

Contest Director's Report on the

13th FAI European Open Advanced Aerobatic Championships

2nd FAI European Open Intermediate Aerobatic Championships

5-15 September 2024, Clinceni, România

The 13th FAI European Open Advanced Aerobatic Championships took place in Clinceni, Romania, featuring 28 pilots from 10 nations. Concurrently, the 2nd FAI European Open Intermediate Aerobatic Championships saw participation from 19 pilots representing 8 nations. In total, 47 pilots competed in the two events.

Event Highlights:

- **Participation:** The championships showcased a diverse range of talent, with pilots from various countries demonstrating their aerobatic skills.
- **Program Validation:** All competition programs were conducted and validated, ensuring adherence to international standards.

During the championships, essential information was made accessible through multiple channels: an Info Point, a panel on the apron, and WhatsApp.

WhatsApp groups facilitated real-time communication, ensuring that all participants received timely and sufficient information throughout the competition. The following key details were communicated:

- Briefing times
- Event schedule
- Flying order
- Wind conditions
- Breaks information
- Provisional and final results

Briefing:

We started with a general briefing that took place on the airfield on September 15, 2024, at 16:30. Key topics covered included:

- Regulations
- Safety protocols
- Drawing lots
- Design of Programmes #2 for both Advanced and Intermediate categories

Each day began with a briefing to ensure that all participants were updated with essential information regarding the upcoming competition activities. These briefings covered:

- Schedule for the day

- Weather updates
- Safety protocols
- Flight order and any changes to the competition program

This consistent communication helped maintain clarity and preparedness among all pilots and officials throughout the event.

Competition Schedule Overview:

To adapt to changing weather conditions, the organizing team prioritized efficiency throughout the competition. Here's a breakdown of the activities over the eight days:

- **Day 1:** Successfully completed Programme #1 for the Advanced category.
- **Day 2:** Finished Programme #1 for the Intermediate category and flew the first 7 pilots in Programme #2 for Advanced.
- **Day 3:** Completed Programme #2 for Advanced and flew the first 10 pilots in Programme #2 for Intermediate.
- **Day 4:** Concluded Programme #2 for Intermediate and successfully flew all of Programme #3 for Advanced.
- **Day 5:** Started with Programme #3 for Intermediate, concluding around noon. After a lunch break, 13 out of 14 planned pilots for Programme #4 in Advanced flew, with one pilot unable to compete due to a technical issue with a faulty spark plug.
- **Day 6:** A day off was declared due to adverse weather and low cloud ceilings.
- **Day 7:** Resumed with the flight of the previously unflown pilot, concluding with the last flight of the Advanced category.
- **Day 8:** Allowed for the completion of the final Programme for Intermediate.

This structured approach ensured that all programs were executed within the schedule while maintaining safety and competitive integrity.

Awarding and closing ceremony:

The awarding and closing ceremony took place on September 14, 2024, at the airfield, starting around 12:30.

The competition was officially closed by the President of the International Jury, marking a successful conclusion to the event.

Conclusion: The championships successfully brought together a vibrant community of aerobatic pilots, fostering international competition and collaboration in the sport.

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