

2024 FAI CIAM Pylon Racing World Cup Report

Dear Racers around the World,

2024 has been a remarkable year for international World Cup racing, and I would like to begin by thanking all the clubs and their members who hosted the races this year. We've had the privilege of racing at both the classic venues we all know and love, as well as new locations that warmly welcomed us. A huge thank you to all the hosts!

This year was especially exciting with **Australia** joining the World Cup series and **Qatar** hosting the closing race for the season. The global pylon racing community came together to race, connect, and celebrate, making 2024 an unforgettable year for all of us.

Throughout the seven World Cup races held across the globe, a total of **151 competitors** participated in our four classes: **F3-D**, **F3-E**, **F3-T**, and **F3-R**. This is a **50% increase** in participation compared to previous years!

Here are the number of participants in each class:

- **F3D:** 46 pilots
- **F3E:** 28 pilots
- **F3T:** 64 pilots
- **F3R:** 13 pilots

Race Scoring System

For those unfamiliar with the World Cup scoring system, we use the best three results from a minimum of five races. Each country can enter up to two races, but only one will count towards the World Cup score. For a race to be valid, at least two competitors from different nationalities must make a valid flight. You can find more details on the rules here: [FAI CIAM Code](#).

Thanks to **Bram Lentjes** for his hard work on the calculations, we now have the final World Cup standings for all classes.

Congratulations to the Winners

I want to congratulate the following racers for their outstanding performances in the 2024 World Cup:

- **F3D Results:**
 - **Gold:** Bram Lentjes
 - **Silver:** Robbert van den Bosch
 - **Bronze:** Thomas Andrlík
- **F3E Winners:**
 - **Gold:** Kamil Vydra
 - **Silver:** Thomas Andrlík
 - **Bronze:** Joris Crèvecoeur

- **F3T Winners:**
 - **Gold:** Paolo Mucedola
 - **Silver:** Fahad Al-Hemaidi
 - **Bronze:** Ray van de Klok
- **F3R Winners:**
 - **Gold:** Jeandre van der Schaar
 - **Silver:** Tommy Hendriksson
 - **Bronze:** Patrick O'Donovan

We are currently investigating the best time to present the medals and diplomas to the winners in all categories. Stay tuned for more updates!

Special Mentions

A special mention goes to the **Metkemeijer** father and daughter team. **Margot Metkemeijer** decided in **Qatar 2023** to set a goal to compete in **F3R**. Starting with zero model flying experience for Margot, the **Metkemeijer team** scored **59 World Cup points** in the **Qatar F3R race**. This is a remarkable achievement and an inspiration to all newcomers to the sport!

Improvements and Concerns

As we look ahead to 2025, there are a few areas we hope to improve:

- **Fuel Quality and Composition:** Inconsistencies have been noted, and we hope to see improvements in this area for the 2025 season.
- **Gyro Systems or Augmented Flight Controllers:** These are currently not allowed under the World Cup rules, but we continue to monitor developments in technology to ensure fair competition.
- **FAI License and ID Number:** Competitors must have a valid **FAI license** and **FAI ID number**. This has been a point of concern this season, and we urge all racers to ensure they are properly licensed for future races.

Race Participation & Challenges

The total number of entries in 2024 was much higher than previous years, which is fantastic to see. However, we faced challenges, particularly with some racers not having a valid **FAI ID license**. This led to complications in calculating the World Cup results and, more importantly, caused the **cancellation of one race in Australia**, which impacted the overall standings.

A reminder to all racers: You can obtain a valid **FAI license** through your **National Aero Club (NAC)**, and the cost is equivalent to that of a single carbon fiber propeller. Please make sure you have your **FAI license** for the **2025 racing season!**

We also look forward to seeing **greater participation** in the World Cup series from regions that have yet to host races, including **Japan, Mexico, USA, Canada, Spain, Portugal, and Indonesia**. I know many of you are racing in these areas, and we are excited to see the World Cup expand to these regions in the future.

Final Thoughts

As we wrap up the 2024 season, I want to express my gratitude to all the racers, volunteers, and hosting clubs who made this World Cup season possible. It's been a year of great racing, camaraderie, and global connection. Let's keep this momentum going into **2025**, ensuring that we continue to grow and strengthen our community.

Here's to an exciting future for **FAI Pylon Racing**, and to all the racers who make it so special!

Best regards,

Robbert van den Bosch

2024 World Cup Coordinator, FAI-CIAM