

**FAI JURY REPORT ON THE
2022 FAI F1D WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR INDOOR MODEL AIRCRAFT
for seniors and juniors
December 12-15, 2022, Slanic-Prahova (Romania)**

ORGANIZING NAC: Romanian Modelling Federation

CONTEST CLASSES / NUMBER OF COMPETITORS / NUMBER OF TEAMS

FAI World Championships for Free Flight Indoor Model Aircraft 2022 – Class F1D for seniors and juniors was participated by 31 senior competitors from 12 countries (CAN, GBR, GER, FRA, HUN, ISR, LTU, POL, ROU, SRB, SVK, UKR) and 12 juniors from 6 countries (FRA, LTU, ROU, SRB, UKR, USA) including 1 senior and 3 junior female competitors.

EVENT PERSONNEL

Contest director: *Ioana Dumitru* (ROU) Chief timekeeper: *István Kiss* (ROU)

FAI Jury: *András Reé* (HUN) as president, *Ian Kaynes* (GBR), and *Aurel Popa* (ROU) as members, *Narve Jensen* (NOR) as reserve.

COMMENTS ON THE EVENT

General: The event venue was the salt mine of Slanic-Prahova. Several FAI Cat 1 events took place here, before in the Mihai, since 2015 in the Unirea mine hall: World Championships 1970, 1982, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2014, 2016, and European Championships 1991, 1997, 2015, 2017. The organizer succeeded to run these and the 2022 events by the FAI/CIAM standards with the support of the salt mine, local authorities, and some sponsors. It deserves the appreciation of the participants.

Pre-contest information: There were three pre-contest bulletins with all the necessary information.

Accommodation, food, and transportation: Participants were accommodated mainly at Hotel Roberto, and Hotel Teju in Slanic and in other private pensions. Breakfasts and dinners were served at the hotel restaurant, the lunch was at the flying site in the salt mine. The food and accommodation were good. Transportation to and from the salt mine was by vans provided by the mine through the spiral tunnel in a 10-minute-long ride, as the escalator is still out of service because of safety reasons.

Flying site: The flying site is positioned at an unusual location in the not operating part of the Slanic-Prahova salt mine (200 m under the ground, called Unirea) and is now arranged for tourist visits. A limited part of this mine level was used for the competition. The site was divided into a flying area, preparation area, practicing area, and restricted area (forbidden admittance). Tables with heavy benches were provided for the teams in the preparation area, a separate place for the computerized data processing with a big screen, a tent for model processing, and tables and chairs for the jury.

Bottled water was available at the flying site every day. Clean toilets were available, with warm and cold water, located at about four minutes walking distance, and mobile toilets beside the site.

The competition area was about 33 x 100 m and 56 m high which allowed the flying of up to 10-12 models at the same time. The illumination of this hall is acceptable. Seniors and juniors competed simultaneously without any problem. Timekeeping was also without any remarkable problems.

Weather: The outer weather conditions are nearly insignificant here. The air temperature in the mine hall was about 13°C, which is about constant throughout the year. The humidity varies with the seasons, in the Winter is the driest, now it was about 70%.

Briefing: One technical meeting was held on the evening of the practice day. As there was no person competent enough in English and the rules to run the meeting, the jury president was acting. The junior helper and steering rules were emphasized to be controlled by the timekeepers.

Model processing and rubber testing: Model processing was in the tent where an electronic scale and the necessary dimension limits were provided. The rubber weight measurement was possible also outside, where another electronic scale was available.

Flying: Two rounds were flown on each of the three contest days with 3 hours of round time and the lunch break in between. Timekeeping was fair and correct using a timekeeper pool, well directed by the chief timekeeper. The pool consisted of 30 persons, mainly local teenagers plus a few people provided by the participating teams. The model processing was also allowed to be done after the flights to use the timekeepers more efficiently and to avoid queues at the beginning of the rounds. The contest was well in hands providing an efficient flying procedure.

Data processing: Data processing was running on a computer located beside the preparation area. It was equipped with a printer and a large monitor to follow the standings during the contest.

RESULTS & PRIZES

The three best individuals and the three best teams received FAI medals and diplomas in the senior, junior, and female classifications. The organizer awarded nice cups to all team members of the best three teams and the best three individuals in all classifications. The senior winner (after 2018 again) was *Brett Sanborn* (USA), and the best senior team was *Ukraine*. The best junior competitor was *Christian Enache* (ROU), and the best junior team was *Romania*. The best senior female competitor was *Emily Guyette* (USA), and the best junior female competitor was *Sofia Armeanu* (ROU).

The following FAI perpetual trophies were awarded:

- *Rushbrooke Trophy* to the best senior competitor: *Brett Sanborn* (USA)
- *Ernest Kopecky Memorial Trophy* for the longest flight: *Brett Sanborn* (USA)
- *Langley Cup* to the best senior team: *Ukraine*.

It is worth noting that the sum of the two best flights of Brett Sanborn (57:10) is a new world record in the two-flights F1D competition record class F120!

COMPLAINTS AND PROTESTS

There was one joint (USA, GBR) written complaint on the first contest day regarding the builder of the model (BOM) rule in the case of the Romanian and Ukrainian juniors. That was solved by the contest director asking for a declaration signed by the affected competitors.

One protest arrived from the Romanian team after the fifth round, questioning the BOM rule regarding one Ukrainian senior competitor. The competitor signed a declaration at the request of the contest director. The protest was not considered by the FAI Jury as it was late according to paragraph CGR C.20.3.a), which defines the latest time regarding the validity of an entry. The fee was returned.

CEREMONIES

The opening ceremony was held in the salt mine, it was short and friendly. The prize-giving and closing ceremony was held at Hotel Roberto in Slanic and was followed by the closing banquet in the restaurant of the same hotel. Both ceremonies were held according to the standard FAI procedures.

REMARKS

The organizers intended to ensure a pleasant event, but it was disturbed by the mentioned cases.

The reorganization of the depo after the training day was made by the competitors. That led to a bit of chaos in occupying the “better” places. Besides the big tables, heavy benches were provided instead of chairs, which were much less practical when 2-3 competitors are using the same big table.

The jury suggests to the F1 Subcommittee to review the application of the BOM rule and to revise the F1D timekeeping rule to facilitate the use of a timekeeping pool and the model processing rule to allow the model processing after the flight (F1.3.2).

The best competitors are closer to each other than before since the present rules are applied.

In agreement and on behalf of the FAI Jury


Andras REE FAI Jury President