FAI JURY REPORT ON THE 2019 FAI F3K WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR SOARING MODEL GLIDERS seniors and juniors

DATE: July 14-20, 2019 LOCATION: Jakabszallas (Hungary)

ORGANIZER: Foundation for Hungarian Modelling (MMPA) under Hungarian Association of Modellers

CONTEST EVENTS / NUMBER OF COMPETITORS / NUMBER OF TEAMS

2019 FAI World Championships for Soaring Model Gliders - Class F3K, seniors and juniors was participated by a total of 31 countries, 87 senior competitors from 31 countries (GER, CRO, FRA, CZE, USA, SUI, POL, AUT, NZL, RSA, NED, ISR, JAP, SWE, SVK, CHN, GBR, ITA, CAN, BEL, AUS, UKR, LIT, DEN, KAY, TUR, HUN, FIN, SNG, RUS, ROM) and 25 juniors from 10 countries (ISR, USA, UKR, POL, GER, RSA, CZE, CRO, SUI, CHN).

EVENT PERSONNEL

Contest Director: Per FINDAHL (SWE), Chairman of Organising Committee: Laszlo PATOCS (HUN), Responsible for Model Processing: Gabor KERTESZ (HUN), Chief Timekeeper: Istvan KISS (HUN), Secretary and Contact Person: Anita GÖRÖCS (HUN).

There were 16 timekeepers on the field. Their task was hard because most of them had to work the whole day. Their work was good, but most of them didn't speak English.

FAI JURY: Tomas BARTOVSKY (CZE) as president, Peter FEIGL (GER) and Andras REE (HUN) as members.

COMPLAINTS AND PROTESTS

There were no official protests or complaints filed during this championship.

COMMENTS ON THE EVENT

General: The event was organized on the Jakabszallas Airfield. The airfield comprised of a concrete runway and a surrounding meadow with short cut grass of excellent quality. The airfield was open for aeromodelling activities from 8 am till 6 pm.

Pre-contest information: One pre-contest bulletin was published on the official web page of the organiser with all necessary information.

Accommodation, food and transportation: Most of the participants were accommodated in a camping site on the airfield. Some were accommodated in different hotels offered by the organizers and at other privately booked places. Breakfasts were available at the restaurant on the airfield, or in hotels. The participants had also the possibility to order their meals in the restaurant in the airfield. For the officials and the jury lunch and dinner were organised in the restaurant on the airfield. The Jury was accommodated in a hotel at Kecskemet 22 km driving from the airfield.

Flying site: The launch and landing area was built upon the southern side of the concrete runway. its dimensions were 150 x 95 meters. There were 10 model change boxes marked at around the launch and landing area. On the northern side of the concrete runway, the pilots placed their shades and tents. Also, the tent of the contest director and shade for timekeepers were on this side of the runway.

Weather: The weather conditions were changing: on Monday, the first competition day it was warm (25°C) and sunny, on Tuesday it was even warmer (28°C), but a sudden a rain shower connected with strong wind caused a dangerous flying situation, therefore the CD neutralised the ongoing flight and started the group again after the rain stopped. On Wednesday (27°C) it was sunny and windy a thunderstorm appeared and caused a 1-hour break. The CD evaluated the weather conditions in advance and postponed the start of the round. On Thursday it was a bit cooler (24°C), Friday was the Fly-off day (29°C).

Model processing: Model processing was run in a hangar on the airfield. The fuselage nose radius was checked and the marking, as well as the FAI stickers, were checked. All removable parts of the models were marked by stickers.

Flying: On Monday, July 15th three rounds of juniors and tree rounds of seniors were flown. It was the task A - Last Flight, task K - Big Ladder and task B - Last 2 Flights.

On Tuesday, July 16th juniors and seniors flew tasks G - Best 5 Flights, task I - Best 3 Flights and task C - All Up.

On Wednesday, July 17th seniors and juniors flew task J - Last 3 Flights, task E - Poker and task H - Best 4 Flights

On Thursday, July 18th seniors and juniors flew task J - Last 3 Flights, F - Best 3 Flights, and K - Big Ladder.

On Friday, July 19th the best 12 seniors and 8 juniors from the preliminary rounds flew the Fly-off rounds. The CD decided for Fly-off the task B - Last 2 Flights, task I - Best 3 Flights, task E - Poker, task J - Last 3 Flights, task A - Last Flight and task C - All Up.

Briefing: One rather smooth and short technical meeting was held at the beginning after the Opening Ceremony. Some short questions were answered.

Data processing: Data was input into the computer in the CD tent. The printing was made in the nearby hotel room (120 m distance). The results were computed by the program F3Kscore.exe. The results were published after each round (sometimes with delay) on the official information board near the CD tent and in the evening at the door of the restaurant. The Jury checked the running of the software by re-computing some results using MS Excel, confirmed the correctness of the algorithm and also didn't find any mistakes made at the input of data.

CEREMONIES & PRIZES

The opening ceremony was held on the airfield. It was short and friendly. In the beginning, the Hungarian anthem, in the end, the FAI anthem was played.

The three best individuals and three best teams received FAI medals and diplomas in both senior and junior categories. The organizer also awarded the senior and junior winners with electronic scales for checking the centre of gravity. The senior winner was Henri SANDER (GER); the best senior team was Germany. The best competitor in the junior category was Marko DAMJANOVIČ (CRO) and the best junior team was from Israel. The FAI perpetual trophies are till now only for seniors, so Henri SANDER (GER) was awarded the Individual Model Flying New Zealand Trophy and the team Germany was awarded the Team Model Flying Zealand Trophy. Both trophies are rather new and so in good shape.

TECHNICAL MEETING

On Wednesday, July 17th a technical meeting was organised. All WCh participants were invited, about 20 people took part. In the beginning, the F3K rule changes accepted by the 2019 CIAM FAI Plenary Meeting were discussed. Then some remaining ambiguities in the F3K rules were dealt with. It was stated that it would be useful to have a defined penalty for flying during the preparation time and for helping at task C - All Up. In paragraph 5.7.2.1 the word "use" should be removed. The sentence may read e.g. "Gyros and variometers onboard the model glider are not allowed". In paragraph 5.7.9.6 Re-flights, the item c) should be applied only at fly-off.

REMARKS

The surface of the airfield at Jakobszallas was excellent. Unfortunately, the airfield was available for aeromodelling activities only between 8 am and 6 pm. In the beginning, this limitation was not clearly presented to all participants and lead to some misunderstanding. The limited time also did not allow to fly as many preliminary rounds as it was at previous F3K world championships. To the opinion of the jury, the twelve preliminary rounds were sufficient for selecting the group of the best pilots for fly-off, still, some participants were disappointed, comparing the number of rounds in 2019 (12 rounds) with the number of rounds flown in 2015 (18 rounds) and 2017 (20).

In the opinion of the FAI Jury, these were successful World Championships carried out in a friendly atmosphere. The organisers are to be commended for an excellent event.

Our special thanks are going, first of all, to Per Findahl the contest director and also to timekeepers.

Tomas BARTOVSKY (CZE) FAI Jury President Peter FEIGL (GIA) FAI Jury Member Andras REE (HUN) FAI Jury Member