

AGENDA ITEM 8.1

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL JURY

Jiri Koblre

**XV. European Aerobatic Championships
Grenchen, Switzerland
29 August – 11 September 2006**



The 15th European Unlimited Aerobatic Championship was held on 28th August through 9th September 2006. Those 12 days (only 11 were available because Sunday, 3rd of September was not a flying day) represent more time than the rules requirement (7 days) with a positive influence on working hours and number of flights and a less positive influence upon the budget.

39 pilots from 12 European National Aero Clubs competed and total amount of pilots was 40 because we had the honour to invite an American pilot – Michael Racy – to compete “hors concours”.

The International Jury was comprised of Robert Chomono, Osmo Jalovaara and Jiri Koblre, the last acting as the President. Both my colleagues have a high degree of personal integrity and much experience in competition matters. Both spent all the working hours on the airport and properly carried out their duties.

The main experience reached at the 15th EAC is that for leading organization personalities, it would be very useful to visit some CIVA contests – World or Continental Championships – and look into their background. Our rules are very complex and to describe all the things sufficiently clearly is not possible. To recognize the basic things from those of lower importance is rather difficult without experience.

After hard work on event preparation some small details – from the organizer’s point of view – were not finished. Those were mainly:

- Preparation of marking sheets checking by competitors.
- Insufficient box marking.
- Missing wind measurement device (for 500 meter wind).

I must highly evaluate understanding and access of the Contest Director Philipp Sprecher to our demands and notices and his subsequent recovery actions. We have successfully created a common view to the spirit of FAI and CIVA rules. He managed acceptable box marking,



invited Czech specialists for wind measurement, and arranged a smooth running of the contest with the possibility to fly more flights than required.

The only matter in which the Contest Director didn't accept my view was the Russian anthem to be played during prize-giving Final Ceremony. I have warned him many times (and all the members of his staff - there were only a few people) that the anthem version on the FAI CD was incorrect. In this case, they evaluate FAI as a higher and more confident authority and which, I think, is a positive feature. Nevertheless, the Final Ceremony's Russian anthem trouble would be avoided by a higher degree of confidence in the International Jury.

- Box was on the northern side of the airport. Because of higher obstacles there, all the flight heights were increased by 50 m - minimum altitude 150 m above airport elevation etc.
- The Chairman of Technical Committee, Mr. Rene Müllenthaler, was very professional, cooperative and also very busy. During each programme some technical problems occurred and order of flight changed.
- Video operated by Mme. Nathalie Brunet provided high quality records.
- Because of nice weather and plenty of time (only one day was plagued by lower clouds), the Jury approved – with agreement of all the Teams - the 2nd Unknown to be flown by all the pilots. 17 pilots competed in Final Free Programme during the last day of the competition.
- No protests were submitted.
- A new Unlimited type of aircraft – a Swiss design, VOTEC 322 – appeared in competition and was flown by 3 pilots. One of them was Sami Kontio from Finland who had competed at Radom a few weeks before as an Advanced pilot. A new German Unlimited prototype arrived for few hours of static display.

Finally I would like to thank both my colleagues for their persistence and responsible work, to the Chief Judge and his team for their dedication and correctness, to competing pilots for their highly skilled, professional, safe and nice flying, and to the organizers for making this successful event possible.

2nd November 2006
Prague, Czech Republic