

Jury Report
FAI World Championships for Model Gliders 2015
class F3K
Ludbreg, Croatia
19th to 26th July 2015

This FAI World Championship for Hand Launched Gliders was organised under the leadership of Croatian Aeronautical Federation by the Aeroklub "Rudolf Fizir" (Ludbreg, Croatia).

Venue

The competition took place on the field in Ludbreg not far from houses of the town. The surface of the Launch and Landing Area (80 x 120) was a harvested agricultural field covered to 70 % by grass and small (<5 cm) green plants. The nearest road and houses were at 200 m distance (to South). On the other side (North) of the Start and Landing Area there was a railway track and small embankment. Neighbouring (to East) there was a large short cut grass area for model depots and shades and behind it was a park. On the West side of the Launch and Landing Area the smooth agricultural field continued about 200 m.

Participation

The Championships were entered by 88 (83 in 2013) senior competitors from 33 (29 in 2013) countries and 27 (19 in 2013) junior competitors from 12 (9 in 2013) countries.

Organisation

Generally the World Championships were well organised. Contest Director was Mr. Filip Geci, the Event Director was Mr Sinisa Križan.

The total number of timekeepers (48) allowed smooth running of the competition flying, even at the prevailing weather conditions. Standing in the full sun at high temperatures was exhausting for them. For practicing of timekeepers and pilots a two day international open competition "Rudolf Fizir Cup" was held before the championships.

The organisers used an automatic timer program for controlling the preparation, flight testing and working time and landing window.

The good organisation and the good weather allowed completing 18 qualifying rounds and 6 fly-off rounds within the expected number of days.

Accommodation and catering

Some competitors and helpers used the nearby camping area (about 500 m distant). Others stayed at hotels in Ludbreg and neighbouring towns. (Ludbreg is a pilgrimage centre, well prepared for accommodation of people.)

Breakfast, lunch and diner for the staff and interested people were served in the nearby hotel (300 m from the field). The meal was good and in sufficient amount. In a kiosk on the field it was possible to buy refreshment.

The organiser also installed 6 sources of free cooled water for pilots and helpers at some places of the depot area.

Weather

The weather was very hot throughout the championships. There was not rain. Only few sparse clouds appeared during all the competition days. The temperature reached 37 degrees centigrade in the afternoon some days. The wind changed its direction and usually blew under 2 m/s and didn't exceed 5 m/s. On Thursday afternoon the wind speed was for about one hour about 6 m/s, which caused that less pilots reached the maximum flight time.

Flying Performance

The performance of most pilots was excellent. There were lots of thermals during the flights. At five of 18 tasks more than 80% of competitors reached 1000 points.

Safety

The organiser didn't declare a safety area, but the light models don't represent a serious danger. There was not serious safety problem during the World Championships. One timekeeper was hit by the Model glider at launch. The model glider was damaged but the timekeeper didn't get serious injury. One model landed on high tension electricity line and exploded, but no other damages followed.

Processing

For all model gliders entering the championships the nose radius, the wingspan and the correct markings were checked. No problems appeared during the processing. The organisers supplied stickers for marking the processed parts of model gliders.

Opening and closing ceremony

The opening ceremony began with the march of all participants from the flying field to the main town square (about 1 km). Short speeches were held by the Contest Director, the Mayor of Ludbreg, the deputy of Varaždin region and Jury President. The Croatian and FAI Anthems were played and the FAI flag was raised.

The closing ceremony with awarding of medals and diplomas took place on Saturday afternoon on the main square. All FAI medals and diplomas were presented, as well as both FAI trophies, which looked in good condition.

Protests

There was one protest submitted at the championships. The alleged incident happened in the 18th round of juniors. The claimed incident was a contact of the helper with the model glider of the Ukrainian competitor. The contact could not be proved and the timekeepers declared no contact. Therefore the protest was rejected,

One complaint (USA) was solved in favour of the competitor.

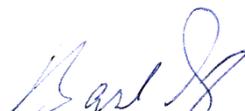
Technical Meeting

On Wednesday 22nd July 2015 a technical meeting was held with free entrance for all participants. 32 people took part. Rule changes which will apply from 1st January 2016 were discussed. After discussing the possible future development of the F3K class, a working group was established for preparation of future rule amendments.

Conclusion

In the opinion of the FAI Jury, these were a very successful World Championships carried out in a friendly atmosphere. The organisers are to be commended for an excellent event.

Ludbreg 25th July 2015



Tomas Bartovsky
Jury president



Sydney Lenssen
Jury Member



Erik Dahl Christensen
Jury Member