

Report by the FAI Jury on the FAI European Championship for Space Models, Seniors and Juniors in Zrenjanin, Serbia, August 24th to 29th 2024

Overview:

The 2024 European Championship was organised by the Aeronautical Union of Serbia, in cooperation with the Republic of Serbia Ministry of Sports and Youth, supported by the City of Zrenjanin. The flying site was Aradac

Field is well known for its history of aeronautical competitions and very suitable for our purpose. This was also the fields for the first official Space Model Championship

Pre-contest information:

Four Bulletins were sent out, the last one only days before the Championship, ensuring that all involved had the latest information.

Food at the field was excellent and in good quantities.

Model Processing:

The usual on-field processing for most of the classes went smoothly. To ease the logistics, every night before the contest, there was an open window for model processing done at the hotel.



Scale Static judging was conducted at two meeting rooms at the main hotel in town and was well organised and proceeded as the schedule stipulated. The checking of the altimeters was well organised and had no problems.



Weather condition:

We had fair weather; The organisers were well prepared for the weather and had a separate tent for serving cold drinking water.

Number of Competitors:

Using one entry to be one person in each class:

There was a slight increase in numbers in relation to the European Championship two years ago.

Total Seniors 315, Juniors 183 Grand total: 498

Female Seniors 60, Female Juniors 58 Grand total females: 118

In %: Senior females: 19%, Junior females: 31%, Grand Total: 23%



The event's organisation:

The organisers had prepared themselves very well and all the necessary hardware was present, the timekeepers were trained and instructed well, and we had no problems with the timing of flights. The scoring system worked very well and kept updating the scores through the rounds.



The daily prizegiving ceremony was held in the evening at the hotel and the raising of the winner's flag was done electronically on a large screen and worked very well, a nice way to do the flag presentation.

Opening and closing of the Championship:

The opening ceremony was conducted on the field with speeches from the Major of the city, the President of the Aero Club and the FAI Jury President made the speech to declare the Championship for open. Then the FAI Hymn was played, and the FAI Flag was raised.



The closing ceremony, together with the last prizegiving was also done on the field, with some short speeches and the FIA Jury President declared the Championship for closed. The FAI flag was taken down and the FAI Hymn was played.



The Banquet was at the Hotel, with speeches from the organisers thanking all for their participating and the Major of Zrenjanin thanked all for visiting the city.



Conclusion: The organisers were well prepared and did an excellent job with a well-run Championship and should be proud of their work. Technically, no issues can be pointed out, beside several at the start which were quickly solved. The only point shadowing the contest was the unsporting behaviour of some individuals, who in favour of winning a medal were taking at risk their reputation and that of the country they represent. For the time of the championships, all organizing representatives have chosen not to take drastically measures, but if such a behaviour repeats, the contest director and the jury will need to take measures. It should be point out, that apart from a few individuals, the behaviour of all junior competitor was exceptional, and can serve as an example to the senior competitors.

We the FAI Jury feel that this organisation will have no problem with organizing the World Space Championship next year and we like to say thank you for a job well done.

Narve L. Jensen
Jury President

Zoran Pelagic
Jury Member

Goran Radnovic
Jury Member