

# 2016 FAI F3J World Championships for Model Gliders

## Seniors and Juniors

### Vipava, Slovenia

30<sup>th</sup> July to 6<sup>th</sup> August 2016

This 2016 FAI F3J World Championships for Model Gliders was organised under the leadership of the Aeronautical Association of Slovenia by the Modelarsko Društvo Ventus, Vipava.

#### **Venue**

The competition took place on the Vipava airfield. Short cut grass area was about 600 x 250 meters. The whole meadow area measured approximately 800 x 500 meters. For teams which asked in advance, the organiser prepared tents for model glider deposition and shadow for pilots. On the east part of the meadow there was a reserved space for tents and caravans of the competitors with the camping facilities. In the small model 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 69 senior competitors from 24 countries and 25 junior competitors from 11 countries.

#### **Organisation**

In general, the World Championships were well organised. Mr. Marko Lemut was the Contest Director, Mr. Jan Hlastec the Deputy Contest Director and Starter. Mr. Marko Zubalič was the Chief Timekeeper. Timekeepers and other members of organising staff were 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 10 qualifying rounds with 6 fly-off rounds for seniors and 9 qualifying rounds with 6 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 Vipava or in Ajdovščina (10 km driving).

Lunch and dinner were served in the hangar on the airfield. The meals were good and in sufficient amount. Every day in the morning and in the evening a mobile grocery came to the field.

#### **Weather**

The weather was a limiting factor: On Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> August, a strong wind (Bora) made the flying impossible. The wind calmed down on Tuesday morning, so the first flight was started at 11.00. During the following days there was flyable weather with moderate or calm wind or even calm, sunny sky, sometimes with clouds. For Saturday the weather forecast promised again strong wind. Therefore the qualification flights were terminated on Thursday evening and all fly-off flights were done on Friday.

During Friday it was cloudy (7/8) and the wind increased to 4-5 m/s which made the flying more difficult. These conditions caused to increase the difference between pilots. At the last round one half of the pilots didn't reach the landing circle-

## **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 6 tables and sufficient people, so the processing was running fast. Only in one case the licence data accessible to the organiser was not correct and the true data had to be gained by e-mail from the CIAM President (who has wider access to the database than the organiser).

## **Opening and Closing Ceremony**

The Opening Ceremony was run in the square of Manor House in Vipava. There was a parade of teams. Then short speeches of the Contest Director and the Mayor of Vipava were made. The Opening Ceremony was accompanied by performances of local musicians. 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 of took place on Saturday evening in the Town Hall Vipava. After few performances of local musicians the medals and trophies were awarded to winners. The winning competitors consequently made short speeches with thanks to their supporters. The Russian team manager gave a hand painted picture to the German team for their help during the competition flights. 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 organiser prepared a banquet before the start of competition flights. After the Closing Ceremony a large cream cake was served and divided among participants.

## **Protests**

There was no protest submitted during the championships..

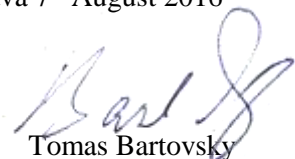
## **Jury**

After arrival the Jury found out that Serdar Sualp (TUR) was not allowed to come because of not having a valid visa. He was immediately replaced by Sotir Lazarkov (BUL) who was present and already approved by the CIAM Bureau as a reserve. Hence the composition of the FAI Jury was: Tomas Bartovsky, president, Sotir Lazarkov and Marin Kordic, 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.

Vipava 7<sup>th</sup> August 2016



Tomas Bartovsky

President

Approved by e-mail

Marin Kordic

Member

Approved by e-mail

Sotir Lazarkov

Member