



2019 FAI F2 European Championships for Control Line Model Aircraft

Pazardzhik - Bulgaria

FAI JURY REPORT

Contest Information

Two bulletins were published and emailed to the appropriate NACs. The web site of the Championships was available (<http://www.f2abcd.com>) for information purposes.

A Management Meeting was held on the first day, the 13th of July, with the officials (FAI Jury and Judges) and the organiser (managers and CDs) for mutual knowledge, for undertaking improvement actions and for understanding the various tasks inside the organisation.

- The FAI Jury pointed out the status of the official F2B Flying grass circle. The grass circle surface was not to the expected standard with bumps, holes and some stones which made it unusable.
- Due to the status of the F2B grass flying circle, it was decided to propose to use only the concrete circle with two panels of three judges (as normal) for four days. This would be feasible due to the limited numbers of the F2B competitors (42). The competitors can fly four qualification flights (as normal) and the ranking defined summing the maximum score of each judge panel (as normal). The two panels of judges alternatively can judge in the morning and in the afternoon of the four days.
The three fly-off flights can be flown, as planned, one the fourth day and the other two on the fifth day of the championships.
- For the three fly-off flights, the panel of judges was only one with six judges.

Two Team Managers' meeting with officials and the organiser were held, one on the second day, the 14th July where:

- The FAI Jury discussed with the team managers about the status of the F2B grass circle. Team Managers were informed about the suggestion that the F2B championship would have proceeded as discussed at the Management Meeting (qualification flights in four days, two panels of judges, six judges for Fly-Offs, etc.). All the Team managers agreed.
- The Team Managers were informed also about the other decisions and suggestions defined at the Management Meeting.
- The FAI Jury clarified to the Team Managers, the Judges and the CDs the sporting rules for managing any competitor complaints and protests.

The second one on the 17th of July was held for discussing the proposal to move the F2C first semi-final on the last day of the Championships. The proposal was rejected by the organiser due to time required for completing the results and diplomas on the last day of the Championships.

The information, emergency notices and results about the championships were displayed in a timely fashion on the boards at the various flying circles. The protest reports (only F2D) were displayed on the notice board of the relevant flying circle.

The implemented web site of the Championships (<http://www.f2abcd.com>) didn't show the results during the Championships.

The FAI Licenses of the competitors, Team Managers and the F2D Mechanics were properly checked. One of the F2C team, Bondarenko Iurii / Lerner Semen, was registered as Moldovian nation team. This team couldn't compete to these championships because they would have infringed the two years rule having been competitor team, for the Ukrainian nation, at the 2017 FAI F2 ECh in Hungary in August 2017.

The data provided by the FAI License database didn't include the birthday date of the requested person. Therefore, the age of the juniors was checked using their Identity Card.

Entry

The entries were:

182 competitors in total (including 25 dedicated F2D mechanics) from 22 countries, 23 juniors from 10 countries

F2A – 26 in total: 22 seniors & 4 juniors from 11 countries

F2B - 39 in total: 31 seniors & 8 juniors from 11 countries

F2C – 25 teams in total: 21 senior teams & 4 junior teams from 10 countries

F2D – 42 in total: 35 seniors & 7 juniors from 13 countries

Accommodation & Food

The accommodation was a mix of hotels and camping.

The FAI Jury and Judges accommodation was in Hotels in the city of Pazardzhik. They were with good level of quality and they provided the breakfast. The organisers provided the FAI Jury and judges with tickets to be used at the flying site for the lunch and at the Trakia restaurant for the dinner. For breakfast, dinner and lunch there was no menu choice but the quality of food was good. The transport of the officials to the flying site was provided by the organisation or using rented cars (F2D).

The camping area was located close to the F2C and F2B circles in the park with shadow provided by the numerous trees.

Close to the F2B, F2C circles there was the good restoration area providing food and drinks at cheap price to the competitors and to the spectators.

Flying Site

The flying circles were located in the Park Island of Freedom of Pazardzhik. It was the same location of the 2012 F2 World Championships and of the 2015 F2 European Championships. The Park was well organized with guards at the entrance with pleasant country area with numerous trees. The center of Pazardzhik was 20 minutes walk.

The park is very suitable to be F2 flying site; the F2A hard circle was on the west side of the park in front of the main control building. The F2B (concrete and grass), F2C (concrete) and F2D (grass) circles were located close each other in the east side of the park.

F2A was located at the west side of the Park Island of Freedom and 10 minutes walk far from the other three categories. Close to this circle, there was the main control building.

F2B had one official permanent concrete circle. The second official grass circle was close to the concrete one but unusable due to its surface full of bumps, holes and some stones.

F2C had the permanent circle close to the F2B concrete circle.

F2D had a large area for official and practice circles towards the east of the site of the area.

Main Control of the championships was in the main control building which provided all the necessary for meeting the organizer, the officials and for making Management and Team Manager meetings. It was in the west side of the park, 10 minutes' walk far from the rest of the circles. A bit uncomfortable, but acceptable.

Very useful internet free connection was available in the main control building and in the F2B, F2C and F2D area as well.

