



**16th WORLD ADVANCED AEROBATIC
CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025 &
4th WORLD INTERMEDIATE AEROBATIC
CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025
Hévíz-Balaton Airport – Sármellék, Hungary
12.09.25 – 20.09.25**



Overview

38 pilots from 14 countries competed in Advanced and 32 pilots from 12 countries competed in Intermediate.

The above figures reflect the numbers for the Programme 1. Therefore both competitions are valid in terms of minimum requirements.

12 types of aircraft were competing in Advanced: Cap 232, 7 types of Extra 3xx, Laser Z230, 3 types of XtremeAir, Zivko 540

10 types of aircraft were competing in Intermediate (INT): Cap 231 and 232, 5 types of Extra 3xx, 1 Silence Twister, 1 Sukhoi SU-29, 1 Zlin 50

Website: <https://www.waac2025.com>

Officials

- Contest Director: Tamas Abranyi assisted by Pavol Kafka
- Jury Members: Madelyne Delcroix and Luca Andreghetti
- Chief Judge: Quentin Hawthorne assisted by Hanna Räihä and László Liszkay
- Scoring Director: Sándor Molnar assisted by Nora Papp
- Chairman of the Technical Committee: Janos Greczi
- Warm-up Pilots : Laszlo Ferencz and Romain Fhal



General Contest Remarks

Hotel Carbona ****

The hotel, which accommodated the Pilots, Officials and Staff, was of very good standard and the meals from the buffet in the evening were of good quality. Also the breakfast buffet was quite large. More of, it was a spa-hotel offering all the facilities you can find in a thermal resort which provide good relaxation possibilities to the pilots.

The 2 main corridors and the lobby were decorated with pictures of the 70 pilots. An excellent idea to promote the event! A feeling of « These guys are stars » was present in the hotel.

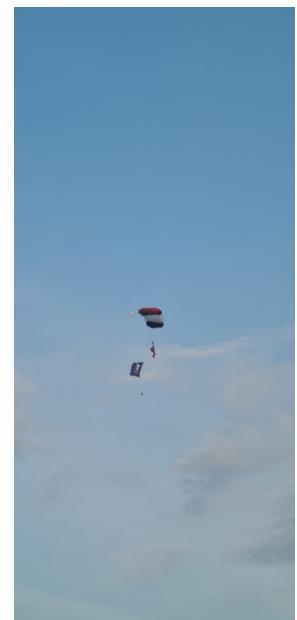


Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony took place in a very romantic place with a little museum on hungarian traditions. The flags of FAI and Hungary arrived by 2 parachutist.

At the end of the ceremony we had a nice surprise with a great flight performed by Romain Fhal. A presentation of 3 "air dancers" hung on a crane and a wonderful presentation of the "Romanian Hawks" formation team completed the happening. A lot of spectators enjoyed the show.

The opening ceremony was closed by a drink with some snacks. A very agreeable social event with the necessary touch of a World Championship.



Hévíz-Balaton Airport

The Heviz-Balaton airport is a modern international airport installed on a former soviet air base. The limited commercial traffic was in no way a problem during the whole duration of the championships. The competition tarmac was allocated on a separate part of the main tarmac. Lunch at noon was served in form of a buffet with a good selection of food inside an arrival/departure gate of the airport. Morning briefings and other briefings were held inside the terminal in a gate waiting area.

The organizer has installed 2 huge hangar tents to protect the aircrafts, Tents for the teams and a container which hosted the scoring office. The scoring office was run by the well known and experienced Sándor Molnar and his assistant Nora Papp.

Sadly there was no dedicated room for the judges nor for the International Jury at the airport.

The now already traditional Café + Co vending machine corner offered café and all kinds of (non alcoholic) drinks for free !

Judges position

3 judge positions have been made available ; East, South and West. The East position was very comfortable and easily accessible. The West position (see picture below) was a classical harvested field with bumpy road access. Not easy for the 2 small busses which transported the judges. The south position was unexpected; stuck between corn fields and the fence of the airport with barbed wire at the top. A relatively small square place was cut in the corn and 3 judges were seated behind each other in a row. The visibility from the East and West positions was excellent. The South one was slightly unusual for the judges but not invalid.



