



2020 CIVL PLENARY – ANNEXE 11A CHAMPIONSHIPS AND TEST EVENTS REVIEW

CHAMPIONSHIPS

22nd FAI World Hang Gliding Class 1 – Tolmezzo, Friuli Venezia Giulia, Italy

This was very successful competition superbly managed by the highly experienced team of officials. The weather overall was good, albeit there was a stopped task due to meteorological conditions on goal.

Nine out of ten tasks were completed with a total distance of almost 1,060 km spanning three countries. One excellent task was 200 km long with 45% of the competitors reaching goal. A serious concern of note was that some pilots did not monitor the competition radio safety frequency, relying instead on their team leaders to provide information second-hand. Further, an interesting complaint led to all pilots having to ensure that their gliders met the required visibility standards. All pilots should be aware of mandatory safety rules before they arrive at future competitions.

The 120 pilots represented 29 nations.

- Overall – The gold for Alexandro Ploner (ITA); Christian Ciech (ITA) and Primoz Gricar (GER) for silver and bronze.
- Team – An easy win for Italy. Brazil and Germany take silver and bronze.

16th FAI World Paragliding – Krushevo, North Macedonia

The 150 pilots represented 49 nations.

A success: good organisation, fine weather, challenging tasks and impressive pilots' skill. Ten 100-km-average tasks flown for a total of 128,662 km. The championship can be separated in two: the first half with fast speed, tight gaggles and close arrivals; the second with more options and, as tiredness set in, more spread pilots and surprising winners, one with a 13 minutes lead.

In the end, the top ten pilots all came from different nations. This can be analysed as a tremendous success for the CIVL Competition Class paragliders, all 'safe, fair and satisfying'. Safe: the gliders performed very well even in turbulent conditions. Fair: an affordable certification allowed 'small' manufacturers to be present at the championship; all gliders flown were widely available to anyone in all sizes. Satisfying: CCC gliders are performant and predictable flying machines. The CCC glider quality has been a key factor in raising the skill level of pilots worldwide.

- Overall – Joachim Oberhauser (ITA) never had a bad day and won overall with quite a margin (90 points) over Gleb Sukhotski (RUS). Two points behind, Honorin Hamard (FRA) is again on the podium, after his 2015 Gold and 2017 Bronze. Then we find seven pilots in 15 points: a tight race!
- Women – There were 21 pilots and 20 scored for their teams. In the top three teams, each woman scored at least twice. Meryl Delferrière (FRA) prevailed, winning six tasks and the title. Silver goes to Yael Margelisch (SUI), also well known for her XC record-breaking attempts. Kari Elis (AUS) is in Bronze, now a medallist of two World championships.
- Team – France seemed to dominate with 5 tasks wins, but Italy scored huge one day. In the end, France and Italy share first place and Japan is third.

10th FAI World Paragliding Accuracy – Vrsac, Serbia

131 pilots including 22 women representing 28 nations participated.

After 8 competition days with 9 rounds achieved, Wu Yong (CHN) won the overall, Soyoung Cho (KOR) won the women, and Indonesia dominated the team.

There were no accidents and injuries, in spite of some strong condition moments during the competition. Competitors were satisfied with the organization and the overall performance of the competition officials.

A pilots meeting was held during the competition. The Jury president and Steward collected major points that pilots concerned and discussed.

TEST EVENTS

16th FAI European Paragliding XC – Pantelej-Nis, Serbia

The 146 pilots represented 20 nations.

The organisation was very good with a high number of participants. Three national titles (Serbia, Bosnia Herzegovina and Hungary) were awarded at the end. The weather was not very nice with strong winds and frequent thunderstorms..

Only two completed tasks. A third one was stopped for over-developments on the route. Not very big gaggles during the comp, probably because the pilot's skill was very different. No severe accidents reported: task one ankle sprained at landing, task three big knot at take off, landed safely a few minutes later.

The organizers did a good preparation job and they will have more money and more volunteers for the main event. The 2020 European Championship can be held in a fair and safe manner.

4th FAI Pan-American Paragliding XC – Baixo Guandu, Brazil

No test event needed by Bureau decision (same venue and organisers as PWC Super-Finale).

2nd FAI World Hang-Gliding Sport Class – Groveland, Florida, USA

21st FAI World Hang-Gliding 2 – Groveland, Florida, USA

9th FAI World Hang-Gliding 5 – Groveland, Florida, USA

14th FAI World Hang-Gliding Women 1 – Groveland, Florida, USA

35 pilots, 8 nations, 4 tasks.

1st FAI Pan-American Hang-Gliding Class 1 – Big Spring, Texas, USA

16 pilots from two (USA and MEX) countries were involved. The low turnout for the test event was due to the current World Hang-Gliding championship the week before this event.

Even so, seven tasks were flown during the event, with four over 100 km! The events longest task was 151 km, where four pilots were racing to take the top spot all the way to the end. The lack of financial resources to hire staff affected all the operational (i.e. launch and goal) aspects of the competition. Still, the organisers did a fine job for the small number of pilots showing up and promise even better time next year.

21st FAI European Hang-Gliding Class 1 – Monte Cucco, Italy

62 pilots represented 11 nations. The organization was very good in all aspects: opening and closing ceremony, facilities (that will be improve for the official event), staff. They held their nationals for both class 1, class 5 and class Sport. The race was safe and fair. The weather was nice and five tasks were completed. Everything ran smoothly. Two minor accidents occurred (one in goal, one in a landing durign the course). All the FAI evaluating criteria were fully satisfied and the Euro 2020 will be a great event.

1st FAI Asian-Oceanic Paragliding XC – Bright, Australia

Test event Postponed to February 2020

4th FAI Asian Paragliding Accuracy – Taldykorgan, Kazakhstan

A competition with 57 pilots from 16 countries. The flying site in Tekeli has been used several times for a cat 1 (2016) and category 2 events. It is a very suitable site. 12 rounds were achieved. For the next year's event communication needs to be improved including live scoring and wifi internet. Also organization needs to be strengthened with more people. Accommodation alternatives closer to the competition site need to be looked into.

7th FAI European Paragliding Accuracy – Sibiu, Romania

Due to some other category 2 events taking place at the same time and due to some visa issues for pilots entering Romania the competition only had 9 pilots from 4 countries. The event was run successfully, the organizer is very experienced. One of the main issues will be construction of the hill take-off and the road leading to it. Also rules for using two take off methods must be clarified.

3rd FAI World Paragliding Aerobatic – Trasaghis, Italy

The organiser has proven over the last years to have the appropriate experience, the knowhow and the staff in order to run very effective events. Only some minor improvements are necessary: wifi internet connection, noise disturbance by the speaker and music, weather information, facilities at takeoff, lunch packs.