

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CIAM SPACE MODELS SUBCOMMITTEE ACTIVITY FOR 2023

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CIAM Space Models Subcommittee (SM SC) was composed of 20 members in 2023, all from different countries from three continents. SM SC convene on a regularly basis, if possible, at least once a year at the current Space World or European Championships. In addition to the current situation, there was an intensive correspondence on different Spacemodelling issues by email and other available online tools, as well several live meetings.

The SM SC meeting was held during the reserve day at the World Spacemodelling Championships in Austin, Texas, USA. It was open to SM SC members and other modelers, consisting of tech. experts, judges, and outstanding sportsmen. Discussed have over 30 people from 12 countries. The topics open for discussion were: **1.** Current status of SM by present countries; **2.** Safety in SM; **3.** How to attract juniors to SM; **4.** Female classification; **5.** Improvement of current competition logistics **6.** Experiences form common motor box; **7.** Use of improved electronics at competitions. **8.** Improvement of SC4 – vol. SM.

The most important sports, technical and organizational activities in 2023 were:

**1)** The 2023 FAI World Championships for Space Models for Seniors and Juniors held in Austin (Texas, USA) from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and were successfully organized. They were participated by a total of 16 countries (17 senior teams with 105 competitors and 8 junior teams with 60 competitors). The best overall team was team USA. The championships have shown that it is possible to organize Championships outside Europe as well the usage of the common motor box has proved to be manageable and saves time and money to the organizer. As well several improvements in safety were discussed.

**2)** SM World Cup was also successful. There was a total of 14 events organized by 12 countries on three continents (America, Asia and Europe) with participation of sportsmen from 22 countries. Total number of sportsmen was 1207. Due the current World situation only one “Asian SM country” came back to organize World Cup competitions this year (Kazakhstan). A good increase of competitors was noticed mostly in Classes S4A (Boost-glider duration), S6A (Streamer duration) and S9A (Gyrocopter duration). Classes S8P (RC Gliders) and S7 (Scale models) were very successful with a stable of number of competitors and number of contests can be considered sufficient, with S7 rising to good numbers. Mostly West European countries, still hesitate to organize the FAI style World Cup contests (although they done this in the past) despite some possibilities are considered in Germany and Spain. SM SC is now focusing on organization of more SM World Cups in general as there are countries in Asia capable to organize SM World Cups.

**3)** SM SC had also a very intensive activity to make the revision of the SM rule proposals for the 2023 edition of the SC4 – Volume S and CGR. After a total of 36 proposals from 6 countries were received and examined in 2022, it could be observed that the SMSC decided to now focus only on main topics in the SC4- vol.SM. Many organizational and competition improvements were managed. This helped a lot to “ease” the complexity of the SC4 – volume S for the future.

**4)** The current Working Groups (WGs) in 10 fields (altitude models, time-duration, rocket-gliders, scale, motors, safety, logistics, new classes, software in competition and education) were partially discussing through the year to find best possible solutions for the SC4. Their main goal is to analyze the current Sporting Code and improve it in any way. Each WG consists of 5 members, the most experienced people in each field. The WGs were active with intense email communication between the members and the main results were presented to the SM SC. Their main activity is expected to be next year.

**5)** The best placed modelers in the Space Models International Ranking (SMIR) were traditionally awarded by the SM SC for the 2022 season. The awarding ceremony was held at the banquet of the Grand Prix Arhitas 2023 in Pakostane, Croatia, as there were all awardees present. The awards in form of Diplomas were donated by the Croatian Aeroclub. Awarded were best overall, senior, junior and female competitors. The intent of the SMIR classification is to encourage competitors to enjoy versatility of space models by flying more than one, traditional, class and to be awarded (in contrast to other SM competitions, where you are awarded always for one class) for efforts made in whole space models activity during the year.

**6)** Prior to the World Cup in Pakostane, a “Training camp” for young spacemodellers was organized in the near elementary school. Main focus was to teach the children main concepts in model building, bring them into the newest technologies used for SM, and give them more insight into the rules and SC. A total of 30 children from 4 countries (Slovakia, Croatia, Poland and Serbia) participated. It showed great success, and it is expected to continue the tradition in the following years, as well to rise the number of children attending.