

AGENDA ITEM 5.2

REPORT OF THE CONTEST DIRECTOR

Antonio Quintana

XXIII. WORLD AEROBATIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Burgos, Spain

22 June – 2 July 2005



The XXIII FAI World Aerobatic Championships was organised by the Royal Spanish Aeronautics Federation with the collaboration of the Royal Aero Club of Spain and the Royal Aero Club of Burgos. The Organization was helped by 42 volunteers coming from different parts of Spain and from other countries.

Contest

The XXIII FAI World Aerobatic Championships was held at Villafraía Airport, located in Burgos, Spain. This Airport already hosted the XXI FAI World Aerobatic Championships in 2001, as one of the events which were held within the frame of the WAG2001.

Pilots, members of the International Jury and judges came from 14 different countries and 8 of these countries presented their pilots to compete at WAC 2005.

Since we had very bad weather conditions during the first days of the Championship, with storms and strong winds, the normal development of the Championship suffered considerable delay. During the afternoon of one of these days, the tents of the teams were completely destroyed due to the very strong winds and the Organization had to work hard during the whole night in order to arrange and place new tents so that pilots could use them the following day.

Due to the delay suffered because of the bad weather conditions during the first days, the Contest Director together with the Starters worked very hard trying to succeed in optimising the taxiing procedures in order to speed up the flights and in doing this all programmes could finally be completed.

The only serious flight incident happened when the Spanish pilot Alejandro Maclean was flying and the rudder of his aircraft was blocked, nevertheless, since he is a highly qualified pilot he managed to make an emergency landing and neither the aircraft nor himself suffered any harm.

The Contest Director decided to place the aircrafts in the hangars more than once in order to avoid that they could be damaged during the various storms that occurred some days during the afternoons.

The technical development of the competition was correctly accomplished with the efficient assistance of both the International Jury, headed by Mr. Michael Heuer, and the Board of Judges who were conducted by “buffalo”, as Chief Judge, in a very competent way.

I also appreciated the efficient assistance of Mr. Michael Dupont and Mr. Jürgen Leukefeld, working at the scoring office.

All the individuals who helped in Burgos contributed to make the XXIII FAI World Aerobatic Championships possible and I am grateful to all of them. I must make a special mention to Mr. José Luis Olías and all the members of the Royal Aero Club of Burgos, to Mr. Manuel Ugarte, Deputy Contest Director, and to Hans Vogtmann, who always willing to collaborate, offered to us his very efficient assistance.

The championship has received wide news coverage, with autonomous television broadcasting and national television broadcasting.

Television has broadcasted a total of 304 minutes in different programs. From them, I would like to mention the following broadcasting:

TVE (Spanish television): 47 minutes.

Telemadrid (Madrid autonomous television): 43 minutes.

For the future, I think that CIVA should speed up the process of reviewing the Regulations in order to direct the current competition format towards a different format that can result more attractive for the public and sponsors.

After our experience during the WAG2001, we have held two different events called “Airmasters” in Spain, in 2003 and 2004, and we all felt that it was clearly easier to attract sponsors in this kind of events than in a world aerobatic championship with the current format.

Conclusion

Every individual who was involved in the organization of the WAC 2005, from the Contest Director to the team of volunteers, made a great effort so that pilots and officials could enjoy of a high standard accommodation and catering. These individuals also worked hard to manage that the competition could be developed in a safely way and to achieve that every flight programme could be flown.

It has been a great honour for me, as Contest Director, to have been given the opportunity to collaborate with CIVA and FAI in the WAC 2005 and I would like to finish my report giving



CIVA 2005
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my sincere congratulations to all the pilots who won a medal and remembering Mr. Jean-Michel Delorme and Ms. Marta Meyer, who lost their lives in tragic accidents after their participation at the WAC 2005 and who will always be a special memory within my heart.