schedule for the 8th SGP series and more detail will be available prior to the Plenum meeting.

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6th SGP series participation and activity

Event country	Number of days	Number of entries	Nb of competitors having got points
France	8	19	17
Italy	5	18	16
Spain	6	15	13
Australia	6	15	13
South Africa	7	10	10
Chile	8	11	11
Czech Republic	6	12	9
Poland	6	12	10
Varese Final	6	20	15