

# **Jury Report 2017 Space Models European Championships**

for Seniors and Juniors

Wloclawek, Poland August 19-26

## **Organizer, Venue**

Originally, the Aeroclub of Poland invited to Nowy Targ, a town with an airport in the very South of Poland. April 2017 teams and officials got information that the Aeroclub of Nowy Targ and Nowy Targ City Government had to resign from organizing the Championship due to too little funding for this event. The Polish Aeroclub had to find another location and after negotiations they got an agreement with the Board of the Aeroclub of Włocławek for organizing the Championship at their airfield Kruszyn.

This field in the midst of Poland is nice and big, suitable for many airports. One drawback is a busy highway in the West which must be avoided by free flying models like descending rockets. So, the organizer placed launching boxes and tents to the East, taking the risk that in case of westerly winds the remaining space would be limited and models may disappear in high weeds, bushes or trees. And indeed, westerly winds prevailed during all competition days. Nevertheless, moving the boxes and tents had been excluded as the weather was extremely changeable all the time and an improvement of tomorrow could become a dangerous disadvantage the following day.

The main headquarters for the Championship had been located in the Jutrzenka Medical SPA Hotel. This huge resort within 20 minutes distance by car to the airfield got easily rooms for all teams and for meetings. They served a late dinner and invited for the banquet. On competition days, all teams got a very good early breakfast in an extra room.

## **Participation**

These European Championships were well supported by 16 teams from BLR, BUL, CZE, EST, GER, ITA, LAT, LTU, POL, ROU, RUS, SLO, SRB, SVK, SUI, UKR, plus USA. Additionally BLR, BUL, CZE, EST, LAT, LTU, POL, ROU, RUS, SLO, SVK and UKR (12) sent Junior teams. 90 Seniors (including USA) and 70 Juniors were competing in the 10 different classes eligible for international championships (8 for Seniors, 8 for Juniors).

## **Contest Organisation**

A few weeks before the event father and son Szwed, the Polish owner of the Adrel altimeter production, informed all teams that they wouldn't be responsible for the altimeter measurement of the EuCh. Their disturbing mail left the impression, that these measurement wouldn't take place at all, but that was not the case. A team of two volunteers used the bought equipment carefully and very cooperative with the Jury. So, with the exemption of one altimeter not working, this important part of the event run smoothly.

Contest Director Ewa Dudziak Przybytek had a difficult job coping with the weather conditions. Several times she had to interrupt the competition and even to postpone to the next day because of heavy rain. Nevertheless, all classes got their appropriate time slot. To avoid

time gaps between the end of the competitions and the prize giving the ceremonies were scheduled not for the contests of that very day but for contests of yesterday. Some award ceremonies had been combined with the closing, as a consequence of a timetable partly dictated by the weather.

Timekeeping was not easy with all the small models often fast travelling in the wind. The many teams presented 15 timekeepers only, to be paired mainly with schoolboys and -girls recruited by the organiser. Some reflights were granted after both timekeepers had admitted having lost sight.

## **Protests**

Only one protest had been submitted. One Russian Junior flew his S1A in a height of 515 m - 25% above the second best - and the officials were suspicious about the engine. The CD disqualified the attempt and the Russian team filed a protest, asking for a reflight. The Jury gave permission. - Indeed, the figures of the altimeter and of the tests of the Russian A/2 engines didn't fit: impulse time of  $A/2=1$  sec, impulse time second stage of the flight in question shown by the altimeter  $=2$  sec, exactly the impulse time of an Russian A-engine.

## **Ceremonies**

Opening and Closing ceremonies took place in the open on a rondel of the Kruszyn airfield with all teams in the wide round, music, flags, local authorities, speeches - altogether a dignified frame. Additionally to FAI medals and diplomas awarded by the FAI Jury the organiser donated souvenirs to the winners.

## **Conclusion**

An event with very good level of participation, sportsmanship and organisation, particularly if one takes the difficult weather conditions into account.

### **FAI Jury:**

**Gerhard Wöbbeking (GER)**

**Vladimir Svec (SLV)**

**Andrija Ducak (SLO)**