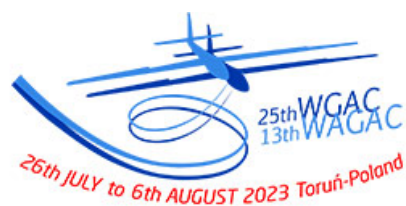


Report of the Chief Judge



13th World Advanced Glider Aerobatic Championships 2023 & 25th World Glider Aerobatic Championship 2023

Torun, Poland
26.07.2023 – 06.08.2023

Judges and Official Staff



List of judges and their assistants is following.

Steff Hau	Michi Gotz
Maciej Białek	Jerzy Wiśniewski
Remy Louvel	Christophe Trebuchon
Andrew Cunningham	Steve Hardy
Galyna Suprunenko	Tatiana Marashova
Violeta Gedminaite	Juozas Valivonis
Luca Andragethi	Paolo Stermieri

Including Zuzana Danihelová and Miroslav Černý as Chief Judge assistants.

Most warmup flights were provided by Mr. Eugen Schaal and a few closing ones by Mr. Ferenc Tóth.

Venue

Airport Torun (EPTO) is a proper air sports place that has seen a vast number of top-class international events, including multiple glider aerobatic championships. Three judge positions were available, and two were used during the Championships.

The south position was the most exposed, close to the car racing area. This had become extremely annoying and difficult to withstand on Saturday, 29.07. Noise disturbance from racing cars was so intense that it was challenging to keep the focus on the competition flights, and for me, it was also quite difficult to communicate with judges. All the staff showed tremendous endurance and devotion

to the sport to operate in such conditions. It's hard to prove by exact numbers, but I feel that such conditions influence judging negatively, and the Championship shall be interrupted like in case of excessive wind. There was no other option at that time since the wind and sun position conditions did not allow other judge positions to be used.

The south and the second used position (west) were without issues during other competition days.



The Organizer and Staffing

The Organizer staff worked in a very professional manner. I would like to expressly point out the excellent job done by Flight Director - Mr. Andrzej Pawlicki, Scoring Director - Mr. Pawel Szczepanowski and Contest Secretary Ewa. And of course, the staff of the Contest Office. They were all supportive of all our needs and wishes. Thank you.

Accommodation was provided in Hotel Filmar in the center of Torun city. The level and quality of the hotel were perfectly sufficient.

Towing

Towing was provided by PZL-101 Gawron, Carbon Cub and two MS880. The overall tempo of takeoffs was good and well managed by F/D, according to the requests from Judges. Quite a significant number of tows in the box had poor performance regarding position and altitude level. At least four times I had to interrupt the box entry tow and command the towing pilot to try again with better position. I was complaining to the Organizer about the quality of the towing almost every flying day. It was usually better than for a while, but then with fresh pilot jumping in the bad towing repeated.

I am sure that the SC Section 6, Part 2 is evident in the rules of towing into the box. However, from my experience, it requires some training and competence to do it properly. The actual competition flights should not be a training opportunity for a pilot without such experience. There is no need to modify the rules of how competition tows should be performed. It should be rather the Organizer making sure that provided pilots are able to fly the desired path at the required level. I understand it's tough to tell any pilot (especially the meritorious ones) that he can't keep heading or altitude; however, it's the CD's role to cope with.

The championship was interrupted during Unlimited P4 – 2nd Unknown due to a collision of flight #15 and the rope of the towing plane, forcing the pilot to bail out from the glider with the glider destroyed and the towing plane substantially damaged. Thanks to excellent and quick reactions, the

accident was without injuries. It is the duty of the appropriate AAIB to issue a report, conclusions, and recommendations. Thus, I do not feel entitled to make any assumptions and conclusions. However, it shall be emphasized that all pilots, competing and towing, must be repeatedly reminded and instructed of safety and safety procedures in general. The most important, above all, competitiveness or pushing for valid Championships, safety is the thing that only matters.

Judging



I consider the judging performance to be good, with overall results fitting the reality of the performance of competitors. I want to point out that according to my view, the FPS analysis provided by the Scoring software with Judge's ranking does not reflect reality. Even though there is sometimes RI with values over 40, it can't be used to evaluate that particular judge. The evaluation shall be done differently based on actual behavior and performance at specific moments. Statistics is a marvelous thing, and FPS algorithms are very clever math under the hood of score calculations but applied to insufficient data sets. There have been 15 pilots in UNL and 34 in ADV. With seven scoring judges and typically nine figures, this means a rough amount of 1000 and 2450 marks, respectively, per program flown. Any statistically based system requires a minimum of tens of thousands of values to eliminate abnormalities or elaborate training data. We do not have either.

My suggestion is to choose the path of better Judges' education, increase their competencies, and practically evaluate their performance based on soft skills and theoretical knowledge rather than hiding behind a single unmatched value of RI. A significant part of the problem is the complexity and inhomogeneity of judging rules. Removing the PZ was an exciting step, but without deep analysis and thinking about the influence of figure grading build around PZ, it is just lousy job done. I believe, simplification and clear understanding brings more fair play than complicated, practically inapplicable rules like we have now.

Judging Video

The official video recording of the flight was done using a regular handheld camera, literally held in hand during all flights. No tripod was used. All recordings were sufficient for our needs and of good quality. Good job done.

Videos are available here <https://www.youtube.com/@aerobaticsvideo>

Summary

I want to thank all Judges, their assistants, my assistants, organizers, and the International Jury (PIK, Mady, and Fery) for their support and cooperation towards a valid and successful Championship.

I would also like to congratulate the Champions and winners and thank all the competitors for having a great time in Torun.

Big thanks to Zuzka and Miro for making the CJ job great experience.



Remy and Christophe



Galina and Tatiana



Steff and Michi



Maciej and Jerzy



Luca and Paolo



Andy and Steve



Violeta and Juozas

In Prague, 17th of November

Vladimir Machula