



**REPORT BY THE FAI JURY ON THE 2019 FAI F3P WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR
INDOOR AEROBATIC AIRCRAFT
Class F3P and F3P-AFM**

Heraklion (Greece) - 17 to 23 March 2019

- **Overview**

Those really successful and very enjoyable World Championships were organized and executed by the Hellenic Aeronautical and Airports Federation (ELAO) with the support of Heraklion Municipality from March 17 to 23, 2019. The “Heraklion Sports Arena” located at Heraklion City in the island of Crete afforded excellent flying opportunity for 40 competitors (including 10 juniors) in F3P Aerobatics from 14 nations and 20 competitors in F3P-AFM (including 7 juniors) from 12 nations.

- **Pre-contest information**

General and specific information was communicated to participants via three bulletins. All aspects of the championship, lodging, travelling, costs, rules and procedures were covered. E-mail contact and a well working actual website made correspondence significantly convenient and fast, for organizers, officials, and participants.

- **Accommodation and catering**

Most competitors and supporters/helpers were accommodated in the town of Heraklion, all within easy driving distance of the competition hall. Participants were offered a choice of accommodation options.

Judges, officials, and staff members were accommodated in a modern hotel (Copsis Astoria), which made communication most convenient. The accommodation in the various hotels was of a high standard and at reasonable cost.

For participants who chose the option, and all the officials, lunch was provided in the hall. Breakfast and dinner for Jury and Judges were at the hotel. Breakfast lunch and dinner were of very good quality.

Free Wifi was available at the hotel.

- **Practice**

There were official practice flights offered to each competitor before the preliminary rounds started and additional practice flights were offered to the finalists before the final rounds. All official practice flights were performed in the Heraklion Sports Arena. There were also several additional training possibilities on several days in a site hall.

- **Competition Site**

There was one (1) flight line in the Heraklion Sports Arena main hall, prepared with the necessary layout limitations marked in visible lines. The procedures regarding model processing, storage of model aircraft, access to the flight line, conference rooms, etc. were explained thoroughly to team managers in a team manager meeting (Sunday March 17) and to jury and judges well before the beginning of the competition. All upcoming questions could be answered and clarified.

The flight line was organized by the help of computers and a well visible wireless timing display. During the scored flights the organizer cared well to keep silence and to leave access doors to the hall closed, as to avoid any possible disturbance for the competitors.

- **Model aircraft processing and official practice**

Model aircraft processing took place in a room inside the in the competition hall. All procedures were correctly conducted and equipment was of good quality, certified and calibrated.

- **Organization and execution**

The championship was run in a very friendly, professional way. The contest director and his personnel were always friendly and accommodating. Competitors were called in good time to occupy the ready boxes and for their flights. The published starting orders ensured that all competitors were ready for their flights. All pilots used 2,4 GHz transmitting equipment.

Line directing, and timekeeping was done extremely efficiently. Score tabulation was expertly done, with judges' marks and raw score ranking lists appearing on screens in the hall. Score sheets were available for team managers. The Notaumatic system was used. It worked very well without scribes. The TBL statistical averaging system was integrated in the scoring software. Only the printout of ranking lists sometimes caused some problems which normally could be fixed by the scorekeeper Mr Roland Poidevin and his wife Marie-Helène.

Four preliminary rounds of F3P Aerobatics and four for F3P AFM were flown.

In F3P Aerobatics the best twelve pilots were qualified for additional 3 final flights, in F3P AFM the best ten.

During the last F3P Aerobatics flights a power failure caused a break during the final round 3. After that, when electric power was available again there was a problem with the server for Notaumatic. So, the scores of the last five pilots of the round had to be entered manually. For this and checking the results some more time was necessary.

- **Communication**

The sporting and contest directors were in constant communication with the flight line officials, and were available at all times to answer queries from team managers, contestants, supporters, and officials. The organizer constantly informed the officials and the team managers, via e-mails, of the important topics of the event (Scheduling of training and of competition, logistics, etc.). Live streaming of the final flights and the award ceremony was online on Friday and

Saturday. So, all interested people in the world could see the competition and the closing ceremony via internet.

