

CLASSIC CLASSES 2011 CIMA REPORT – SOUTH AFRICA

DELEGATE: ROBERT GASSMANN

Sadly, I have to report to you that Microlight flying in South Africa has alarmingly decreased in the past year. A combination of economic climate, ever increasing cost and the sometimes counterproductive rules are the major contributors.

The Championship had unfortunately only 5 participants.

We are lucky to have a very enthusiastic committee at the Microlight Association, which undoubtedly will take the necessary steps to improve the situation.

There is still much enthusiasm around hosting another World Championship in South Africa. However I'm a little bit more pessimistic about it, as the last two World Championships in which the South African teams participated in, cost every member between 5000 and 10000 Euro's each. Undoubtedly it won't be cheaper for competitors to come to South Africa, which worries me.

We're now looking at possibly presenting a 10-day event more in the format of a cross-country of 2000 to 3000 km's, showing of our beautiful country and incorporating tasks in the various legs. This would hopefully give greater justification to the expenses and hopefully would attract a wider audience too.

Safe flying!

Regards,

Robert Gassmann