

## FAI JURY REPORT

### 9<sup>th</sup> FAI F3C World Championship Muncie, Indiana USA 7. thru 15. August, 2001

**ORGANIZATION:** The 9th FAI F3C R/C Helicopter World Championship was organized by the Academy of Model Aeronautics. The competition took place at the AMA International Aeromodeling Center in Muncie, Indiana. The world championship attracted 67 competitors from 27 countries. All information bulletins covered the necessary details and were received in a timely fashion.

**ACCOMMODATION:** The competition officials, FAI Judges, FAI Jury and some of the competitors stayed at the Radisson Hotel Roberts headquarters hotel. The remaining competitors stayed in other hotels in the city of Muncie. Lunch was provided on the field. Breakfast and dinner were part of an optional meal plan or left to the discretion of the participants. Competition officials received a free lunch on the field and a daily allowance for breakfast and dinner.

**FLYING SITE:** Each of the two competition areas were laid out on 12 meter square carpets fastened to the asphalt runways. Flight Line 1 was located on the control line area and Flight Line 2 was located at "Center Stage". They each faced directly north to minimize interference from the sun. Three large tents were placed along the spectator lines and used by the pilots and their models. A fourth tent housed the transmitter impound and frequency monitor. A converted private home located near center stage was used for the computer scoring system.

**MODEL PROCESSING:** Competitor registration took place on Friday 7. September in the new AMA Headquarters building and was followed by a team manager meeting in the evening. Every competitor and team manager received souvenirs and a competition program. Model processing and official practice took place simultaneously on Saturday. This caused some anxiety among the competitors and it is recommended that future World Champs not use this system. Each model was checked for FAI sticker, proper markings and to assure compliance with FAI regulations. Each transmitter was checked for frequency and bandwidth.

**OPENING CEREMONY:** The opening ceremony took place at 17:00 hours on Saturday at Flight Line 2 (center stage) World Championship site. Each team marched onto the field accompanied by the music of their national anthem. The Mayor of Muncie and AMA Executive Director welcomed the competitors and the competition was officially opened by the president of the FAI Jury.

**COMPETITION:** Official practice flying took place on Saturday with 45 minutes allocated to each team. Two "Schedule A" warm-up flights for the judges were flown prior to the first preliminary round. Due to severe rainstorms the first preliminary round could not be started until 12:30 hours and ended at approximately 18:00 hours. The second, third and fourth preliminary rounds started at 08:00 hours and ended at 17:00 hours. The weather during the first preliminary round was cloudy with strong and gusty wind. The weather for the remaining rounds was sunny but accompanied by variable winds. Three "Schedule B" warm-up flights were flown for the judges before the first fly-off round on Friday morning. The second fly-off round was flown Friday afternoon. There were three official protests filed and all were upheld. The flying standard observed during the entire competition was extremely high. The new program that becomes effective 1. January 2002 is arriving just in time.

**AWARD CEREMONY:** The first award ceremony took place on the flying field. The organizer presented the FAI medals to the team managers of the winning teams first. This was followed by awarding the perpetual F3C World Championship Team Trophy to the first place team. The

individual FAI Medals were then awarded and this was followed by presentation of the perpetual F3C World Champion Trophy.

**BANQUET AND CLOSING CEREMONY:** The banquet took place at the Cardinal Hills Family Restaurant located at a nearby Golf Course. A second award ceremony took place where "American Eagle" trophies and souvenir medals were presented by the organizers. The FAI Judges and members of the Jury received souvenir WC medals. The dinner consisting of traditional American food was enjoyed by everyone.

**COMMENTS:** The competition experienced a number of firsts since R/C Helicopters became a world class event in 1985. The two flight lines definitely improved the morale of the FAI Judges but required essentially double the manpower. A record number of protests were filed and all three were upheld in favor of the competitors. The 2001 F3C WC was the first to benefit from the brand new AMA Headquarters building. The reigning F3C European Champion did not participate. The tragic events in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania almost stopped the Championship. During the competition Mike Farnan & Bob Miller of Australia and Yosuhiko Hayashi & Yukihiro Dobashi of Japan rescued 2 children and 4 adults from drowning in a nearby reservoir. The mayor of Muncie presented each of these brave gentlemen with a special "Key to the City" at the banquet.

**SUMMARY:** It is the opinion of the FAI Jury that the 9th F3C World Championship was run in a fair and friendly atmosphere. Whether pilot, mechanic or official the American people made everyone feel at home. We thank the Academy of Model Aeronautics for the use of their fantastic facility. We congratulate the leaders of the AMA and IRCHA organizations for organizing this event. And we especially congratulate and thank the entire competition staff for running a super WC and for handling the effects of the tragic events of 11. September in a professional and understanding manner.

The FAI Jury: Horace Hagen (President)  
Georg Breiner  
Dag Eckhoff