Model Processing

Processing was performed in the Pazardzhik Sport Center.

The processing required involvement of the Judges of the various classes. The official nominated by the organization for performing F2C processing were Mr Sosnovskiy and Mr Semenko.

For all classes, F2A, F2B, F2C and F2D: No problems were reported.

The activity was performed fluently, with no remarkable queues.

Processing during the competition was conducted with the specified equipment. All checked aircraft were within the rules specification with the exception of one aircraft in F2C. See the issue description in the F2C competition section.

Weather

The weather was sunshine for almost all the Championships. There were some light rains not affecting the Championships. The temperature was high but supportable. Water, provided by the organisers, was always available for all the officials and the organisation helpers.

Competition

F2A Speed

The Contest Director was Mr Kántor Lajos helped by Mrs Julia Lazarkova and two helpers.

The flying order draw was made by the CD, supervised by one FAI Jury member.

The flying circle was protected with hard fences and there were no safety issues.

There was announcement of the competitor's speed at the end of his flight.

It was pleasing to see four junior entries and the European Junior Title can be awarded.

A special diploma was awarded to Mr Sedef Donchev from Bulgaria for his dedication to the F2A aeromodelling.

F2B Aerobatics

The Contest Director was Mr Penko Penev supported by one circle marshall.

Only the concrete official circle was used due to the bad surface conditions of the other official grass circle that made it unusable.

Training grass circles were available not far from Pazardzhik..

All the four qualification flights were held in the concrete circle using the two judges panels for four days.

The Panels of Judges were led by Mr Stefan Kraszewski and by Mr Serge Delabarde.

The flying order draws were made by the head of judges with a FAI Jury member.

Two ladies made excellent job for the scoring administration.

Concours D'Elegance diploma.

For the first time, it was held the F2B Concours D'Elegance, i.a.w. the new rules. 18 competitors were registered and Mr Krystian Borzecki from Poland was awarded with the FAI special diploma.

F2C Team Race

The Contest Director was Mr Rumen Papov.

The flying order draws were made by the Contest Director and a FAI Jury member.

The contest infrastructure was good and well prepared with well visible displays showing lap counters and warnings.

The panel of judges was composed of Mike Crossman, as head of judges, Attila Kasoly and Marek Leszczak. They worked together with good cooperation.

No protests were raised.

Records

With the new F2C Sporting rules, two records were claimed at the F2C Championship for 100 laps achieved during the semi-final by the French Team, Surugue/Surugue, with the time of 3.09.20 and for 200 laps achieved during the final by the Russian Team, Mikhonov/Cherednichenko, with the time of 6.36.41.

One team was disqualified for the Second Qualification flight since the model processing failed.

It was a difficult FAI Jury decision to take since the sporting rules don't consider clearly what occurred.

The Italian competitor team Losi/Grossi was requested to process the model after the second qualification flight. The official nominated by the organization for performing F2C processing, Mr Sosnovski, performed an empirical test blowing in the venturi of the engine used by that team. That test showed clearly that there was a leakage of air through the front ball bearing of the engine shaft. Mr Sosnovski stated that it could not be a problem but it should be checked opening the engine. Mr Losi refused to open the engine adducting confidential reasons because Mr Sosnovski manufactures and sells engines for F2C competitor teams.

The F2 sporting rule 4.3.3.1 d) (second statement) specifies that "*No intentional air leakage is allowed between the venturi and the crankcase and there shall be no supplementary air induction except for sub piston induction to a maximum height of 0.6 mm at the exhaust port*". The rules about a leakage don't state: how much leakage, what to test, how to test and when to test it.

In addition, the inspection, opening the engine, it is not considered by the rules.

Because the engine couldn't be open due to adducted confidential reasons, the FAI Jury were not able: 1) to prove if the rule above was infringed or 2) that there was an unsporting behavior.

Therefore, the FAI Jury had to make a deeply assessment of this unusual situation. Since the Italian Team didn't get a 100 laps time during the First Qualification Round, the FAI Jury decided, in line with the Contest director, to disqualify the competitor team from the Second Qualification Round (removing its time) with the instruction to repeat the processing test, including the leakage test, after the third and last Qualification Round. In case the leakage test should show the same results, the Italian team would have been disqualified again. At the end, the Italian team decided to quit the Third Qualification Flight and its contest was over.

In order to control the processing tests, all the subsequent processing tests were attended by one FAI Jury member.

The FAI Jury could not notify the reason of the disqualification, only for the Second Qualification Round, because another competitor, in a similar situation, could claim again confidential reasons for not opening the engine.

F2D Combat

The Contest Director was Mr Lyubomir Bakalov and Circle Marshall was Mr Vernon Hunt.

The flying order draws were made by the Panel of Judges overseen by the one of the FAI Jury members.

The panel of judges with the support of the CM was a very experienced team which worked very well and well integrated. The open and clear approach of judges and of their head, Ingemar Larsson, versus the competitors contributed to solve many issues before they could result in official protests.

In fact, only two protests were received; one upheld and one denied.

