

# Jury report

## **Event Details:**

Title: 15th FAI European Microlight Championships

Date: 7. – 17. 8. 2019

Location: Ignalina/Lithuania,

Organising NAC: Lithuania Microlight Federation

Organiser: Ignalinos aerodromas JSC

Number of flights: 450

Number of Tasks: 11

Number of competitors: 41 pilots

## **Event Personnel**

Event Organiser: Vytautas Rafanavicius

Competition Director: Povilas Kalinauskas

Chief Scorer: Laszlo Varga (HUN)

Steward: None

Monitor: Krisztian Dolhai (HUN)

## **FAI-Jury**

President: Wolfgang Lintl (GER)

Member: Krisztian. Dolhai (HUN)

Member: Rob Hughes (GBR) remote

## **Complaints and Protests**

Number of Complaints: 10

Number of protests admitted: 6

Number withdrawn: 0

Number upheld: 5

Number rejected: 1

Amount of protest fees retained: 50 EUR

## **Aircraft and Competitors**

AL 1            6/6

AL 2            8/16

WL 1           10/10

WL 2           10/20

GL 2           7/14

Total 41 aircraft, 66 competitors from 8 nations.

## **Venue**

The competition site is located at the far east end of Lithuania, approximate 20 km west of the Belarus border. It is a 15-minute drive to the City of Ignalina. The site is surrounded by some farm fields, forest and lakes.

The airport consists of a huge hangar and a second big room for preparation and

general briefing for all participants. There are several rooms at ground level, where the scoring office was located. The comp. director's office was located at the 1<sup>st</sup> floor as well as the jury room and the briefing room for all team leaders. Food was provided for breakfast, lunch and dinner by a caterer.

The grass runway is ca. 900 m long and has sufficient place for two decks for take-off and landing. as well as a quarantine area where the aircraft have to park during the whole event.

Every competitor and ground crew member were provided with identity badges.

### **Accommodation**

A camp area with space for all teams and with power supply was provided. Except from short black outs due to exceeding the proposed limited use and after rain showers was sufficient. Hotel rooms were available in the town of Ignalina. Staff was accommodated in a few semi-finished small houses.

All participants and officials stayed in the Byoum Lakeside Hotel, which is a relatively new building with spacy rooms including a small kitchen. Breakfast and dinner were included in the entry fee. It was served in- and outside the restaurant and was presented in buffet form. Lunch could be ordered from the menu. Food was in a reasonable quality and quantity.

Behind the hangar some toilets and shower were available.

### **Services**

The Jury room was close to the CD's office. For printing the jury could use CD's printer without a problem.

A WIFI network was established. It covered the building and most part of the camping area. Speed and availability had been sufficient with a few black outs. Communication between the CD and team leaders was done by using Viber and worked well. The competition website was filled with results as soon as the scores are available.

### **Competition staff**

The competition staff were Lithuanians with sufficient to good ability to speak and understand English.

The CD was an experienced competitor and team leader in previous years. He or his key persons missed the opportunity in the past, to get deeper knowledge from being a steward in previous CIMA events. Most of the crew had experience from national competitions this year.

Briefings were held for team leaders only at the briefing room, supported by Power Point presentation and are recorded by video.

In general, all staff were friendly, professional, efficient and helpful. Weather information was given by the CD at every briefing and published at the information board.

### **Safety and security**

During the competition no accident occurred. There was no permanent First Aid staff present during the event.

There was no security personal present, but other in the past, no thefts were reported.

### **Competition flying**

The competition was affected by some foggy periods at the morning and some rain during the week. The CD uses the predicted rainy day as a rest day.

Marshals were well briefed. Deck and airfield procedures were efficient.

### **Running the competition**

There was a general briefing at the day before opening ceremony. The CD explain the procedure how and when to fly and gave all necessary information regarding the no-fly zones and the event.

The daily briefings showed the lack of CD's experience. Several details of the task description, the procedure and from time to time the scoring details needed to be adjusted.

### **Scoring**

The scoring was done by Laszlo Varga and Zsofia Eros, hired from Hungary. They worked very quick and very efficient and are able to provide the results for some tasks very short after the last landing. The scoring sheets contain all relevant information and were labelled with the right branding.

### **Complaints and Protests**

There were only a very small number of complaints but 6 protests. Due to the complexity of the issues, the work with a remote jury member was dissatisfying. The necessary discussion takes time and needs a lot of coordination and time. CIMA plenary or/and bureau need to consider this for future decisions about officials for CAT 1 events.

### **Anti-Doping-Control**

None.

### **Media coverage**

The opening and the closing ceremony held in the city centre of Ignalina was attended by some media persons. Also, local media take note of the tasks during the event.

At least one large poster about the event was seen at the entrance of one Ignalina supermarket.

### **Ceremonies**

The opening ceremony were held at the city centre of Ignalina with a professional speaker and a local singer. It was attended by politicians from the region, including the mayor, a high ranking Army General, local dignities and a representative of the Lithuanian Aeroclub.

The closing ceremony was held in a proper manner at the airfield. Raising of flags of the winning teams were not professional. During the closing ceremony all FAI medals were awarded to the winner in all classes and to the first three teams. Some officials were honoured with special trophies to thank for their support.

## **Recommendations**

As said before, working with a remote jury member causes problems in communication and decision process. Although the jury is well aware, that a remote jury member helps to save money for the organiser, the decision needs to be reconsider.

Although the preparation was very well attended by an experienced monitor, finally the organiser did several mistakes in preparing the tasks. Every task description needs to be rewritten. It is a long term wish to have every task perfectly written in advance. At the daily briefing the CD should only explain special procedures, but not the task itself. The briefing should be as usual in modern time, a stable, good and free internet connection is expected from all participants. It might be restricted to not download videos etc.

It makes it easier for the team leaders and for briefing of the team-pilots, if the tasks description and the take-off order is published before the briefing.

CIMA may consider, that the way of conducting the competition after the cut looks very complicated and should be reviewed and should be more clearly explained in the local regulation.

A special team leaders meeting was held on invitation by the jury to collect thoughts and ideas for this and future competitions. Results will be presented to the ML sub commission

## **Conclusion**

Overall this was a successful and enjoyable championship. The organiser and the competition director and his team did a good job and tried their best.

This report was agreed by all jury members present at Ignalina.

Ignalina Airfield, Ignalina/Lithuania, 20. October 2019

(Wolfgang Lintl)  
Jury President