

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF CIVA

Mike Heuer

The 2008 Contest Year



2008 was another safe and successful year of FAI Aerobatic Championships, thanks to the hard and dedicated work of our corps of volunteers, including not only the local people who help organize and run our contests, but the cadre of volunteers who work for CIVA year after year. They can be found on the Jury, the scoring office, on the Boards of Judges, on technical commissions, and throughout the contest site.

FAI Aerobatic Championships (Classical)

In 2008, four “classical” FAI Aerobatic Championships were held:

- 8th World Advanced Aerobatic Championships; Pendleton, Oregon, USA
- 16th European Aerobatic Championships; Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic
- 9th European Glider Aerobatic Championships; Radom, Poland
- 1st World YAK 52 Aerobatic Championships; Novosibirsk, Russia

In addition, there were “special events” as well.

The Al Ain International Aerobatic Championships was held in the United Arab Emirates in January 2008 under full FAI and CIVA sanction.

The World Aerobatic Cup was held in the Czech Republic in June 2008.

Finally, the last World Grand Prix of Aviation (WGPA) to be held at Motegi, Japan will be on the first weekend in November 2008.

A total of **154** competitors flew in our classical Championships. This is up from 131 in 2007 thanks to the addition of the World YAK 52 Aerobatic Championships.

My congratulations to our new World and European Champions:

- The new World Advanced Aerobatic Champion is **Rob Holland** of the USA. Rob flew consistently and well to gain the title at the AWAC in the USA. All flight programmes were completed in Pendleton and it was an exceptionally well organized contest.

- FAI’s new European Glider Aerobatic Champion is **Ferenc Toth** of Hungary. Ferenc has a long and distinguished record in glider aerobatics and has been a medal winner at several



World and European Championships. He will represent Hungary in the World Air Games in Turin in 2009. The event was held at Radom-Piastow Airfield in Poland and our special thanks to the organizers for once again hosting an FAI Championships.

- The European Aerobatic Champion in Unlimited power category is **Mikhail Mamistov** of Russia. Mikhail's record in aerobatic competition dates back to 1995. He holds a total of 6 first place wins at FAI World and Continental Championships (Glider and Powered aerobatics, in addition to various medals in flight programmes and as a member of winning Russian Teams. He will also represent his country at the World Air Games in Turin in 2009.

- The first World YAK 52 Aerobatic Champion is **Anton Berkutov** of Russia. Anton first appeared on the scene in 2006 at the AWAC in Radom, Poland. Our congratulations for his fine performance against an excellent field of YAK 52 experts. This was FAI's first YAK 52 Aerobatic Championships and my special thanks to Russia for organizing it under very difficult circumstances.

Safety at our Championships

All FAI Aerobatic Championships have been completed without accident and a clean safety record once again. This is not only a tribute to the Sporting Code but also the many contest officials who are dedicated to safe and efficient operations. Sometimes the environmental conditions are difficult, there is the usual pressure of competition, and sometimes tempers can get rather raw. Despite these usual difficulties and problems, 2008 has been a good year and I congratulate the competitors and officials who helped make it possible for us to keep our record clean.

Contest Results

Contest results for the 2008 EAC, AWAC, and the YAK 52 Championships can be found here: www.civa-results.com

EGAC results can be found here:

<http://aerobatics.mwebservices.net>

World Air Games Pilot Selection

Pilots for the World Air Games in the Power section were selected in accordance with CIVA's policy agreed in Vilnius in 2007.

The pilots who will compete at World Air Games in Turin are as follows:



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Power		Glider	
Gerald Cooper	United Kingdom	Premysl Vavra	Czech Republic
Svetlana Kapanina	Russia	Ferenc Toth	Hungary
Mikhail Mamistov	Russia	Markus Feyerabend	Germany
Pierre Marmy	Switzerland	Erik Piriou	France
Renaud Ecalle	France	Jerzy Makula	Poland
Martin Sonka	Czech Republic	Dietmar Poll	Austria
Ramon Alonso	Spain	Jason Stephens	USA
Michael Racy	USA	Pietro Filippini	Italy
Debby Rihn-Harvey	USA	Georgy Kaminskiy	Russia
Marco Bosoni	Italy	Christian Schmid	Switzerland

In Conclusion ...

I look forward to spending a majority of my free time working on FAI's and CIVA's behalf in my retirement years. There is much to do. I am excited about many of the upcoming projects and hope to do all I can to expand, promote, and improve the sport of aerobatics. It is an honor to be CIVA President.

Many thanks,

Mike Heuer
President of CIVA

Collierville, Tennessee USA
15 October 2008