Opening briefing

The opening briefing took place in a "ball room" at the hotel. It was nice to feel that everybody was in good mood and happy to be there. On request of the Contest Director, the International Jury presented 3 proposals to speed up the contest flying and to economize time to be able to fly possibly all 4 sequences with both categories. It was clear that with 80 competitors in total the available time was limited. One proposal aimed to limit the workload for the organizer.

The proposed changes to Section 6 Part 2 where :

- Waiving of the arrows showing the box direction on the ground : Accepted
- Reduce the 12 minutes time slot to 10 : Not accepted
- Waiving of the 5 training figures in Programme 1 : Not accepted

Operations

The team on the apron lead by Pavel Kafka was efficient and in a good mood. All the taxiing and pushing around of aircraft was running smoothly and safe. Each aircraft was brought from the hangar tent to the tarmac and pushed into start up position by the tarmac staff. The same happened from fuel truck back to the parking position or hangar tent.

The info board on the tarmac was well maintained and updated.

The ATC staff was very cooperative and friendly. For me, this was a very fine example of how commercial operations and a CIVA championship can run smoothly and safe side by side.

During competition some chatter on the safety frequency was sometimes disturbing the competitors in the box. This was taken seriously by the organizer and alternate frequencies were made available and used. Again a good example of how it should be done.

All procedures, ie. Radio procedures, taxi routes and flying paths before and after performance, have been repeatedly explained by the Contest Director for all box direction situations and wind on the ground for take off and landing safety.

Wind measurements have been performed by drone. To be able to fly at the altitude necessary, the organizer has used a professional drone and pilot with the necessary permits.



