



PRESS RELEASE
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Flying high! The finale of the FAI World Air Games

*Fastest non-motorised man on earth, Marco Wiederkehr of Switzerland, awarded the Parachuting Speed gold

*Medals presented for Microlight and Parachuting events

*Closing Ceremony Airshow ends the event in celebratory style

Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 13 December 2015 – **It was a big day for medals yesterday (December 12) – the last day of the FAI World Air Games Dubai 2015.**

The Sky Dubai Palm Dropzone was the venue for not one but two medal ceremonies, at which dozens of athletes mounted the podium to accept their awards.

Highlights of the day included Parachuting Speed gold medallist Marco Wiederkehr of Switzerland receiving his medal.

Now officially the fastest non-motorised man on earth, Wiederkehr set a new world record by registering 533km/h on his first jump here at the FAI World Air Games.

"I hit 533km/h," he said. "That's 140 metres a second, or a kilometre in 6.5 seconds."

Earlier in the day, there was rapturous applause as David Broom claimed the Microlight (Weight-Shift Controlled) gold medal for Great Britain.

"It's amazing, especially from a British perspective, and we've done it on British built aircraft," Broom said.

Golds were also presented to Dutch gyrocopter pilot Remco van Ravenzwaaij.

In the team events, winners included France in the Parachuting Canopy Formation 2-Way Sequential, and Russia in the Parachuting Formation 4-Way Rotation.

The day was rounded off in celebratory style, as the FAI World Air Games Airshow balloonists, paramotorists and pilots wowed the crowds at the Palm Dropzone.

Closing the event, FAI President Dr. John Grubbström expressed his gratitude to all those involved.

"I now declare the FAI World Air Games Dubai 2015 successfully closed," he said.

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About the FAI World Air Games

The FAI World Air Games, conducted under the rules of the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI), is the premier international multi-discipline air sports event fielding the world's top Air Sports athletes.

The FAI World Air Games 2015 has been awarded to the United Arab Emirates and will be held in Dubai. This multi-discipline event will be organised by the Emirates Aerosports Federation under the

patronage of the Crown Prince of Dubai, His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and will take place from 1 to 12 December 2015.

Ten air sports are programmed: Aerobatics, Aeromodelling, Aerostats, Amateur-Built Aircraft, General Aviation, Gliding, Microlights & Paramotors, Parachuting, Paragliding and Rotorcraft.

The FAI's primary goals for this event are to determine "FAI World Air Games Champions"; to showcase air sports to the general public and promote public participation in air sports by attracting new participants to air sports disciplines; to promote FAI events to other sports organisations and to create an attractive platform for TV, media and other external stakeholders.

The past editions of the Games took place in Turkey (1997), Spain (2001) and Italy (2009).

About FAI

The [Fédération Aéronautique Internationale \(FAI\)](#), also known as the World Air Sports Federation, is the world governing body for air sports and for certifying world aviation and space records. The FAI was founded in 1905 and is a non-governmental and non-profit-making organisation recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

FAI activities include Balloons and Airships, Power Flying, Gliding, Helicopter flight, Parachuting, Aeromodelling, Aerobatics, Hang Gliding, Microlight and Paramotor Flying, Amateur-Built and Experimental Aircraft, Manpowered Flying, Paragliding and all other Aeronautic and Astronautic sporting activities.

For more details, please contact the FAI – Fédération Aéronautique Internationale

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