



AGENDA ITEM 7.1

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL JURY

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XIV EUROPEAN AEROBATIC CHAMPIONSHIPS Kaunas, Lithuania

22 July – 1 August 2004



The 14th European Aerobatic Championships (Unlimited Category) were held from July 22nd to August 1st, 2004 at Kaunas -- the S. Darius & S. Girenas airfield – EYKS. The event was organized by the Aero Club of Lithuania and the Federation of Aerobatics of Lithuania and managed directly by Algimantas Zentelis, Federation of Aerobatics President.

44 pilots from 9 countries (and USA as independents) competed in Kaunas. The International Jury set up were four men – Robert Chomono (FRA), Lars Frölander (SWE), Ernst Paukner (GER), and myself as chairman. Because Line Judges were not used, working duties of the Jury members were distributed into three sections which were checked by the Jury members in accordance with an established work schedule. The three sections and their activities were:

1. Board of Judges
2. Computer / Met
3. Flight Line

During the initial check, the Jury found the contest well prepared and ready for immediate start. Critical points of the Championships were carefully observed and way of avoiding potential problems were prepared (and thanks to the active help of Hans Vogtmann, CIVA Contest Organization Group Chairman). It was obvious that the experience of organizing previous events of equal size was very useful. The performance zone was well placed over the center of the aerodrome and the main judges' position on the roof of one building and, therefore, judges' views were not obstructed.

The Technical Commission was also set up before commencement of the Championships comprising 3 members and headed by local engineer, Nerijus Baublys. The Commission observed and checked all competition aircraft before the beginning of competition flights. All the technical problems were carefully evaluated and repetition flights and/or exchanges of aircraft were allowed.

Organizers also arranged high quality warm-up pilots. Intentional mistakes in their programmes were effective in warming up the judges. Amongst those pilots was Ramon Alonso, European Champion from Spain.



Only one protest was submitted and subsequently upheld, regarding a training figure. Weather – mainly low clouds – appeared to be a critical factor. 60% of time available was wasted by bad weather conditions. Finally, thanks to smooth organization and excellent cooperation of organizers, judges, and competing pilots, all the programmes were flown and Championships finished in full size.

I am glad that I can personally express special thanks to the Contest Director and his staff for very friendly atmosphere and cooperative attitude. Nothing was great trouble for them and requests were resolved quickly.

I would also like to express appreciation to all Jury members for responsibly fulfilling all of their duties.

Last but not least it has to be said that the competition pilots brought their share for the success of the contests – being disciplined, having high sporting spirit, and keeping good flying safety standards during the Championships.