

Jury Report 2016 Space Models World Championships

for Seniors and Juniors

Lviv, Ukraine, August 22-30

Organizer, Venue

April 2014 the Federation of Aeronautical Sports of Ukraine won the 2016 FAI Space Models WCh against two competing countries, before having proved their challenging ambitions to open the championships to the public. Such a program had been performed in the frame of very successful European Championships in 2015, and indeed, high expectations for 2016 have not been disappointed. Obviously, the 2016 championships used the experiences gathered in 2015, but surpassed them in many aspects and details.

Originally in 2014, a venue in Dnjepropetrovsk had been taken into consideration as it's the place of the Spacemodelling Sports Federation of Ukraine and of their sponsor, the company Noosphere. The annexation of the Crimea March 2014 through Russia and the war in Donbass let the organizer change their mind in order to move the events 2015 and again 2016 to the very West of the Ukraine. Lviv/Lemberg, an old European town with rich tradition, is situated just 70 km from the border to Poland, offering comfortable travelling by car at least for many European teams. A flat green open space some kilometres north of the big city had been prepared as a flying field and for a market place with tents for teams, restaurants, small shops, a stand for spectators and prize giving ceremony and a huge screen. Marking the boundary of the field to the West, a main road from the city centre reduced the driving time from the hotels to minutes.

Participation

Despite of the Minsk-treaty, the event suffered somewhat from the fact that on the other end of the big country a hidden war was still going on. Especially teams from Russia and from Western Europe were missed; nevertheless attended 19 teams the WCh, BLR, BUL, CAN, CHN (biggest team with 21 Seniors and 19 Juniors), CZE, ESP, EST, GBR, ITA, LAT, LTU, POL, ROU, SER, SVK, SLO, SUI, UKR and USA. 13 teams sent as well Junior teams. All together, 131 Seniors and 84 Juniors were competing in the 10 different classes eligible for international championships (8 for Seniors, 8 for Juniors).

Contest Organisation

Excellent standard of rocketry in Ukraine and an outstanding support by resources of the Noosphere Company (CEO Michael Riabokon was Event Director, IT managed by Bronislav Vil'kosh) made the event looking perfectly organized. Sports Director Volodymyr Panakhno and the two RSO (Andrija Ducak for Seniors and Ewa Dudziak Przybytek for Juniors) proved to be in good control of their difficult tasks. Same regards to the very good work of secretary Hanna Hapon and all officials and helpers in order to get the results almost instantly processed by the Noosphere "Cup Navigator". Small screens for competitors and the big screen for the public showed these data. Footage of several cameras was mixed in and could be watched worldwide live via internet as the screen-view was transmitted to a satellite.

A detailed timetable, published two days before the start of the event, turned out to be an exact guideline hour by hour, almost minute by minute, for the eight days of the contest. All

16 competitions started nearly punctual; the whole event was blessed with very good weather. At the launching area well visible signals counting down the time of every round provided - in combination with a reliable PA system - information for all contestants.

According to long-term experience, the wind was expected to come from the west. But like in 2015, wind from the east prevailed in combination with strong thermals during the event, making retrieving in high grown weed sometimes very difficult. Nevertheless, other than in 2015 and because of more support out of bigger teams, just a few altimeters in S1A/B and S5B/C went lost. The performances were excellent, and Dr. Robert Kreutz (USA) flew a new S1B-World Record with 753 m height.

Protests and Complaints

One protests and one complaint had been submitted. The **protest** from Romania - upheld by the FAI Jury - regarded score sheets with the static points for the S5B and S5C scale classes, incomplete filled in by the scale judges. The forms demand to provide points in 30 different positions for each competitor; in order to curtail time consuming writing the judges just cumulated results for the official sheets to be given to competitors. Copies of the original score sheets put up at the score board cured the situation for the time being, but that's not a way FAI Jury recommends in principle.

The **complaint** had been brought forward by the Ukraine Team Manager during the S9A Senior competition. The RSO at first had disqualified a flight for expelling unattached parts, then stated that the model be returned for inspection - thus overruling his original DQ decision. This revised decision was backed by the two timekeepers who observed mixing up with an S5B flight launched at the same time by a junior and crossing the path of the S9A. The S9A-model in question disappeared in the distance and could not be retrieved to show that it was intact as the RSO demanded. After interviewing the timekeepers, the Sports Director suspended that demand, not before he had consulted the FAI Jury. The maximum time now part of the results reversed the team classification providing Ukraine with Gold and Slovenia with Silver. The Slovenian team lodged a protest against the results, but that had to be rejected as - according to SC4 Vol ABR B.18.2.b) - the deadline had expired for almost one day.

Ceremonies

The **Opening** took place on the Svoboda Prospect in the heart of Lviv as part of celebrations for the upcoming Ukraine Independence Day. The **Closing** had been integrated into an comparable informal banquet offered far out of the city in a factory style disco. FAI-medals and -diplomas had already been awarded at the end of the competition days on the flying field, but CIAM trophies and cups of the organizer were now received by the winners in presence of the presidents of FAI and CIAM.

Public Awareness

The opening was the lively invitation to see the competitions. Free busses from Lviv to the field brought a permanent stream of visitors, enjoying the holiday 24th of August (National Day) and the following weekend. The visitors watched the climbing rockets from a grandstand if they didn't prefer to approach the launching area. Children were invited to build thousands of space models with streamers which later could be launched on spot in

the midst of the market place. Next day the kids painted what they saw or experienced. - To our knowledge, never before FAI Space Models Competitions had been that well organized to become a popular event for a whole region like 2015 and 2016 in Lviv.

Conclusion

Exceptional event, and an example to other CIAM classes how to convert competitions blamed being boring into meetings of great popularity.

FAI Jury:

Gerhard Wöbbeking (GER)

Taras Tataryn (CAN)

Yuriy Hapon (UKR)