

FAI JURY REPORT
9th R/C Helicopter European Championship
Pitesti, Romania
15 thru 24. August, 2002

ORGANIZATION: The 9th FAI F3C R/C Helicopter European Championship was organized by the Romanian Modelling Federation. The championship attracted 38 competitors from 15 countries. All information bulletins covered the necessary details and were received in a timely fashion.

ACCOMMODATION: The competition officials, FAI Judges, FAI Jury and most of the competitors stayed at Hotel Muntenia in Pitesti. The remaining competitors stayed in nearby hotels in the city. Lunch was initially arranged to be served at Hotel Muntenia. However, due to severe rain storms it was later provided on the field to save valuable time. Breakfast and dinner were served at Hotel Muntenia.

FLYING SITE: The competition took place at the "Henry Coanda Aero Club" airfield just outside of the city of Pitesti. The competition area was laid out on the grass runway of the airfield. The area faced directly north to minimize interference from the sun. Three large tents were placed along the spectator line and used by the pilots and their models. A fourth tent housed the transmitter impound and frequency monitor. The airport hangar was used for the computer scoring system.

MODEL PROCESSING: Competitor registration took place at Hotel Muntenia on Thursday 15. August and was followed by a team manager meeting in the evening. Every competitor and team manager received souvenirs. Model processing and frequency check took place on Friday 16. August at the airfield. Each model was checked for FAI sticker, proper markings and compliance with F3C rules. Each transmitter was checked for frequency and bandwidth.

OPENING CEREMONY: The opening ceremony took place at 18:30 hours on Saturday in the city hall of Pitesti. Each team held their national flag and was accompanied by their national anthem. The Mayor of Pitesti and officials from the Romanian Modelling Federation welcomed the competitors and the competition was officially opened by the president of the FAI Jury.

COMPETITION: Official practice flying took place on Saturday 17. August. 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 was interrupted several times and ended much later than planned. The organizers had arranged lunch at hotel Muntenia each day. This schedule was changed by having lunch brought to the airfield to assure a timely end for the remaining preliminary rounds. Even with this change the second preliminary round was almost not completed before darkness set in. The third and fourth preliminary rounds started at 08:00 hours and ended at 17:00 hours. Three "Schedule B" warm-up flights were flown for the judges before the fly-off rounds on Thursday. There were no official protests filed. The flying standard with the new program that became effective 1. January 2002 was very high.

BANQUET AND AWARD CEREMONY: The banquet took place Friday evening at the Hunter's Bugle Lodge located in the woods just north of Pitesti. Trophies and FAI medals were presented to the individual and team winners and this was followed by an excellent dinner. The contest officials, FAI Judges and Jury received souvenir EC medals.

SUMMARY: In the opinion of the FAI Jury, the 9th F3C European Championship was run in a fair and friendly atmosphere. The Romanian people made everyone feel at home. We thank the staff of the Henry Coanda airfield for the exclusive use of their facility during the entire competition. A special thank you is due the Mayor of Pitesti Tudor Pendiuc for his total support of this competition. We congratulate the Romanian Modelling Federation for a job well done. And we especially congratulate and thank the FAI Judges and the entire competition staff for running a super EC.

The FAI Jury: Horace Hagen (President)
Georg Breiner
Marius Conu