Wireless system on site provided free internet access, which proved popular with several teams who sent daily reports to their federations. The championship website was regularly updated with scores and results.

- **Conduct of jury and judges**

The jury members were well versed in the Sporting Code requirements and complemented each other in their different fields of expertise and experience. The jury members were always in the hall and available to questions and queries at all times.

Ten judges were used in the competition, with two groups of five judges each. There was no reserve judge. Extensive judges' briefings, with visual aids, and several training flights were conducted prior to the start of the preliminary flights of the championship, and again prior to finals of F3P Aerobatics. A post-competition judges' analysis will be generated, and initial indications are that most of the judges performed well with a few scores being thrown out by the TBL-system. The results of the judges' analysis will be distributed to all judges, and recommendations may be made to the CIAM Bureau.

The transports of officials were well managed and efficient.

- **Protests and complaints**

No protests and complaints were lodged.

It could be only pointed that Materazzi Filippo (ITA) has informed the FAI Jury at the end of the F3P final rounds Friday afternoon that he will not compete on Saturday for the AFM final rounds arguing about scoring and his final placing in F3P. He has put Friday end afternoon on his Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/filippo.materazzi>) an extremely debatable post. This could be potentially considered as unsporting behavior considering he was in addition to his competitor position team manager for Italy.

- **Anti Doping tests**

FAI has delegated to the international Testing Agency (ITA) areas of its anti-doping program, including In-competition Testing.

International Doping Tests & Management (IDTM) has been appointed by the ITA to collect urine and blood samples from FAI's athletes. Sergey Novoselskiy, Doping Control Officer from IDTM, has been assigned to do during the world championship four urine tests on 22 and 23 March.

In conjunction with the Doping Control Officer, it has been agreed to proceed those urine tests Friday 22 March morning during the third and last F3P final round. The 4 competitors have been selected by a random draw done by the Doping Control Officer among the 12 finalists taking care all four competitors were from different national teams.

The organizer has provided one chaperon for each competitor selected for a test (4 chaperons in total) and the appropriate facilities. Each chaperon was in charge to follow his competitor as soon as the competitor has been informed after his flight he was selected for an urine test.

The four competitors concerned by an urine test have been: Bruckmann Gernot (AUT), Materazzi Filippo (ITA), Pasini Sylvain (SUI) and Pauzuolis Donatas (LTU).

The tests have been done without any complaint from the concerned competitors or from their team managers, and without difficulty for the Doping Control Officer.

- **Award ceremonies, functions, closing banquet**

The opening ceremony took place at Heraklion City Hall pleasantly attended by the generic public walking in the center of Heraklion in front of the Venetian Loggia. The FAI anthem was played, and the FAI flag displayed prominently for the duration of the event. The ceremony ended with a firework spectacle. The awards ceremony took place in the hall where the FAI medals were awarded to the winners. The FAI General Secretary, Mrs Susanne Schödel, was present during the last two days and closed the Championships. This was followed by a banquet in Capsis Astoria Hotel in the evening in a warm ambiance and with very good food quality.

- **Conclusion**

It is the opinion of the FAI Jury that the 2019 FAI F3P World Championships for Indoor Aerobatic Aircraft were splendidly organized, and professionally executed. The Hellenic Aeronautical and Airsports Federation (ELAO) and all its personnel who were involved are to be congratulated for a superb event.

The FAI Jury:



Peter UHLIG
(Germany, FAI Jury President)



Bruno DELOR
(France, Member)



Massimo SEMOLI
(Switzerland, Member)

Additional notes

- In the night from Sunday to Monday the model of the competitor David Lockart (USA) was damaged probably by moving posters through the model storing room.
So the organizer decided to put David Lockart at the end of the starting order of the first round. All team managers were asked and agreed.
- During the last preliminary flight of F3P Aerobatics a break from 16:40 to 17:15 within was necessary because too much sunlight affected the visibility of models.