

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CIAM SPACE MODELS SUBCOMMITTEE ACTIVITY FOR 2012

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CIAM Space Models Subcommittee (SM SC) was composed of 21 members in 2012, all from different countries from four continents. SM SC convene regularly once a year at World or European Championships. In addition to that there was a very intensive email correspondence on different spacemodelling issues.

There was one SM SC meeting in the 2012 FAI World Championships for Space Models in Liptovsky Mikulas (Slovakia), held on 7th September, 2012. It was open to SM SC members, outstanding sportsmen and all team managers –attended 32 persons from 16 countries. The Agenda contained: 1. Comments on 2012 FAI World Championships for Space Models for Seniors and Juniors; 2. Future World and Continental Championships for Space Models; 3. Future Changes of the Space Models rules; 4. Recommendation for use of new technologies; 5. Condition for participation of new coming countries to Space Models international events.

A special appreciation to spacemodelling was shown by celebration of the “50th Anniversary of Spacemodelling in the FAI” held on the first day of CIAM Plenary Meeting on 20th April 2012. After addresses of Dr John Grubbstrom, FAI President and Bob Skinner, former CIAM President there were awarded diplomas to 9 organizations and 11 individuals for their contribution to development of spacemodelling. Also Antonio Mazzarachio (Italy) four time SM World Champion was awarded with Alphonse Penaud diploma for his outstanding sporting achievements.

The most important sports, technical and organizational activities in 2012 were:

1) 2011 FAI World Championships for Space Models for Seniors and Juniors held in Liptovsky Mikulas (Slovakia) from 1st to 9th September, 2012 were successful. They were participated by 23 countries (22 senior teams with 171 competitors and 16 junior teams with 100 competitors). The best overall competitor was a senior Zoran Katanic (Serbia), holder of 4 medals (2 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze). The technical advantage of electronic altitude measurements for classes S1A, S1B, S5B and S5C was confirmed for the third time.

2) SM World Cup was also successful. There were 24 events organized by 18 countries at three continents (America, Asia and Europe) with participation of sportsmen from 24 countries. Total number of sportsmen was 1272 and number of competition flights 6374. It was noticed an increase in number of participants of 4,09%, and in number of contests of 10,57%. A “little crises” is noticed in class S9A (Gyrocopters) with an decrease in number of competitors of -9,77% in spite of increase of number of contests of 9,07%. Class S8E/P(RC Gliders) was very successful with an increase of number of competitors of 9,52% and number of contests for 18,91%. West European countries still hesitate to organize the FAI style World Cup contests although in these countries hobby flying and High-Power rocketry in parallel organizations are constantly progressing. SM SC is now focusing on organization of SM World Cups in America and Near East.

3) Open International – non World Cup events were organized in non-World Cup classes as back-up events of several World Cups to encourage space modelers to contribute to versatility of this sport. These were S1B(altitude), S3A (parachute duration) and S8D (RC duration rocket-gliders).

4) There was established an international record in class S1C by Vladimir Khokhlov (Russia).

5) SM SC had also a very intensive activity in a complete revision of the SM rules for 2012. There were 41 proposals for the rules changes submitted to the FAI Office for the approval by the CIAM Plenary in 2012 and 26 of them were approved with recommendation of the SM Technical Meeting. The most important changes were in S5/S7 scale models judging and in revitalization of S2 Payload Competition models by introducing a new sub-class S2/P. The proposals showed also need of spacemodelling to find its “main-stream” in 21st century. Therefore the SAPHIRE SM Development Program shall gather experts from many countries to approach new technologies to SM and to attract public and media. One of the goals is to re-enter WAG program in next several years.

6) Need for well educated coaches and competent judges is also present. An international teaching program for all levels of education would be necessary and also some organized refreshment of knowledge of judges in summer camps or in similar conditions.

7) There were published three books on spacemodelling: “Half a Century of the World Space Modelling” by Ioan Radu (Romania) and “Model Rocketry – Space Modelling” and “The Interspace...Book of Space Travels” by Stuart Lodge (UK) that are an excellent and well documented illustrated guidance to spacemodelling technical activity and history.