



MOTEGI 2006
Oct 30th -5th November 2006

Chief Judges Report
Graham Hill

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Haute Voltige Grand Prix Motegi 30th October to 5th November 2006

Accommodation

Rooms, food, services all first class.

Briefings

Briefings were as per the required schedule; each morning and an afternoon update.

The written briefing covering the rules and regulations and safety issues, as well as the general information concerning the timings, transport at, and to and from the event were first class; detailed and clear. Jean-Louis and his limited team of Lynda and Vanessa are to be congratulated in orchestrating their production. I suggest Jean Louis send a copy to the Bureau.

Pilot Briefings

The only issue which concerned me was the problem of possible box incursions. With Jean Louis's help and that of an interpreter I obtained the agreement of the tower controller to call "Break Break Break" twice if such an event should occur. For language reasons the controller would not attempt to explain the reason for the call, but the pilot was to cease the routine and use good airmanship to lookout for the intruder.

The reason for this procedure was that the organisation advised that we were not allowed to transmit on the radio with out a Japanese radio license. I had a transceiver switched on during the event and would have assisted if necessary. Pilot's safety comes before regulations.

Safety limits were emphasised, both for the GP and low flypast. One pilot was given a unanimous low during the second day even after being alerted that he had tested the lower limit on day one.

Judges

Jean Zumaglini
Jiri Duras
Pavol Kavka
Quintin Hawthorne

Judges Briefing

A short reminder of the criteria was covered and each judge given a prepared working sheet. Each judge was provided with a stop watch and required to check the time of each flight

Scoring

The rank order of judges was uniform in the placing of the pilots in 5th and 6th places, on the practice and two competition days. Generally the position of the top two pilots were placed first or second or second and first, with only the occasional anomaly.

As a matter of interest I added back the “top and bottom” scores for each day and compared the results with the “official results” Doing this made no difference to the final rank order for each day. Perhaps we should count all scores for the future.

Generally the bandwidth of marking was narrow and no judge scored less than 6.0 and on only one or two occasions was a score of 9.5 given

Protests

There were none

General

The event was appreciated by the crowds, but not as spectacular as previous events. This resulted from budget constraints. Evidence of this was in the much reduced program. It is pleasing to note that Motegi have agreed to another event to be held from **2-4th November 2007**.