

FAI World Championship for Soaring Model Aircraft (class F3F)

Putgarten, Rügen, Germany

6th to 13th October 2012

This FAI World Championship for Soaring Model Aircraft was organised under the leadership of the German Aero Club by the Modellflugsportclub TU Dresden.

Venue

The competition took place in the northern part of the island Rügen, the peninsula Wittow. The organizer has prepared seven sites on the coast around the island to cover almost every wind direction. Three slopes were used during the competition for flying. Height of the cliffs above the sea level was between 6 and 20 meters. Most of the slopes are in the nature reserve. Flying at these places during the World Cup was allowed by local authorities.

Participation

The Championship was entered by 54 senior competitors from 18 countries. Two of them were juniors.

Organisation

The World Championship was well organised. Head of the organising team was Franz Demmler, Sporting Contest Director was Armin Hartzitz. All people in the organising staff were qualified and experienced. The number of judges allowed smooth running of the competition flying.

For practicing of judges and pilots a two day international open competition German Open F3F 2012 was held before the championships.

Accommodation and catering

The official Headquarter of the competition direction was the Zum Kap Arkona Hotel at Putgarten. Other hotels and hostels were available nearby.

Breakfast and dinner were served in hotels. Due to different places of flying the organiser left the care for lunch on competitors. It was possible to buy foods and beverages in a supermarket in Altenkirchen, 6 km away from Putgarten.

Weather

The coast of island Rügen is a place where winds are oft and strong. On Monday and Tuesday there blew west wind and the flying was at the cliff called Turbulator, near Dranske. On Wednesday with north-west wind the place called Wind Tunnel near Kreptitz was used. On Thursday it was calm and on Friday at south east wind the flying was on the cliff near village Vitt. On Saturday at west wind the last three rounds were flown again at Turbulator. The wind except on Thursday was always strong enough. On Tuesday the wind speed approached sometimes the limit 25 m/s and made especially the throwing of model gliders difficult.

Local Rules

In order to allow utilize all favourable weather for flying the organiser prepared a local rule which anticipated the possibility of group scoring in the case of interruption of the ongoing round. At the first Team Managers Meeting this rule was unanimously accepted. The text of the rule is attached to this report.

Publicity

The organiser made a commendable work for promotion of the F3F model flying. He arranged a real-time transmission of competition flights (including opening and prize giving ceremony). Each competition day was possible to follow on the web (www.f3f.de). There were many reports proving that people over the whole world, even at different time zones (e.g. Hong Kong, USA), followed the competition flying.

Safety

The boundary of the safety area was marked about 5 meters from the cliff edge. The overflying of the safety plane was guarded by a judge with sighting device. During the competition there were no problems observed.

Processing

For all model gliders entering the championships the nose radius and the correct marking were checked. No problems appeared during the processing.

Antidoping

The competition was visited by a German WADA official, who took samples from two competitors for analysis.

Opening and closing ceremony

The opening ceremony was held near lighthouses on Kap Arkona. All teams were presented on the podium one after another and the short opening speeches were followed by a music and light show. In the evening the organiser prepared an Opening Dinner-Banquet and public Concert from Classic to Jazz with the Philharmonic Brass Quintett of the Semper-Opera Dresden "A musical walk around the world"

Prize giving ceremony was run at the Rügenhof in Putgarten. The mayor of Putgarten and Deputy of the Rügen Region made their speeches. In addition to FAI medals and diplomas the organiser devoted nice souvenirs to best pilots.

International Jury

Members of the International Jury were: Tomas Bartovsky (CZE) - president, Franz Prasch (AUT) - member and Gerhard Wöbbeking (GER) - member.

Protests

No protest was submitted.

Technical Meeting

There was a technical meeting with interested team managers and pilots held on Thursday. Some questions concerning the rule development were discussed. One of the items was the group scoring, but no unanimously acceptable solution was found.

Conclusion

In the opinion of the FAI Jury, this was an excellent World Championship and the organisers are to be commended for its preparation and running.

Putgarten 13th October 2012

Tomas Bartovský
Jury president

Rules for group scoring

Starting order

The whole list of pilots is divided in three parts (groups). In each group there is only one pilot from each team. Pilots from incomplete team are distributed so that all groups have equal size, with maximum difference one pilot. Juniors are handled as an extra incomplete team. The composition of groups is to be changed each round so that the number of pilots competing one against each other is kept at minimum. The starting order in each group is made by random draw taking in account the condition that pilots of the same team placed in two adjacent groups are separated by at least seven other pilots.

- 1) The whole list of pilots is divided in three equal parts (groups).
- 2) In each group there is only one pilot from each team. Pilots from incomplete team are distributed so that all groups have equal size, with maximum difference one pilot.
- 3) Juniors are handled as an extra incomplete team.
- 4) The composition of groups is to be changed each round so that the number of pilots competing one against each other is kept at minimum.
- 5) The starting order in each group is made by random draw
- 6) condition that pilots of the same team in two adjacent groups are separated by at least seven other pilots.

5.8.12. Scoring

The result of the flight is stated as the time in seconds and hundredths of seconds obtained by each competitor. For the purpose of calculating the result of the round or group, the competitor's result is converted this way:

$$1000 \times P_w/P$$

where P_w is the best result in the round or group and P is the competitor's result

When the whole round has been flown on the same slope without long interruptions (se paragraph 5.8.15.) the results of the round are evaluated as one group. If the flying has to be interrupted due to:

- a) wether conditions for more than 30 minutes (se paragraph 5.8.15.)
- b) changing the slope (due to changed wind direction)
- c) nightfall

all three groups will be evaluated separately for the round concerned.

5.8.15. Changes: Any changes in the flight and landing areas may be made only between flight rounds or groups.

5.8.16. Interruptions: A round in progress must temporarily be interrupted if:-

- a) the wind speed constantly is below 3 m/sec or more than 25 m/sec.
- b) the direction of the wind constantly deviates more than 45° from a line perpendicular to the main direction of the speed course.

If these conditions arise during the flight the competitor is entitled to a re-flight.

A round or group in progress is to be cancelled if:

- a) the interruption lasts more than thirty minutes;
- b) fewer than 50% of the competitors have been able to perform the task caused by marginal conditions. Without the condition "constantly" (i.e. 20 seconds) have been met and thus caused re-flights