

VagnJENSEN
ROYAL DANISH AERO CLUB
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20th FAI World Rally Flying Championships
04th to 10th September 2016
Santa Cruz, Portugal.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL JURY

General:

The 20th FAI World Rally Flying Championships took place in Santa Cruz, at the Airfield of Aero Club de Torres Vedras, Portugal, according to the FAI Rules and Regulations for Air Rally, divided in two competition categories – Unlimited and Advanced.

A total of 51 crews from 16 FAI member countries took part in the two Championships categories.

The Competition ran according to the approved FAI Rules and Regulations for Rally Flying, edition 2016.

We are aware that it has been a great challenge to be a first-time organizer of a World Championship. The weather was not on the organizers' side, and the hire of aircrafts has also been a tough job.

Competition Maps:

Maps in scale 1:200.000 were available, produced especially for the Championships. The maps were good to navigate on.

Transportation:

Transportation was organized by bicycles, small bus, and independent cars. The travelling time from places of the accommodation to the airfield was approximately 10 minutes.

Accommodation and Meals:

Participants were accommodated in 3 different hotels (about 1 to 6 km from Airfield).

Breakfasts and dinners were served in the competition hotels, the lunches were supplied at the airfield in a big tent. Meals were of good quality and acceptable. Different kinds of meals were available.

Ceremonies:

Opening Ceremony took place at the Airfield of Aero Club de Torres Vedras, with standard programme items according to FAI procedures for Opening Ceremony. After the ceremony there had been organized a nice Air Show for participants and the many spectators present.

Closing ceremony took place at Sintra Air Force Base Museum. On our way there from Santa Cruz, we visited a modern winery.

Before dinner, there was the standard closing ceremony with speeches by the guests; the Mayor of Torres Vedras, the Minister for Sport.

Mr. Rodney BLOIS, President of GAC FAI, officially closed the Championships and the FAI anthem was played.

After the closing ceremony dinner was served in the officer's mess.

Airfield Facilities/Registration and Information Office:

All necessary facilities were available and all people of the staff very nice and helpful! There were concrete and grass runways available. The Registration and Information office were in the large hangar, though not always manned. The International Jury had their own room for meetings and handling of protests, and they had their own car for transport.

Briefings/Communication:

All Briefings were held in the hangar on the airfield. Each National team, The Chief Judge and The International Jury had their own boxes and all given information were placed not only in these boxes, but were posted on the Official Information Board placed at the airfield.

Training Practice:

Training routes with photographs were available. The landing strip was well marked.

Competition flights, landings:

The German landing system was available with experienced staff in Santa Cruz airfield as the official device for landings and to help to judges. Official results were taken by judges, and two independent video cameras were used, placed on each side of the zero line.

The International Jury did not perform the check flights before competition flights.

The International Jury constructed all of the prepared stages according to the instruction, given to the competitors in envelopes. Remarks and notes were mostly accepted by Chief Judge and RoutePlanner and corrected.

1st Competition Day:

The International Jury received one protest regarding landing result, abnormal landing. The landing was checked from video. Protest was denied.

2nd Competition Day:

The International Jury received one protest regarding photos and targets positions. Protest was denied.

3rd Competition Day:

Because of bad weather in the morning, only Unlimited Class competed. No protests received

4th Competition Day:

The International Jury received 1 protest regarding landing results. The landing was checked from video, protest was upheld

On the last day of competition the Danish crew made an emergency landing. We are all relieved and happy that the crew was not harmed, and the plane was not destroyed. Allan made the best of landings; this was a full stop landing.

Judges:

The International Chief Judge – Mr. Paul SZAMEITAT from Austria – arrived about one week before the start of the competition. He checked all the routes with the route planner, Mr. Michel GROSDÉMANGE. The International Jury got all the necessary information, whenever they wanted it and there was a very good and friendly cooperation between the International Jury, the International, Chief Judge, the Competition Director Mr. João FRANCISCO, his deputy Mr. Jacques CARRIQUIRIBERRY, Mr. Juan Ramon ALVAREZ – Chief Scorer, and the other officials. Many thanks to all of them!!!

There were enough International and National Judges available. The results were prepared in time for presentation to the Team Managers every evening at 20.00 o'clock, thanks to an excellent job by all judges and the Computer Centre, led by Mr. Juan Ramon ALVAREZ from Spain, who used his modified programs for both Unlimited and Advanced class results.

Conclusions:**Sanction Fee and Protest Fees:**

The Sanction Fee was calculated by the President of the International Jury. According to decision by GAC FAI, the organizers paid EUR 50,- for each competitor (pilot, navigator). As 51 crews participated, it meant the due amount to pay was EUR 5.100,-. This sum was paid to the GAC FAI account during the Championships.

The President of the International Jury received an amount of EUR 200,- as fees for the protests. This sum will be handed to the FAI Secretariat during FAI GAC General Conference 2016 in Cyprus and confirmation will be presented during GAC FAI Plenary Meeting 2016.

Deposit:

Since the event had been conducted correctly and according to the Rules, the International Jury decided to return the deposit to the organizers.

Duties, arisen from Jury Hand Book:

- a) Jury Final Event report Form, signed by all the International Jury Members was given to Competition Director Mr. Joao FRANCISCO immediately after verification of the Championships as valid.
- b) Report of the President of Jury to the FAI Secretary General was sent together with enclosures and results to the FAI Secretariat immediately after the finish of the Championships.
- c) Report by Jury President to the Air Sport Commission was sent together with enclosures and results to Mr. Rodney BLOIS immediately after the finish of the Championships.

Recommendations:

Members of the International Jury of the event will give the following recommendation to the GAC FAI Plenary and Sub-commission for Air Rally: From the perspective of the organizer it will make easier preparation of the necessary documents for the championship if we return to having only one class.

Finally:

The event was organized and prepared according to the rules, all the staff was very friendly and helpful!! The Championship was successful and I have to give my special thanks to International Jury Members, Mr. Jiri DODAL from Czech Republic and Mr. Jesus MAS from Spain, who helped me very much as the very experienced persons they are.

My special thanks goes to Mr. Paul SZAMEITAT from Austria, who served as the International Chief Judge. My big thanks must to go to Mr. Joao FRANCISCO – Competition Director together with Fillipa OLIVERA – Deputy Competition Director and Route Planner and all their enthusiastic staff!!!

Skalmstrup, 21st October 2016
Vagn JENSEN
President of the International Jury