

# **21<sup>th</sup> World Precision Flying Championship**

**Bautzen Airfield, Germany**

**7<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> September 2013**

## **Int. Chief Judges Report - Paul Szameitat**

### **Participants**

47 competitors from 13 countries participated in these 21<sup>th</sup> World Precision Flying Championship held between 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> September 2013 at Bautzen Airfield in Germany. Teams from 7 countries were eligible for the Team Trophy.

### **General Comments**

Championship Director Ralf Grunwald and Route Planner Roland Pietsch and Gudrun Helbich with a team of volunteers had excellently prepared everything concerning this championship.

I arrived in Bautzen on 2nd September and found a very good Organisation Team with helpful and friendly people.

The airfield preparation was running. There was a concrete runway, (07/25) 2200 m total length and a grass runway (07/25) 1000 m length, available.

There were marked landing strips on the grass runway for both directions.

All parking positions for the aircrafts were clearly marked. The registration office and information office was up and running. Near the apron was a snack kiosk for drinks and lunch during the training week.

There was a big building with a hall for general briefing, daily competitors briefing and for lunch. In this building was also a room for the separation area.

All competitors and some officials were housed in the Best Western Hotel Bautzen, approx. 10 km from the airfield. The organisation crew and the int. chief judge had accommodation in a nice small hotel nearby. The transfer time between accommodation and airfield per bus or car was approximately 10 minutes.

There was an excellent atmosphere and camaraderie amongst the participants.

### **Competition Routes**

Route Planner Roland Pietsch and Gudrun Helbich prepared three Training Routes (with 18 photos each) and four routes for the Navigation Flights. I checked the four Navigation Routes detailed with the Route Planner, also by aircraft. Only small changes were required in the prepared routes.

All routes were in a very high level - adequate for a world championship - and excellently prepared. Everything was organised according to the Rules and Regulations Precision Flying, 2013 Edition.

After the debriefing each competitor got a preliminary result for his flight.

There were not good weather conditions during the whole Competition Week (from 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September) but nevertheless nearly the same meteorological conditions for all pilots at the landing test and the navigation test 1 and 2.

Navigation test 3 must be cancelled after the 1<sup>st</sup> group because of bad weather conditions and it was also not possible to carry out a further flight at the reserve day.

(We used this reserve day for an excursion to Dresden, the capital city of Saxony.)

### **Landing Test**

On Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> September was the Official Landing Training with 2 different landings (1 *Obstacle Landing* and 1 *Idle Landing without Flaps*).

Because the weather forecast for the competition week and rain until midday on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> September, we changed the time schedule and decided for the landing test at this day.

First take off was at 2:00 pm and until 6:30 pm we could finish all 4 different landings.

All departures were from concrete runway 25 and landings at grass runway 25.

There were acceptable and constant conditions for all competitors.

The measuring by the German electronic landing system was very exact. The video recording was done with four video cameras (2 on each side) of excellent quality.

### **Results**

There were some complaints made about the landings and about the preliminary results of both Navigation Routes.

We could clarify all these complaints, and so there were no protests in the whole competition.

The prize giving and the closing ceremony took place at the competition hotel.

President of honour Vagn Jensen closed the 21<sup>st</sup> WPFC.

### **Conclusion**

In my opinion this championship was in the highest level of Precision Flying. It was a very difficult but also a beautiful event. I am very sorry that we couldn't fly a 3th route but the weather conditions prevented it.

All competitors were satisfied and enjoyed their stay at the competition place. This is a good assumption for the future of Flying Competitions.

One reason for the success of this event was the excellent organisation and the good cooperation between Championship Director, Route Planner, Jury, International and Local Chief Judge and Team Managers.

The contribution of all un-named people to run the logistic around the event was also outstanding.

***Paul Szameitat, Austria***

*Int. Chef Judge of the 21<sup>st</sup> WPFC*

*September 16<sup>th</sup> 2013*