

# Chief Judge Report

16<sup>th</sup> World Advanced Aerobatic Championships  
and 4<sup>th</sup> World Intermediate Aerobatic Championships

Heviz Balaton Airport, Hungary. 12-20 September 2025



## 1. Judging Panel

Chief Judge: Quintin Hawthorne (RSA), Laszlo Liszkay (RSA) and Hanna Raiha (FIN)

Judges:

Willy Gruhier (FRA), Giles Guillemard (FRA)

Esteban Moulin (BEL), Alain Dugas (BEL)

Timo Bartholdi (FIN), Tuula Bartholdi (FIN)

Nick Buckenham (GBR), Edward Waasdorp (NED)

Galyna Supranenko (UKR), Dimitriy Pogrebysky (UKR)

Peggy Riedinger (USA), Nick Slabakov (USA)

Algis Orlickas (LTU), Jouzas Valivonas (LTU)

Videographer: Tymek Szymanski (POL)

## 2. Accommodation and Transport

All the competitors and officials were accommodated in the same hotel, Carbona (4 star rating), located approximately a 20-minute drive away from the airfield. The facilities at the hotel were adequate and of a high standard.

Three minibuses were allocated to the judges for moving them between the hotel and the airfield and also between the various judging positions. No problems were encountered with either the accommodation or transport facilities.

Breakfast and dinner was provided at the hotel each day, while the lunch was served at the airfield in the terminal building. It must be mentioned that the quality of the meals was above average.

## 3. Competitors

A total of 70 competitors were present at the start of proceedings on day one, 38 in the Advanced category (representing 12 countries) and 32 in the Intermediate category (representing 11 countries). All competitors completed 3 programmes in the allotted competition days.

The warm-up flights were conducted by Romain Fhal (FRA) and Laszlo Ferenc (ROU).

## 4. Performance Zone.

The aerobatic box was positioned abeam runway 34 overhead the airfield and agricultural land. Apart from a few disused bunker hangars that were dotted on the airfield, the terrain was relatively level with no significant rising ground anywhere near the airfield.

## 5. Judging Positions and facilities.

Judging positions were prepared in the East, West and South of the box. The East position was placed along the perimeter of the airfield, and only approximately 140m from the T marker. It was not possible to move it further away from the T marker as a bunker, located directly behind the judges, prevented this. It would have necessitated the realignment of the box layout, which was not an option as it would affect the placement of the other markers. It was easily accessed along a paved roadway within the airfield perimeter. The West position was located in a wide clearing of a cornfield, some 240m from the T marker, and relatively easy to reach along a farm road, while the East position was also positioned within a clearing of the cornfield, however it required the placement of the judges in a narrow strip, and approximately 200m from the T marker, between the cornfield and the airfield fence.



East position  
position



South position



West

There was sufficient shade, seating and refreshments provided for all the judges, jury and videographer.

Radio communication with the competitors and contest officials was seamless throughout the contest, capably managed by Laszlo Liskay at the CJ table.

Hanna Raiha diligently managed the scoresheet reviews and prepared them for the scoring office. Unfortunately, the original plan to photograph the scoresheets at the judging position and transmit them to the scoring office did not materialise. Instead, a mobile 'office' was originally parked alongside the CJ on the first day to be able to capture the scoresheets, but there was a problem with providing electricity to the van. That idea was eventually abandoned and as a result the scorer reverted to using the allocated scoring office for the remainder of the contest. The scoresheets were only collected for processing after fairly long and infrequent intervals during the competition.



There was no dedicated briefing room available to the judges, other than for the initial judges briefing held at the hotel. Television facilities for the

video reviews were used at the terminal building, in my hotel room and also in the hotel banquet hall.

## 6. Video

The video recording was capably done by Tymek Szymanski from Poland. There were only a few video reviews required for Programme 1, while the remaining Programmes required somewhat more video reviews. All of them were adequately resolved and the video quality was of an excellent standard. Tymek is an experienced aerobatic videographer familiar with Aresti sequences and judge reviews and must be congratulated for his work.





## 7. Flying Standards

There was a suitably high standard of flying throughout the contest, and all flights were conducted safely. Only two competitors were penalised for LOW flying. A few flights were delayed due to the presence of large birds in the box and these competitors were briefly directed to the designated holding area until the box was clear of bird activity. Thunderstorm activity affected the flying programme on day 2 as well as on days 5 and 6. Three programmes for both the Advanced and Intermediate categories were completed by midday on the final day (Saturday).