Five fly-aways occurred in total and one of them resulted in a disqualification. F2D had a total of 97 heats, including re-flights and fly-offs.

FAI Jury

The FAI Jury was composed of Mr Rob Olijve (NED), Mr Luigi Lanzoni (ITA) and Mr Massimo Semoli (SUI) as Jury President. There was common information flow and shared tasks with a good integration and harmony, thanks also to the very good co-operation provided by the CDs and the Judge Panels with the relevant Heads of each class. That allows to achieve a good management survey of the championships.

Protests

There were 4 complaints and 2 protests all in F2D. One was upheld and one was rejected by the FAI Jury.

For each protest, the facts were thoroughly established before performing the analysis. All the Jury decisions were unanimous. The necessary freedom was given to the CDs and the Judges for managing the complaints.

Ceremonies

The opening ceremony was held on the evening of Sunday 14th July in the main square of Pazardzhik. It was without any presence of local authorities, only the organizer and the FAI Jury President made a speech. The teams paraded to the area. The FAI anthem was played, the FAI flag raised and the FAI Jury President opened the Championships. During this ceremony, there was the prize giving for the Bulgaria World Cup held just before the championships.

The prize-giving and closing ceremony took at the same place of the opening ceremony.

The closing ceremony was good and pleasant but with the presence of the sport local authority.

The organiser asked for a special display of all the girls and women competitors in front of the FAI flag. A special diploma was awarded to Mr Sedef Donchev from Bulgaria for his dedication to the F2A aeromodelling.

For the first time, it was held the F2B Concours D'Elegance, i.a.w. the new rules. Mr Krystian Borzecki from Poland was awarded with the FAI special diploma.

The FAI Jury presented the 1st, 2nd & 3rd placed winners of the various classes with the FAI medals, FAI diplomas and Championship trophies. The prize-giving podium was prepared in front of the flag-poles. The FAI Jury President closed the Championships before the FAI anthem was played and the FAI flag was lowered.

The banquet took place at the restaurant in the Hotel Trakia with good food and live music. Each team and officials had assigned a table and the food was served by waiters. The atmosphere was warm and pleasant.

The officials received a gift from the organizer.

Results

Full results were available on the Championships website, but the intermediate results were not showed live during the championships, and hard copies were available to the Team Managers.

The FAI licenses and national flags were available for collection.

Trophies

F2B Individual

FAI Championnat d'Europe Trophy was awarded to Igor Burger (Slovakia)

F2D Individual

Challenge Trophy was awarded to Maksim Shumaev (Russia)

F2B Team

The Luciano Compostella trophy was awarded to Russia.

Comments

The flying site is excellent for holding F2 championships with good infrastructures supporting efficiently both the competitions in all classes and the involvement of the spectators.

The organizer manager, Mr Sotir Lazarkov worked very hard and improved the championships compared to the ones held in 2015, except for F2B grass circle.

In fact, despite the promises to take care of the F2B grass circle, the F2B grass circle surface was not at the quality level required for the F2B championship. This issue caused some tensions inside the F2B competitors and forced to find a compromise solution to perform the four qualification flights only on the concrete circle. The Team Managers accepted this solution during the Team Manager Meeting.

The organisation personnel involved was sufficient.

The availability of the Main Building was good for the management of the championships even if it was a bit far from the other flying circles.

The organization constantly provided water and coffee to the officials and helpers.

Conclusions

Despite the problems outlined earlier, the Championships were good and carried out in a good global atmosphere.

Very few official protests were raised. They prove a good cooperation and fairness of Judges, helpers, organiser and competitors.

Many thanks to the Jury, judges and helpers who worked in a very hard condition due to the high temperature.

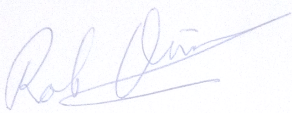
It is the opinion of the FAI Jury that the 2019 FAI F2 European Championships were well organized, and professionally executed. The Bulgarian Aeromodelling Federation and all its personnel who were involved are to be congratulated for the excellent event.

The FAI Jury

Mr Massimo Semoli - President



Mr Rob Olijve



Mr Luigi Lanzoni



Suggestions for new or clearer rules

F2B

It is not the first time that a F2B grass circle is not in the required conditions. The sporting rules have to be made clearer for managing the above F2B scheduling approved by the Team Managers. After the F2 ECh Hungary in 2017, a change of the rules was required for considering this possibility, but it didn't progress.

The FAI jury is available to support the F2 Subcommittee Chairman to define new proposals, based on this experience, to be presented at the next Plenary Meeting.

F2C

The rules for checking the air leakage should be improved.

- It should be defined: when to test, what to test and how to test with the relevant tolerances.
- the processing results (defining which ones) could require to open the engine for internal inspection. If, for any reason, the competitor team refuses to do it, the team will be disqualified from the contest.
- The location of the processing, during the Championships, shall be located in a private area, with limited access.

The FAI jury is available to support the F2 Subcommittee Chairman to define new or clearer proposals, based on this experience, to be presented at the next Plenary Meeting.