

**FAI JURY REPORT**  
**8<sup>th</sup> FAI F3C WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**DEBLIN, POLAND**  
**13. THRU 20. AUGUST, 1999**

**ORGANIZATION:** The 8th FAI F3C R/C Helicopter World Championship was organized by the Polish Aeroclub's Aeromodeling Section. The contest site was the Polish Air Force Academy air base in the town of Deblin. Contest director Wieslaw Szymkowski and his staff of 26 officials ran the competition. At least one specialist and in some cases multiple specialists were dedicated to a job function. This world championship had a record attendance with 75 contestants from 30 countries registered prior to the competition. The information bulletins mailed prior to the event were received well in advance.

**ACCOMMODATION:** The contest officials, FAI Judges, FAI Jury and most of the contestants stayed at hotels, hostels or private homes located on the air base within a short walk of the flying site. Some of the competitors stayed in hotels in the nearby town of Pulawy. Breakfast, lunch and dinner were served in the Officer's Mess Hall also within a short walk of the flying site.

**FLYING SITE:** The contest area was laid out on a grass strip directly in front of the main hangars and faced directly north. This permitted its use from sunrise to sunset with minimal interference from the sun. The helipad and start box were initially covered with heavy vinyl but this surface became very slippery during the official practice. The vinyl was removed in favor of short grass before the start of the first preliminary round. Four large tents were placed along the spectator line to be used for models and pilots. One larger tent housed the transmitter impound and frequency monitor. Several rooms in the main terminal building were used for a reception area (Secretariat), FAI Jury meetings, computer scoring and newsletter printing.

**MODEL PROCESSING:** Contestant registration and model processing took place on 12. and 13. August in one of the hangars. Each model was checked for FAI sticker, proper markings and to assure compliance with FAI regulations. Every competitor and Team Manager received souvenirs and a competition program. A team managers meeting took place at 17:00 hours and this was followed by a campfire picnic at the recreation center located on the airbase.

**OPENING CEREMONY:** The opening ceremony took place at 17:00 hours on Saturday in the sports stadium which was also a short walk from the flying site. The stadium was decorated with an Olympic flame flanked by the flags of the participating nations. Each team accompanied by an Air Force Cadet marched onto the field to music played by the Academy marching band. The competition was opened by General Ryszard Olszewski the commander of the Polish Air Force Academy and other high ranking Aeroclub officials. An elaborate air show followed and consisted of a five man aerobatic team flying turboprop trainers, a World War I biplane making low level passes, a Sokol transport helicopter performing slow motion aerobatics, a hot air balloon and parasail equipped skydivers landing in the stadium infield carrying the Polish and FAI flags.

**COMPETITION:** Official practice flying took place on 13. and 14. August with 30 minutes allocated to each team. An "A Program" calibration flight for the judges was arranged prior to the first preliminary round. The first preliminary round started at 06:00 hours Sunday and ended at 20:00 hours. The same schedule was followed for the second, third and fourth preliminary rounds on 16., 17. and 18. August. The weather during the preliminary rounds was partly cloudy with significant variation in wind speed and direction. One round was almost eliminated because of heavy rain. Fortunately the rain only lasted one hour and the organizer was able to rescue the round by reducing the break periods and excellent cooperation from the pilots. A training flight with the "B" manoeuvre schedule was organized for the judges before the first fly-off round on Thursday. The second and third fly-off rounds were flown on Friday. The flying standard observed during the entire contest was extremely high. There were no official protests filed.

**CLOSING CEREMONY:** The closing ceremony was also held in the airbase stadium. The teams carrying their nations flag again marched onto the field led by Air Force Cadets and the marching band. The unofficial Olympic flame was extinguished and this was followed by the formal award ceremony.

**AWARD CEREMONY:** The organizer presented the FAI medals to the winners first. This was followed by medals sponsored by the Polish Aeroclub. Officials from the Aeroclub and other dignitaries presented magnificent trophies to the winners. There were so many medals and trophies presented that some of the winners required additional luggage to transport them home. The organizer presented special awards to the four junior participants although there is no official Junior classification in the F3C category. It is hoped that this recognition will induce additional young people to participate in the category.

**BANQUET:** The closing banquet took place in the Officer's club on the air base. The banquet room was beautifully decorated and accommodated all 240 guests. The FAI Judges and members of the Jury received trophy vases and souvenir plaques. The banquet included live entertainment featuring of a music ensemble playing Polish folk music and folk dancers dressed in magnificent traditional costumes. The dinner consisting of traditional Polish food was enjoyed by everyone.

**COMMENTS:** Due to the excellent cooperation between the pilots and the contest staff the very long preliminary rounds were completed just before darkness set in. The record participation made it clear that we need to go to two flight lines at future F3C World Championships. The FAI F3C Judges cannot be expected to endure 14 hours of continuous judging. This change has some significant drawbacks and may require raising the entry fee limit or a significant increase in sponsorships. It will also require a significant increase in the size of the competition site and staff. We will also lose some of the comradery that has been an integral part of previous World Championships.

The FAI Jury and a number of pilots complained that the start box was not in its proper place. Apparently a 1997 F3C Subcommittee circular letter showing the amended location did not reach the organizer. In the future, amendments to the FAI Sporting Code will be sent to the F3C Subcommittee member, the National Aeroclub and the organizer of a World or Continental Championship. Although the helicopter models were processed according to the Sporting Code the transmitters were not checked for frequency or bandwidth. At least one team experienced delays in getting their fuel into Poland.

**SUMMARY:** It is the opinion of the FAI Jury that the 8th F3C World Championship was run in a fair and friendly atmosphere. Whether pilot, mechanic or official the Polish people made us all feel at home. We thank the Commander of the Polish Air Force Academy General Ryszard Olszewski for the use of this fantastic facility. We congratulate the leaders of the Aeromodeling Section and the president of the Polish Aeroclub for organizing this event. And we especially congratulate and thank the F3C WC contest staff for running a magnificent 8<sup>th</sup> F3C World Championship.

The FAI Jury: Horace Hagen (President)  
Georg Breiner  
Ryszard Witkowski