## 8. Judging Standards

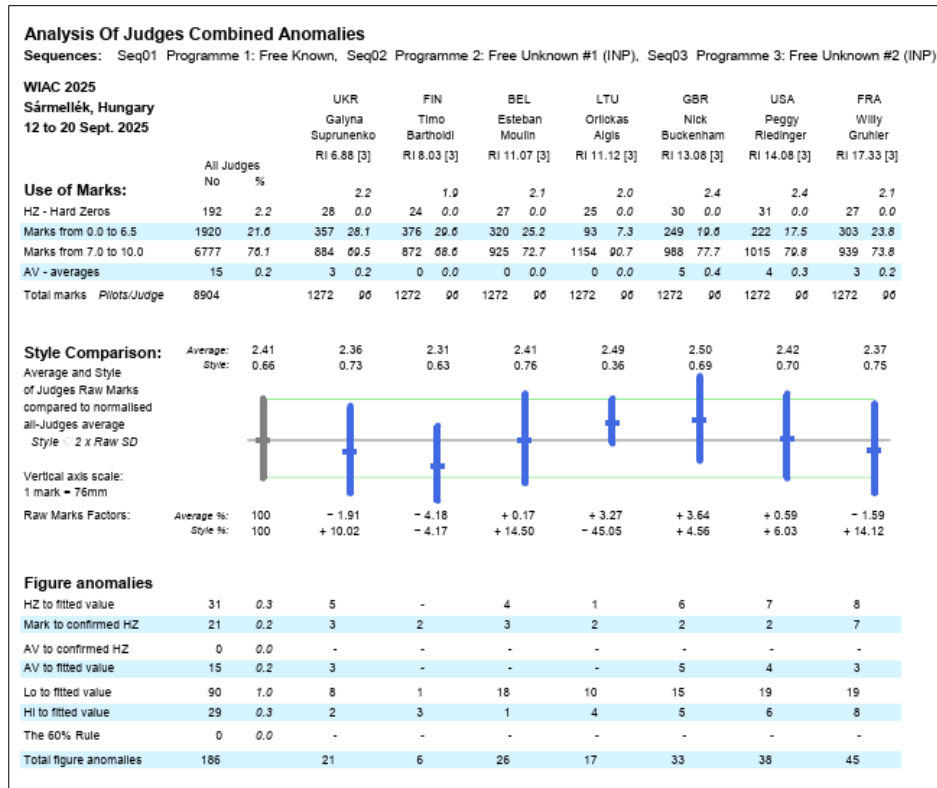
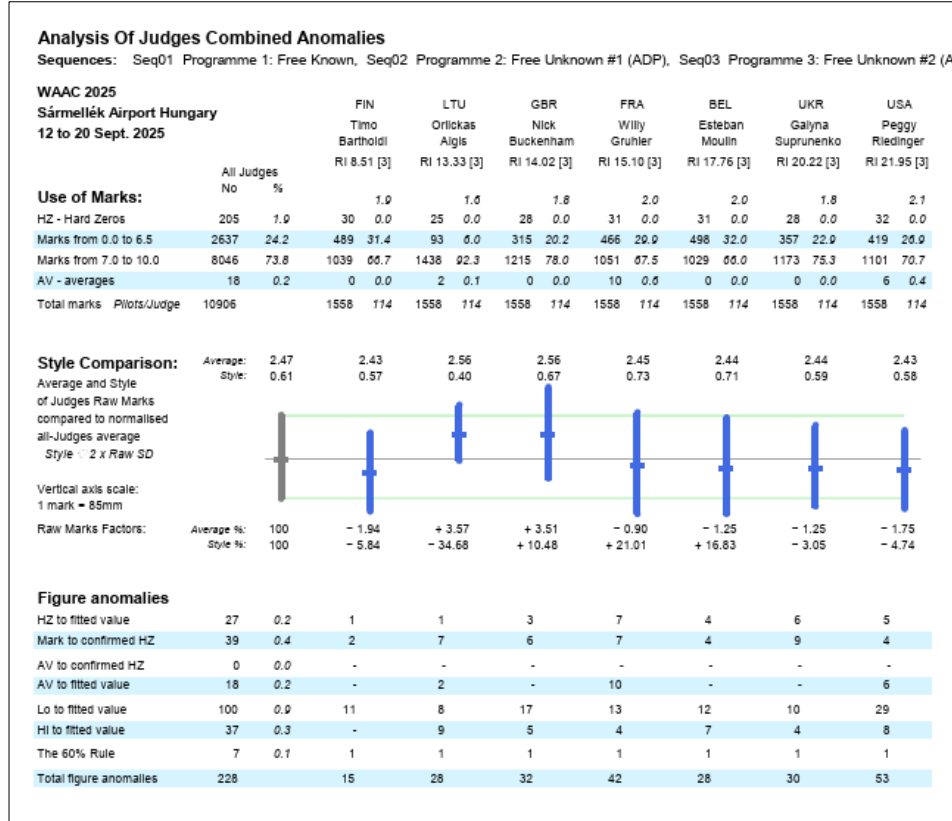


All the judges were selected on the basis of their experience and that they had previously officiated at a CIVA Advanced category championship. A detailed judges briefing and test was conducted prior to the commencement of flying. For the duration of the competition, the panel was mostly in consensus in their assessment of the competition flights, with the usual exception of the occasional omission of factual errors. Video reviews resulted mostly from missed hesitations on rolls. The new criteria for assessing 'no flick' snap rolls appear to have been adequately adopted by the panel.

My thanks to all the judges and their assistants, the CJ assistants and the video recorder for their hard work in the field.



Quintin Hawthorne



Further details regarding WAAC and WIAC 2025 Judge Performances and JPI outcomes are available at <https://www.civa-results.com/historic-judge-analysis-records.htm>