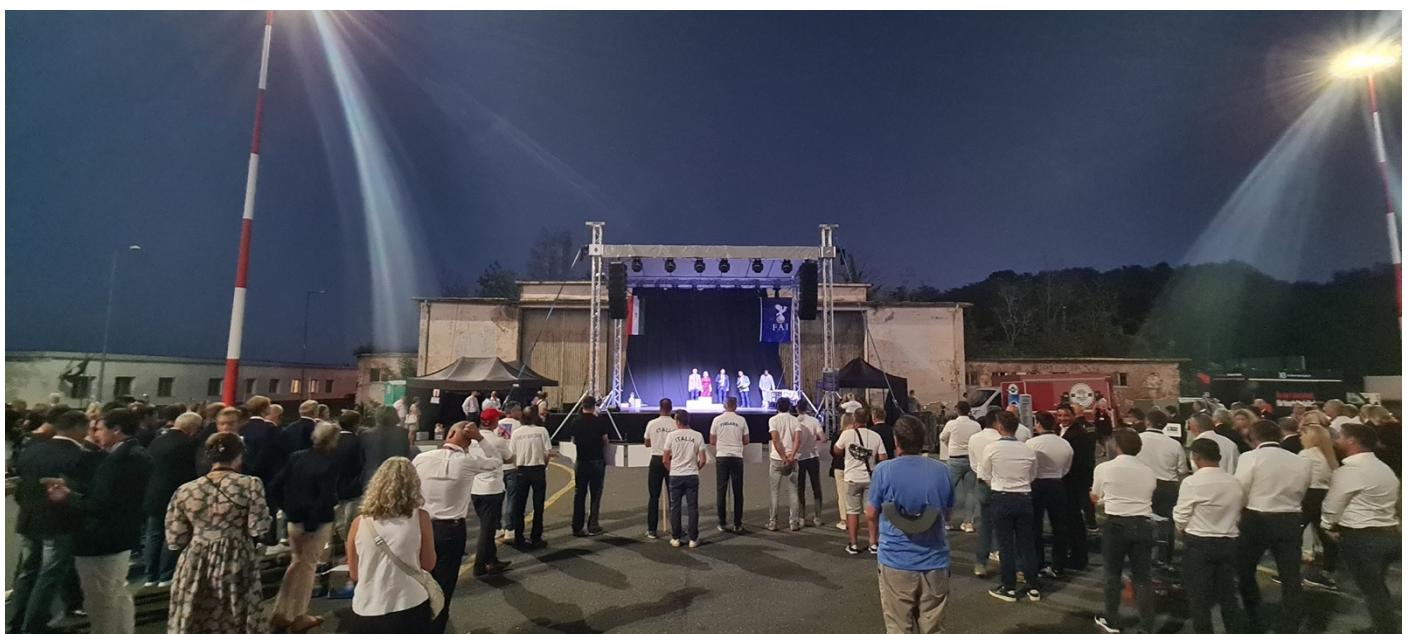
Judges Video Sessions

The judges showed great flexibility in holding the after flights video sessions. They were at the waiting room inside the terminal, the « ball room » of the opening briefing, which was generously made available by the hotel, and even twice in the personal bedroom of the Chief Judge. A quite special form of conferencing with limited space. But nonetheless carried out in a professional and correct manner by Quentin Hawthorne.



Closing ceremony

The closing ceremony took place on the airfield and all the medalists were able to enjoy their medal ceremony with a magical sunset in their face. Sadly the schedule was running late and therefore of a lot of public spectators present during the day had already left.

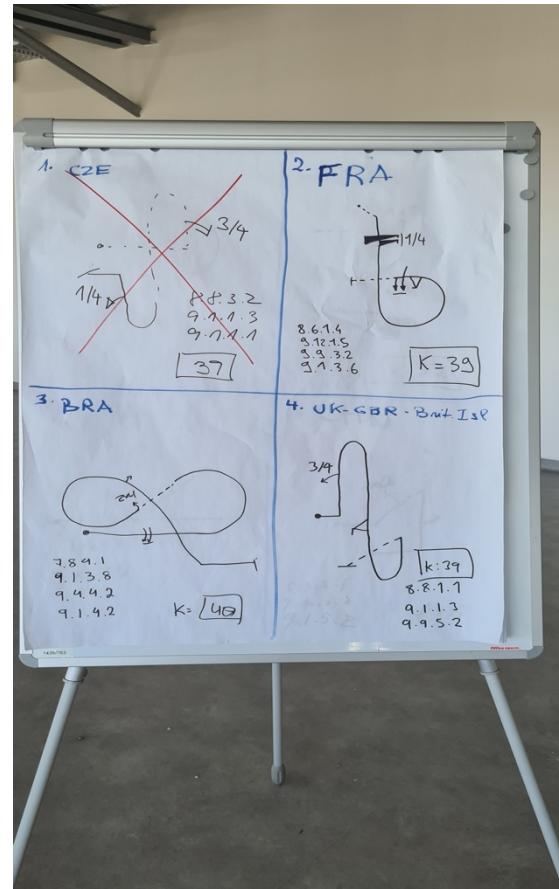


Other Jury Business

In the beginning there have been slight problems with the drone data and a necessary server for data synchronization. This led to wind data slightly off limits. The Jury has, in cooperation with the Contest Director, agreed to allow reflights for 3 pilots who performed with a to high crosswind component.

During the figure selection for a Free Unknown Programme, in of the proposals, figure elements have been exchanged. This was only detected after the start of the Programme. To keep the validity of the already flown sequences and the whole Programme, the team managers agreed unanimously to have one pilot flying a slightly different than proposed figure. The k-factor of the altered figure was exactly the same, just the rolls where mixed up in a different order.

As a result of the this error, the Jury strongly recommends to use the Unknown Free Sequence Editor in OpenAero and not to redraw the figures from scratch.



Final Comment

Not a single protest was handed in to the jury. I look at this as a very successful key element for the organizer and his preparation and dedication to aerobatics. Last but not least, I want to mention the very good sportsmanship showed by the competing teams and their pilots.

You all made it happen and brought it to a success!

Thanks Tamas, Vivi and all the team! Eljen a Magyar!

Philippe Küchler, pik
President of the International Jury
24.10.2025, Oberegg, Switzerland