

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CIAM SPACE MODELS SUBCOMMITTEE ACTIVITY FOR 2018

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CIAM Space Models Subcommittee (SM SC) was composed of 24 members in 2018, all from different countries from four continents. SM SC convene on a regularly basis - once a year at the current Space World or European Championships. In addition to that there was a very intensive email correspondence on different spacemodelling issues.

There was one SM SC meeting at the 2018 FAI World Championships for Space Models in Wloclawek (Poland), held on 4th August, 2018. It was open to SM SC members, outstanding sportsmen and all team managers – attended 40 persons from 15 countries. The Agenda contained: 1. Current status of SM by countries; 2. Experience with new EU restrictions for SM; 3. Certification process of SM engines; 4. SM classes and how to improve them.

The most important sports, technical and organizational activities in 2018 were:

1) 2018 FAI World Championships for Space Models for Seniors and Juniors held in Wloclawek (Poland) from 29st July to 4th August, 2018 were successful. They were participated by a total of 23 countries (23 senior teams with 174 competitors and 16 junior teams with 109 competitors). The best overall team was team Russia. For the 2nd time, a novel category – S2/P (Precision fragile payload competition) was held as an open event with large participation.

2) SM World Cup was also successful. There were a total of 16 events organized by 11 countries at three continents (America, Asia and Europe) with participation of sportsmen from 23 countries. Total number of sportsmen was 1188. It was noticed an decrease in number of participants mostly due “traditional SM countries” didn’t organize World Cup events this year. This “little crises” is noticed in classes S4A (Boost-glider duration), S6A (Streamer duration) and S9A (Gyrocopters) with an decrease in number of competitors of -18,09% in and a decrease of number of contests of 13,63%. This is should improve next year. Classes S8E/P (RC Gliders) and S7 (Scale models) were very successful with a stable of number of competitors and number of contests. West European countries still hesitate to organize the FAI style World Cup contests although in these countries hobby flying and High-Power rocketry in parallel organizations are constantly progressing. SM SC is now focusing on organization of more SM World Cups in America and Near East.

3) Open International – non-World Cup events were organized in non-World Cup classes as back-up events of several World Cups to encourage space modelers to contribute to versatility of this sport. These were S3A (parachute duration) and S8D (RC duration rocket-gliders).

4) SM SC had also a very intensive activity in a complete revision of the SM rules for 2018. There were a total of 24 proposals for the rules changes submitted to the FAI Office for the approval by the CIAM Plenary in 2018 and 11 of them were approved with recommendation of the SM Technical Meeting. The most important changes were in S9 Gyrocopter and in re-defining current un-clear rule paragraphs. The proposals showed also need of spacemodelling to “up-grade” to the standards of the 21st century. Therefore the SAPHIRE SM Development Program is planned to have a “re-start” and shall gather experts from many countries to approach new technologies to SM and to attract public and media.

5) Need for properly educated coaches and competent judges is also present. An international teaching program for all levels of education would be necessary and also some organized refreshment of knowledge of judges (both scale and classical) at training sessions or in similar conditions. For this purpose, a “Guide” program was started for scale judges.

6) On the current development status one article in the CIAM Flyer was published by Stuart Lodge (UK) that shortly describes the spacemodelling technical activity and history through the years from its start.

7) Since 2018, new EU restrictions came into force, which have negative effects on SM in some countries (for example Germany, where only motor with international certification can be used, for this reason no FAI competitions were held in Germany). During the next time, the situation with EU and local rules and restrictions in all active SM countries needs to be examined, and to see to what measures need to be taken, to keep the sport active (and to expand) in all countries.