

Chief Judges Report for the 10th European Advanced Aerobatic Championship

Chotěboř, Czech Republic - 3rd to 13th August 2017

Nick Buckenham, Chief Judge

This airfield was situated on a hill some 7km south of Chotěboř town and was a new site for CIVA events. The organising team worked well throughout and provided few opportunities for complaint. Facilities in the administrative buildings and around the airfield were excellent, though the box was positioned at an angle to all other airfield features and with only two judging positions possible.

Box layout and judging positions



The diagram here shows the box orientation, with judging locations prepared at the NE and SW positions. The judging locations themselves were good, though that to the SW a little below the airfield elevation and thus out of sight.

A survey was made of the potential for a judging position to the SE, but the adjacent dense wooded area prevented any possibility of setting this position the required 150m back from the edge of the box and therefore this option was abandoned.

The north-east judging position was easily reached from the clubhouse, judges sitting close to the edge of the single 35 / 01 runway.

Travel to the south-west judging position was accomplished using the supplied MPV's and other cars, though the route was extremely bumpy. The judges were also able to use a good size room within the main administration building.

Accommodation and food

The judging team were accommodated at a 3-star hotel in Chotěboř some 15 minutes from the airfield. Most of the pilots and team personnel were accommodated in a separate hotel to the north of the airfield.

Warm Up pilots

Two warm-up pilots were available throughout the event, Marek Hyka (CZE) and Mikhail Mamistov (RUS). Both provided an excellent service, taking turns to fly the box lines and the sequence flights when required.

Communications

The organisers provided Motorola two-way multi-channel radios that enabled a good level of communication between the judging line, the staff at the flag-release point and the Contest Director when the NE judging position was used, but these were occasionally ineffective at the SE location due to the extended distance and interference from the rising ground. For air-band communications with the competitors a boxed VHF unit driven directly from the diesel generator was used, plus an Icom hand-held in case of problems with the former – though none were experienced.

Although no ‘hot-box’ situations occurred during the event, in one case a landing competitor made his final approach directly toward the next pilot who was already taking off in the other direction, requiring an immediate exchange by radio to alert each to their predicament.

Judges Forms

We used the newer-style Left and Right forms throughout, the judges and assistants finding this a good basis for their work.

Flight times and frequency

Through a combination of poor weather including rain, low cloud and high winds it became necessary for the International Jury to cut programme-4 by 50% to 23 competitors. Otherwise however progress was quite acceptable, with a good standard of service from the Flight Director and flag-man.

The Ivan Tucek Cup

This attractive new trophy was presented for the very first time to the new EAAC champion Dmitry Samokhvalov of Russia, with our thanks to the Czech Republic for its introduction.



Nick Buckenham
Chief Judge, EAAC 2017

Panel of International Judges:

Jerome Houdier	FRA
Zuzana Danihelová	CZE
Timo Bartholdi	FIN
Algis Orlickas	LTU
Jurgen Leukefeld	GER
John Gaillard	RSA
Oleg Shpolyanskiy	RUS
Lyudmyla Zelenina	UKR

