

## Report of the Contest Organisation Working Group

Nick Buckenham

This group was originally set up to monitor the work of championship organisers and gather information regarding areas where specific developments or improved working practices could usefully raise the standard at events in a practical and controlled manner.

The CIVA Guide to Championship Organisation (the “GCO”) now offers advice regarding the key steps that an organiser must resolve en-route from initial decisions to the presentation phase at plenary, and the recently improved FAI Organiser Agreement document has brought its own improvements to this process. Both documents now provide all the basic instructions for organisers to learn from past events and develop their own management structures, and as a result the need for the COWG is somewhat reduced.

During 2018 –

- The World Advanced and Unlimited Glider Aerobatic Championships were once again run by experienced organiser Vladimir Machula and his team at Zbraslavice in the Czech Republic. Though clearly under pressure an excellent conclusion was achieved.
- The World Advanced (power) Aerobatic Championships at Strejnic was run by an increasingly experienced team from Romania, who were able to build on the skills learned at their inaugural 2015 European event at Deva. Their new Briefing centre provided an excellent base for this championship and further events in this location, and the acceptance of an Hors Concours pilot despite scoring more than 60% at a previous WAC has led to NP2019-25 – though ultimately he did not participate.
- The power unlimited European Aerobatic Championships were run at new-to-us Jindřichuv Hradec in the Czech Republic, a pleasant little airfield whose local workforce combined with Vladimir’s experienced team of assistants to stage this championship. The low number of early entrants that raised concerns regarding the second warm-up pilot should in future be eased by the ‘Open’ status proposed for our European and Continental championships.

During the course of these events a range of situations developed that required urgent attention, and all were resolved in a professional manner. Some that drew specific attention have as above become discussion items in the Rules and other proposals.

The Contest Organisation Working Group will remain in being until and unless it is seen to be redundant.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nick Buckenham', written in a cursive style.

Nick Buckenham