



Report Contest Director
26th FAI World Glider Aerobatic Championship
14th FAI World Advanced Glider Aerobatic Championship
Special Airfield Oschatz (ICAO Code EDOQ), Germany
July 31st – August 10th, 2024

A) Summary

- 34 pilots plus 1 H/C competed in Advanced Glider.
- 20 pilots plus 1 H/C competed in Unlimited Glider.
- Both competitions are valid in terms of minimum requirements.

- 6 programmes completed in Advanced Glider.
- 5 programmes completed in Unlimited Glider.
- Both classes had valid team competitions.

- Competition category „Junior Individual Combined“ applied at WGAC 2024 for the first time.

- Two serious incidents involving gliders, see C3) for further details.
- One incident involving tow plane at take-off procedure, see C4) for further details.
- A safety problem occurred when a tow plane pilot left the tow plane on the ground with the engine switched on during the competition.

- Excellent organisation of the championships and brilliant local organising team.

- Website: <https://www.wgac2024.de>

B) Contest organising team

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|--|--------------------------------|
| - Contest Director: | Thomas von Larcher |
| - Deputy Contest Director: | Roland Marsch |
| - Scoring Director: | Stefan Weiss |
| - Chief Judge: | Philippe K uchler |
| - Jury President: | Vladimir Machula |
| | |
| - Office Manager and Athlete Services: | Stephanie Koechel |
| - Flight Directors: | Heiko Eckhardt, J rgen Schwibs |
| - Safety Officer: | Erik Simon |
| - Technical Committee President: | Michael Kaiser |



C) Contest director business

C1) Dispute between scoring director, chief judge and jury president

From the beginning of the competition, there was an ongoing and intensifying dispute between the scoring director on the one hand and the chief judge and jury members on the other.

The dispute was exacerbated by the fact that the office workplace intended for the scoring director was completely inadequately equipped and actually unusable. To make matters worse, the scoring director's preparations for the competition had not been completed.

Ultimately, the situation resulted in an increasing loss of confidence of the chief judge and the majority of the jury in the work of the scoring director, which could no longer be resolved. At the beginning of the 4th program, following a renewed discussion between the parties involved and pressure from the chief judge, the contest director therefore decided to replace the scoring director internally with the jury president. Externally, the original scoring director remained undisputed.

This measure resolved the conflict. The original scoring director worked successfully with the jury president in the following days.

It should be emphasized at this point that no misconduct or mismanagement on the part of the original scoring director in the preparation of the scores under his responsibility could be proven.

C2) Height Measurement Device (HMD) unavailability

It had been agreed in advance that the Czech HMD would be used in the competition under the leadership of Vladimir Machula (Jury President). Unfortunately, tests during many training flights revealed that the HMD was not ready for use. Despite intensive work by Vladimir Machula during the training days, the HMD was still not sufficiently functional at the start of the competition flights.

In consultation with the chief judge and the jury, it was therefore decided in accordance with the sporting code to hold the competition without the HMD. This decision was announced officially in the morning briefing on the first day of the competition.

The fact that, as in previous years, no HMD was available at this World Championship is extremely regrettable, as it means that a safe and objective check of compliance with the height limits for the competition flights is still not available. The contest director is of the opinion that the responsible bodies should quickly find a solution here so that an HMD can be made available at future championships. This would make a significant contribution to safety, particularly in the area of the lower altitude limit.



C3) Two serious incidents involving gliders

Two serious incidents occurred at different competition days: 1) The air brake leverage of a German pilot Swift glider (class UNG) suffered a structural failure during aerobatic performance flight. The pilot was able to return the aircraft to a normal flight attitude and land safely. 2) The air brake leverage of a German pilot SZD-59 suffered a structural failure as well. Both pilots continued the competition on other gliders in accordance with the sporting code.

C4) Incident: Tow plane loss of power during start sequence

An incident occurred during the take-off procedure with a Swift glider of a member of the Polish team when a tow plane suffered a loss of power at an altitude of approx. 100ft AGL. The towing pilot then decided to release the tow rope for safety reasons, giving the glider pilot the opportunity to land on the airfield at the end of the field. The height at which the incident occurred was critical for the length of the field and the nature of the vegetation surrounding the airfield.

The glider pilot had the presence of mind to react correctly and landed the glider safely without any damage to the glider.

The tow plane pilot landed safely on the airfield. The tow plane was then removed from flight operations for further investigation.

The technical commission thoroughly investigated the drop in performance of the powered aircraft. It was concluded that the most likely scenario was the formation of vapor bubbles due to the relatively high daily temperature.

The results of the investigation were presented in the daily pilot briefing two days after the accident. The commission stated that, in its opinion, the tow pilot's decision to release the tow rope at the critical height, thus allowing the glider pilot to land safely, was the best option.

C5) Quality of Advanced Glider Programme 5 and 6 (Unknown 3 and 4)

The contest director is of the opinion that the ADG program 5 and also 6 were of too low quality and not worthy of a world championship. Program 6 in particular was more suitable for a national sportsman's competition.

