



COMPETITION REPORT

AIRSPORT:	Aeromodelling	
EVENT:	2023 FAI World Drone Racing Championship	
CIAM COMPETITION CLASS:	F9U	
DATES:	October 6 - 9, 2023	
PLACE (VENUE):	Namwon City, Korea	
ORGANIZERS:	Federation of Korea Aeronautics (FKA) Korea Aero Models Association (KAMA)	
Contest Director:	Hang Sik KIM - Republic of Korea	
Race Director:	Soon Cheon PARK - Republic of Korea	
Starter:	Yongsang KWON – Republic of Korea	
FAI Jury:	Bruno DELOR Antonis PAPADOPOULOS Mikyung YOO	President - France Member - Greece Member – Republic of Korea
Judges:	Sotir LAZARKOV - Supervisor judge - Bulgaria Pascal BERLU - Pilots' judge - France Angelika MÖBIUS - Pilots' judge - Germany Oscar CHINELLO - Pilots' judge – Italy Eric LI-KOO - Pilots' judge - Great-Britain Chi Hung CHAN - Pilots' judge - Hong Kong Samson KIM - Pilots' judge - Republic of Korea	
Event commentators:	Matt Andrews (Great Britain) and Hyojung SON (Republic of Korea)	

INFORMATION BULLETINS

Two information Bulletins were circulated by the organizer containing all the necessary details for the event.

A dedicated website was prepared under the FAI domain, providing all necessary information and links to the results.

The registration of all competitors and officials was performed by using the Noosphere e-Navigator application.

REGISTRATION and TECHNICAL PROCESSING of MODELS

At the end of the registration, 29 countries submitted the requested data and paid the entry fees.

The on-site registration took place on Thursday October 5, in the Namwon Sports Town Headquarters.

114 competitors, including 40 juniors and 12 women, have been registered on-site: 108 for the national teams plus 6 wild card individual competitors.

In total, there were 209 participants from 28 countries with in addition to the competitors:

- 22 dedicated team managers.
- 57 helpers.
- 16 supporters.

Note: The competitor from Czech Republic was not present which explains 28 countries participating instead 29 registered.

The technical processing took place the next day, October 6, at the same place as the competitor's registration. The models of the competitors have been marked with a sticker, as proof of being processed. The technical processing and the official practice have been monitored by the judges nominated to run the event.

The team of Israel withdrew from the last day of competition after the mandate they received from their government.

COMPETITION AREA

The Namwon Sports Town was the venue selected by the organizers. It is a sporting complex built for different kinds of sports. The football stadium was the place where the track for Drone Racing was built.

The track was designed by the organizer and the setup was impressive. During the night the track was illuminated and the use of on-board programmable LED light units made easier the recognition of each model by using a different color for each one.

Outside the football stadium, many tents were installed by the organizer and were available to accommodate the FAI Drone Racing World Championships.

A big tent was provided for the score processing team and another one for the preflight processing.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

Weather conditions were good in general. On the second day, a strong wind caused a lot of problems to the infrastructure, and the track needed to be fixed since a few gates suffered from the strong wind. The rest of the days, the weather did not affect the progress of the event.

EVENT ORGANIZATION

Various IT companies contribute to the management of the event:

- Noosphere for the registration with e-Navigator application.
- Drone Soccer USA with the League OS event management system, and electronic timing and video recording systems.
- KBSN for the TV Broadcasting, and other operators for the live streaming.

The performance of all officials has been excellent.

More than enough volunteers were present throughout the entire event.

The team manager's meeting was organized before the beginning of the competition on Friday, October 6, at the Chamzoeun Convention Center. All the team managers attended the meeting with a positive attitude and useful questions.

Also, a Judges training course was organized.

It is important to mention that the FAI World Drone Racing Championship, was the main event. Other drone-related events were organized as part of the Drone Festa which also includes, the Drone Conference and Exhibition, Drone Soccer, and the first FAI e-drone Racing World Cup.

FAI President, Mr. David Monks was invited and joined the event from the beginning to the end.

INJURIES

No such an incidence was reported.

DOPING CONTROL

No doping control was requested or conducted.

COMPLAINTS

Some complaints were received and recorded but none of them became a protest. The Supervisor judge was able to provide proper clarifications which were well accepted by the relevant team managers who didn't raise the possible subsequent protest.

PROTESTS

No protests were received.

CEREMONIES

The Opening and Prizegiving-Closing ceremonies were well organized in the Football Stadium and both were well attended by lot of spectators and were broadcast on live TV streaming.

A wide stage was prepared in front of a giant display which was also used for displaying images and videos of the championship.

At the Opening ceremony, the VIP area hosted all the local authorities and the VIPs in front of the national teams each paraded behind its national flag.

The show was followed by short speeches of the local organizers and the local government, the Mayor, and the FAI President. The championship was declared officially open by the Jury President followed by the FAI flag raise and the FAI and anthem. The athlete's oath followed by the official's oath, were taken.

A spectacular drone light show took place right after followed by fireworks.

For the Prizegiving ceremony, the podium was placed inside the Football Stadium. The FAI President and the FAI Jury presented the FAI medals and diplomas to the winners while the City Mayor together with the local authorities presented the local awards and the money prizes.

During the Closing ceremony, the FAI anthem was played and the championship was officially closed by the FAI President.

The banquet took place at the Chamzoeun Convention Center and traditional Korean food was served. The atmosphere was warm and pleasant.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

The FAI Jury would like also to report:

1. Daily updates

On a daily basis, the FAI website was updated with short reports including the daily activity, results, videos, and photos. This is something that needs to be further developed in the future since this way we promote our activities to the FAI community but also to the general public.

2. Live streaming commentary

For this championship, the organizers recruited two very capable commentators who commented in English and in Korean on the most important phases of the championship. However, it was missing important information for the competitors since the scoring system was not connected to his monitor and not enough data available for him.

COMMENTS

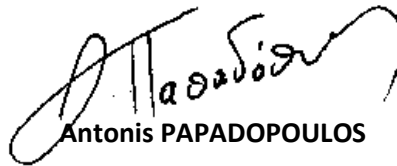
We would like to thank all the organizers, the entire competition staff, and of course the City Mayor and local Authorities for running the event in a fair and friendly atmosphere.

The organisers are to be commended for an excellent event.

Namwon, October 9, 2023



Bruno DELOR



Antonis PAPADOPOULOS



Mikyung YOO