



2023 FAI F3K World Championships for Model Gliders, Seniors and Juniors Sanpetru, Brasov – Romania 26th to 31st August 2023

FAI JURY REPORT

This 2023 FAI F3K World Championships for Model Gliders, Seniors and Juniors, was organised under the leadership of the Romanian Aero Club by the Romanian Modelling Federation.

Venue

The competition took place on the airfield of the Air Club of Sanpetru, the suburb of Brasov, which is situated northeast of the centre, at about 8 km distance. On the field, the organiser marked a start and landing area of dimensions 180 x 60 m. Around this area's borders were 14 boxes 8 x 2 m for placing the spare models.

Parallel to the longer side of the start and landing area, 15 meters apart, the organiser marked a space for competitors shades, 6 x 6 m for each team,

On the airfield, the organiser also marked a place for camping for participants.

Participation

Seventy-six competitors entered the Championships; 61 competed in the senior Championship and fifteen in the junior one. Senior competitors were from 22 countries. Among these, eighteen were from Europe, two from Asia, one from Africa and one from America. Two of the 61 seniors were women.

Fifteen competitors were juniors from six countries. Four teams were from Europe, one from Africa and one from America. One competitor of the juniors was female.

Organisation

The World Championship was well organised. Mr. Sylviu Iordan was the Contest Director. He was assisted by Mr. Sotir Lazarkov from Bulgaria. Sotir is an experienced organiser, and these two solved all the situations arising during the championships with calm and foresight.

For the timing (preparation time, testing time, no-fly time, working time and landing time), the organiser used the software Gliderscore6. During the whole competition, only a few errors in the signalling appeared. Nevertheless, their correction led to some time loss.

The Gliderscore6 software also serves for computing and displaying results on the web. The computing of results worked reliably even with the enormous variety of F3K tasks. The format of results as displayed on the web does not strictly follow the FAI rules (missing FAI ID numbers), requires additional work from the staff, and may lead to the introduction of typing mistakes.

The organiser planned to fly 18 qualification rounds of different tasks (CEGHLKAIDJFBEGHGL). The schedule intended to fly four senior and junior rounds each of the first four days. The fifth day was planned with two qualifications and six fly-off rounds (LGMDCE). Senior competitors were divided for each round into five groups, containing 11 to 13 competitors; juniors always flew in one group of 15 competitors.

The juniors always flew after the senior groups, except on the last day, when they flew the last two qualification rounds between senior fly-off rounds.

The number of necessary timekeepers must correspond with competitors flying in one group. The largest group was that of juniors (15). The organiser engaged young modellers from Brasov for this task. Their work was hard; they had to stay in the field the whole day, in the sun and the rain, with only short breaks. Only a few mistakes appeared during the Championships, which were compensated by awarding re-fly for the touched competitor. Mainly, the re-flyer was added to the next group. Only once, a new group had to be formed, and once the junior group made a re-fly as a whole.

Weather and Course of the Competition

The weather allowed 17 qualification rounds and six senior fly-off rounds.

The first three days were ideal for running the competition. The sky was blue, and a light to moderate breeze blew all the day. The planned 12 rounds were flown without any problem. On the fourth day, the rain lasted till 11:45. Due to lunch and necessary preparations, the flights of the 13th round started at half past one. The afternoon was cloudy with a moderate breeze and a few strong thermal gusts. The next task required adjusting the timing system, which caused a 15-minutes delay. Still, flying two additional rounds and finishing the 15th round before eight o'clock was possible.

The flying on the last day was delayed due to morning fog, so the 16th round of seniors started at quarter to ten. Then, the 17th round of seniors finished at half past twelve. During these flights, the weather was cloudy with a light breeze.

After computing the qualification results, a thunderstorm delayed the start of fly-off for one more hour. So the six fly-off rounds of seniors and in between the two last competition rounds of juniors were finished at six o'clock. Then, the Prizegiving Ceremony was announced at seven, but the preparation of diplomas took longer, and the Prizegiving started at eight.

Accommodation and catering

The competitors stayed in hotels in Sanpetru. Some used the possibility to camp in tents or caravans on the Sanpetru Airfield. The Jury was accommodated at the hotel in Sanpetru.

In a kiosk on the airfield, it was possible to buy refreshments. At lunchbreak at the same place, lunches were served for the staff and for competitors who ordered and paid for them in advance. The meals were from the Romanian kitchen, and the portions were big enough. Breakfast and dinner for the Jury were in the hotel.

Team Managers Meeting

One Team Managers Meeting was called after the opening ceremony. The organiser explained the championship schedule and discussed some interpretations of the rules.

Publicity

The current results were published every day on the Gliderscore web page. (<http://gliderscore.com/OnLineScores.aspx>)

Safety

No special safety measures were set up. Not any safety issues appeared during the whole Championships.

Processing

The organiser checked the nose radius, wing span and correct marking for all model gliders entering the championships. The officials found a few models (all from the same manufacturer) with the nose radius in the vertical section smaller than required by the Sporting Code. The competitors corrected the radius on the spot by adding a little bit of resin to the nose and grinding it.

The organiser also checked the models' of the winning competitors on the field. All models were within the limits.

Opening and closing ceremony

The opening ceremony took place on the Sanpetru airfield. At the beginning, the Romanian anthem was played. Short welcome speeches were given by the secretary of the Romanian Modelling Federation and the president of the hosting Aero Club Sanpetru. Then, the president of the FAI Jury opened the World Championship on behalf of the FAI. The opening ceremony was concluded with the FAI anthem.

The prize-giving ceremony was held again on the Sanpetru Airfield. It started with playing the Romanian anthem. The president of the FAI Jury stated that the results were checked and found to be valid. The FAI medals, diplomas and trophies were handed over to junior individuals, one junior female competitor and the junior teams. Then, the senior individuals, two women and senior teams were awarded. In addition to the medals, diplomas and trophies, the organiser donated a cup to each winner (a total of 33 cups). Short speeches by the secretary of the Romanian Modelling Federation and the president of the hosting Aero Club Sanpetru were presented. Then, the president of the FAI Jury closed the Championships, and the FAI Anthem was played.

The banquet was prepared in the neighbouring hangar. The first batch of food appeared insufficient for all participants, but the organiser quickly refilled the bar with high-quality food to satisfy all participants. The music and dancing raised the friendly atmosphere of the banquet.

International Jury

Members of the International Jury were: Tomas Bartovsky (CZE) - president; Narve Jensen (NOR) - member and Ioana Dumitru (ROU) - member.

Protests

No protest was submitted.

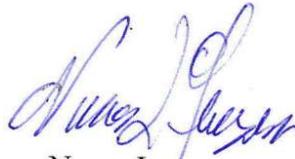
Conclusion

In the opinion of the FAI Jury, these were excellent World Championships, and the organisers are to be commended for their preparation and running.

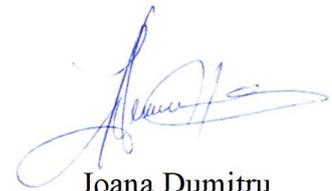
Sanpetru – Brasov, September 5, 2023



Tomáš Bartovský
Jury President



Narve Jensen
Jury Member



Ioana Dumitru
Jury Member