The contest director proposes to think about adapting the figure selection rules in order to prescribe a sufficient variety of figures per program and thus ensure an ambitious level

	WAGAC / Oschatz 2024	Form B
Piloten ID	CIVA Glider Advanced Programme 5	Flug #

	WAGAC 2024	Form B
Piloten ID	CIVA Glider Advanced Programme 6	Flug #

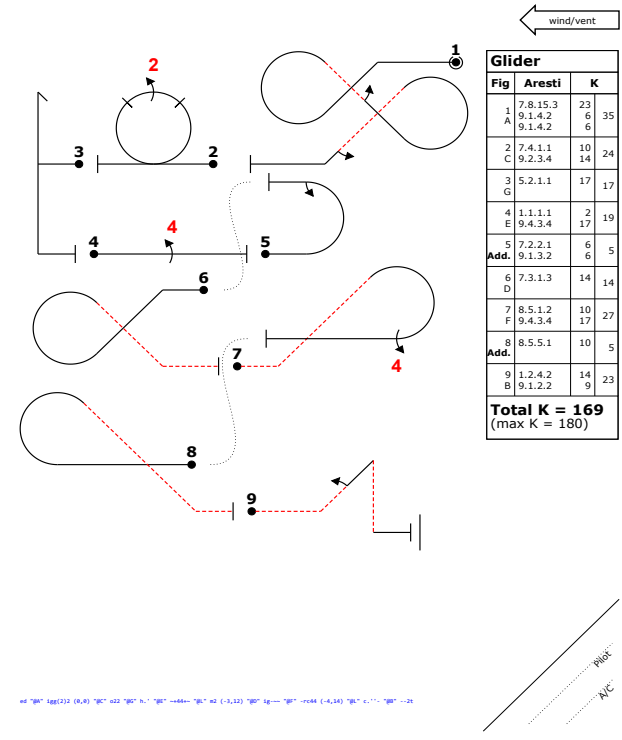
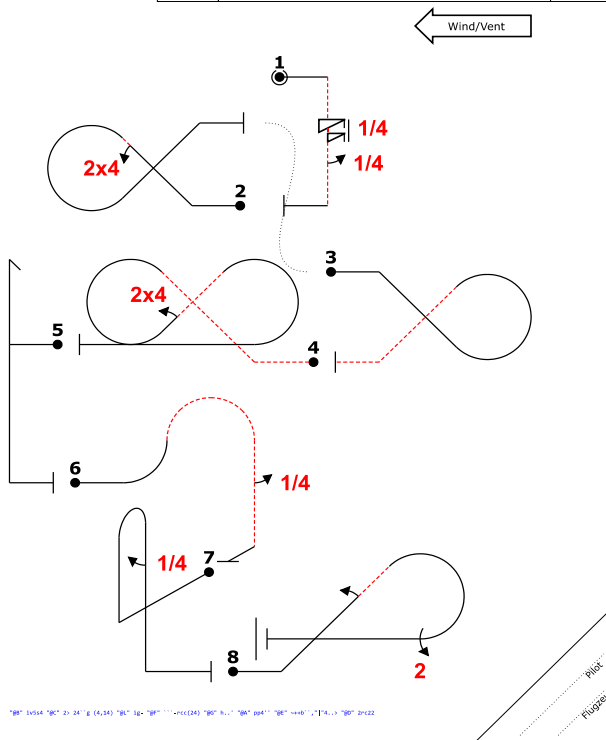


Fig	Aresti	K
1	7.8.15.3	23
A	9.1.4.2	6
	9.1.4.2	6
	9.1.4.2	6
2	7.4.1.1	10
C	9.2.3.4	14
	9.2.3.4	14
3	5.2.1.1	17
G	5.2.1.1	17
	5.2.1.1	17
4	1.1.1.1	2
E	9.4.3.4	17
	9.4.3.4	17
5	7.2.2.1	6
Add.	9.1.3.2	6
	9.1.3.2	6
6	7.3.1.3	14
D	7.3.1.3	14
	7.3.1.3	14
7	8.5.1.2	10
F	9.4.3.4	17
	9.4.3.4	17
8	8.5.5.1	10
Add.	8.5.5.1	10
	8.5.5.1	10
9	1.2.4.2	14
B	9.1.2.2	9
	9.1.2.2	9
Total K = 169		
(max K = 180)		

worthy of a world championship.

D) Opening Ceremony and Opening Briefing

The opening ceremony was organized as an outdoor event at the city center of Oschatz which is about 3km away from the airfield. The opening ceremony was conducted in accordance with section 6.3 of the CIVA GCO. The "Parade of Nations" was organized as a nation-level car convoy from the airfield to the city center. The local residents were enthusiastic and followed the parade and the opening ceremony with great interest. It was a fantastic event which made it to the local news.

The opening briefing was held after the opening ceremony and a reception at a nice event hall in the city center.



E) Closing Ceremony

The closing ceremony in combination with the award presentation was organized at the airfield. The local population was invited and joined the award presentation and the closing ceremony with great interest. The closing ceremony was conducted in accordance with section 6.4 of the CIVA GCO. Reception and Dinner was organized afterwards as a special event at a nice event in the city of Riesa which is about 20km from the airfield. Again, a brilliant organising team effort.

F) Conclusion

The organisation of the championships and the competition itself was very successful. Numerous social events were organized for the internals. A daily program was also organized for external visitors.

The local organizing team deserves a special recognition.

Thomas von Larcher (Contest Director)
Bremen, October 11, 2024