AGENDA ITEM 19.2

CONTEST SCORING SYSTEM REPORT

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Synopsis

During the 2012 season there were five CIVA sanctioned international championships:

Event:	*Scorer:*
Yak-52 World Aerobatic Championship, Bolshoe Gryzlovo, Russia	Konstantin Borovik
European Glider Aerobatic Championship, Dubnica, Slovakia	Pawel Szczepanowski
World Advanced Glider Aerobatic Championship, Dubnica, Slovakia	Pawel Szczepanowski
World Advanced Aerobatic Championship, Nyiregyhaza, Hungary	Sándor Molnar
European Aerobatic Championship, Dubnica, Slovakia	Dana Jakubikova

At each of these events the ACRO scoring system was used to manage the contest data and provide the results.

Technical issues

The software functioned correctly at each event, although the following points are noteworthy:

- At the WGAC/WAGAC championship the scorer usefully suggested that an FAI flag should added to the system to replace the national flags shown for the judges to underline their international status, and this was quickly done.
- It became apparent that transferring the initial flying order for the 81 pilots at WAAC into the ACRO Flying Order form by the usual process of dragging each pilot to the correct position in the list was an unnecessarily awkward chore, and a swifter new hand-entry process has since been added.
- At WAAC the scorer moved the Chief Judge to a different position (J-11 instead of J-1) using the Judge Register list rather that the required Sequence Judge Allocation list after some five pilots marks had been entered. This unfortunately led to some anomalies that could only be resolved by returning to an earlier back-up file and re-entering the lost data.

ACRO has once again been used at a wide range of other national aerobatic events around the world during the year, very largely without the need to refer back to the author for advice. Revisions and upgrades have thus largely been confined to new features suggested by users and a series of improvements to the inbuilt Help systems to achieve better clarity.

Judging analysis

The comprehensive printed Judging Analysis output available from ACRO for sequences where the FairPlay System is used continues to provide detailed information that is clearly of great interest to international judges. Whilst this remains a difficult area from which to extract directly usable advice about how to use the information thus provided, the feedback undoubtedly provides an invaluable insight into how each judge has performed within the panel.

The software was used again at the US 2012 Nationals, this time operated in FPS mode for all categories and sequences. To adapt to the normal IAC raw marks scoring system, the minority vs. majority of zeros was used to determine the correct result for all figures where any zeros were awarded – in IAC judging regulations the HZ or PZ designations are not used. All zeros were entered as HZ's and majority zero figures confirmed by an annotation on the non-scoring Chief Judges' Penalty Sheet so that the scorer could set them as Confirmed Hard Zeros. There was one instance of a competitors' protest leading to a minority zero being set to CHZ by the jury after a review of the video.

An odd number (7) of judges was employed in every sequence, thus the CJ's assistant could make a simple assessment regarding majority / minority zeros after each flight. In practice this minority / majority zero interpretation to set CHZ's seemed to work reasonably well, although there appeared to be no judging line conferences in borderline cases or where a judge expressed any doubt, as there would be at a CIVA event. In IAC contests the Chief Judge seems to act more as a 'Box Safety Master' and local manager of the officials present, with little influence over the figure grades recorded.

Judging Analysis and Ranking Index information was printed for the Advanced and Unlimited sequences at the end of the event, but the unusual zero interpretation inevitably rendered data that was not strictly compatible with CIVA standards. The IAC board has remained uneasy about such analysis being freely available from my published contest files archive however, and consequently the judge analysis output for this event has been protected from access within ACRO by a password; the author hopes that this decision will be revoked in due course.

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