



**PRESS RELEASE**

10 August 2024

## **French team fly high at 1<sup>st</sup> FAI World Paramotor Endurance Championships**

Kent, Great Britain, 10 August 2024 – **Team France head home elated after a significant medal haul at the inaugural FAI World Paramotor Endurance Championships, hailed as a “historic moment” in the sport’s development by FAI President, David Monks.**

The event took place at Manston Airport, Kent, UK between 3-10 August 2024. Organisers were pleased to have a high number of registrations and welcomed teams from all across Europe as well as Australia, Japan, USA and Qatar. The foot launch (PF1) and trike (PF2) class pilots both performed the same tasks.

A total of fifteen nations were represented and the French remained ‘the team to beat’ throughout the competition, their pilots demonstrating the finely tuned skills to perform well across the nine tasks.

In hot pursuit were the British, German and Italian foot launch pilots, whilst Qatari and Polish teams battled against Britain, Czechia and Spain for podium places in the trike category.

The **six medals won by France** were: two golds in both overall teams categories (foot launch - PF1, and trike - PL1), plus golds for both Romain Mauban (PF1) and Glenn Michelland (PL1), a silver for Frédéric Mallard (PL1) and a bronze for Stéphane Fontana.

### **RESULTS**

#### **Individual PL1**

1. Glenn Michelland (France)
2. Frédéric Mallard (France)
3. Hayan Al-Hababi (Qatar)

#### **Individual PF1**

1. Romain Mauban (France)
2. Pasquale Biondo (Italy)
3. Stéphane Fontana (France)

#### **Overall Team PL1**

1. France
2. Qatar
3. Poland

#### **Overall Team PF1**

1. France
2. Great Britain
3. Germany

Organisers were pleased to welcome teams from all across Europe as well as Australia, Japan, USA and Qatar. **Pilots of all ages and backgrounds** showed the navigation skills,

wing control and strategic decision-making to put in some outstanding performances, as years of experience went head-to-head against first time enthusiasm.

**Five female pilots participated**, two from USA and three from France, whose Morgane Planton - more usually seen whizzing around slalom pylons - came 10<sup>th</sup> overall, testament to her technical skills and adaptability as a pilot.

FAI President David Monks, who presented the medals and diplomas at the Closing Ceremony on 10 August, praised the "*spirit of adventure and height of sportsmanship*" of the pilots.

Event Director Barney Townsend also congratulated the winners, saying that he was "*overjoyed that so many pilots and so many countries*" joined the competition, thanking them for their "*airmanship, sportsmanship and general goodwill throughout.*"

### Key facts and figures

- The inaugural world championships in the new Endurance format
- French team win both PL1 (trike) and PF1 (foot launch)
- High numbers of competitors
- 79 pilots from 15 countries including Japan, USA, Qatar and Australia
- Five female pilots (from France and USA)

### **Editor's note**

- [FAI article on the new format](#)
- [Event website](#)
- [FAI logo](#)
- [FAI media corner](#)

### **About FAI**

FAI, 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 Aerobatics, Aeromodelling, Airships, Amateur-Built and Experimental Aircraft, Balloons, Drones, Gliding, Hang Gliding, Helicopters, Manpowered Flying, Microlights, Parachuting, Paragliding, Paramotors, Power Flying and all other Aeronautic activities and Space records.

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