

2017 FAI F3J European Championships for Model Gliders

Seniors and Juniors

Martin, Slovakia

16th to 22nd July 2017

This 2017 FAI F3J European Championships for Model Gliders was organised under the leadership of Zväz Modelarov Slovenska by the Aero Modelling Club Martin.

Venue

The competition took place on the Martin-Tomčany airfield. The field is fully covered with grass and the dimensions of the runway are about 900 x 150 meters. For safekeeping the model gliders the big hangar was available. On the side of the runway there was a reserved space for tents and caravans of the competitors with camping facilities. In the aero club building there was the organiser's office, also available for jury meetings and also a food shop. Lunch was served in a large tent nearby.

Participation

The Championships were entered by 39 senior competitors from 12 countries and 17 junior competitors from 8 countries. 37 seniors applied for participation, one of them didn't arrive. From 19 juniors who applied for participation, two didn't arrive. The reigning junior European Champion Sylvain Quoy (FRA) who won the title two years ago competed as senior competitor outside the French team. The reigning senior European Champion Arian Hucaljuk (CRO) competed with the Croatian team-

Organisation

In general, the European Championships were well organised. Mr. Jaroslav Košťan was the Contest Director, Mrs Lucia Cuypers Košťanová served as the Deputy Contest Director and also Starter. The second Starter was Mr. Peter Košťan. Günter Cuypers was the Chief Scorer. Timekeepers and other members of organising staff were all qualified and experienced.

For practicing of timekeepers and pilots a two day international open World Cup competition was held before the championships.

The organisers used an automatic timing program for the control of the preparation and working time. The Working time was shown on a big display. The sound signals were brought to pilots through 6 loudspeakers evenly distributed along the launching corridor.

The good organisation allowed the completion of 14 qualifying rounds with 8 fly-off rounds for seniors and 12 qualifying rounds with 7 fly-off rounds for juniors.

The software used for the evaluation of results worked reliably.

Accommodation and catering

Many competitors and helpers used the camping provision on the airfield. Some participants stayed in hotels in Martin or the nearby village Drazkovce.

Lunch and dinner were served in a tent on the airfield. The meals were good and in sufficient amount. On the other end of the tent a buffet was installed where soft drinks could be bought. In the organisers office one of the club members set up an ice cream counter. Such refreshment, free for timekeepers and staff, was welcome at the hot weather.

Weather

The weather was favourable during the whole championships, except Tuesday when after the second group of 5th round of juniors a rain caused an interruption. The 3rd group of juniors continued at 18-00. In the following days the weather was sunny with winds of different directions, sometimes stronger, which made the flying more

difficult. On Friday the forecast predicted some rain, but in reality it was only stronger wind. Such conditions caused to increased the differences between pilots.

Flying Performance

The performance of most pilots was excellent. There were lot of thermals during most of the flights. Very often the pilots used almost the full 10 minutes of working time for flying. On some occasions they lost only about one second for launching and landing. Unfortunately under these conditions the reaction of the timekeeper may influence the results of pilots seriously.

Safety

There was no serious safety problem during the World Championships.

Processing

For all model gliders entering the championships the nose radius and the correct marking were checked. The organisers supplied stickers to identify the different models of each competitor. The validity of licences was checked in the database in advance. The organiser prepared three tables and sufficient people, so the processing was running fast.

Opening and Closing Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony took place on the airfield. The teams stood in a ring . The Contest Director held a short speech and introduced all teams with their competitors. The Opening Ceremony was concluded by the Jury president, who officially opened the World Championships and then the FAI Anthem was played and the FAI flag was raised.

The Closing Ceremony with the medal and diploma awarding took place on Friday evening on the airfield. The Awarding Ceremony was concluded by the Jury president, who officially closed the World Championships and then the FAI Anthem was played and the FAI flag was lowered.

The banquet was prepared in Martin in a hall of the restaurant Čierna Pani.

Protests

There was no protest submitted during the championships..

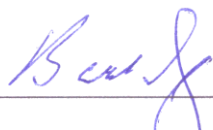
Jury

The composition of the FAI Jury was: Tomas Bartovsky, president, Raymond Pavan and Peter Feigl, members.

Conclusion

In the opinion of the FAI Jury, these were a very successful World Championships carried out in a friendly atmosphere. The organisers are to be commended for an excellent event.

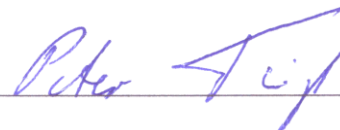
Martin 22th July 2017



Tomas Bartovsky
President



Raymond Pavan
Member



Peter Feigl
Member