

The Journal of *FAI Space Modelling*

The British Space Modelling Association

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Editorial First up, an *Errata!* The last issue published the 2010 World Cup 'results' and these contained a few technical mistakes. Please find the amended podiums below. The Editor offers apologies to everyone affected.

2011...where will this lead us all?!? There is so much happening in Space Modelling these days that it's hard to know where to start. Let's look at the 13th European Space Modelling Championships, for Juniors & Seniors, to be held at Buzau, Romania ~ 20-17 August 2011. A lot is expected, following the excellent 12th European Championships, in Srbija, during 2009. 'Difficult' classes, like S1-Altitude and S5-Scale Altitude are going to get better and better, now that *Electronic Altimeters* (eAltimeters) are in play. Proficiency on behalf of competitors and organisers is getting better all the time. All other classes are pretty well sorted out and we are entitled to expect a great event on that marvellous flying site, at Buzau.

2011...so where is Space Modelling NOW?!? During the last year, the Editor prepared a vision of the status quo. A précis of this is displayed in this issue. Don't be afraid to comment, as we must all contribute to the future of our obsession. Nobody else will help us, if we do not step up to the plate and help ourselves.

Jason Wentworth comes back with yet more sources of rare collectors' kits. Naturally, nothing to do with contest FAI Space Modelling, but illustrates the *diversity* which is vital for Model Rocketry-Space Modelling's survival and further development. And more, there's *plenty* more, besides all the above. Have a...*SUPER 2011!*

2010 World Cup ~ errata...

Take 2! ..over to Srdjan Pelagic

“ACTUALLY, Takes 3 and 4 too, a significant number of World Cup results came in much later than was intended, giving me a lot more work! The confirmed 2010 World Cup rankings are set down below”..

S4A-Boost Glider (510 participants)

1 Kiril STROKOV	RUS	324pt
2 Alen ALICH	RUS	315pt
3 Szymon BYRTEK	POL	310pt
4 Krzysztof PRZYBYTEK	POL	308pt
5 Gennady POLTAVETS	RUS	302pt

S6A-Streamer Duration (684 participants)

1 Alexei EZHOV	RUS	333pt
2 Leszek MALMYGA	POL	329pt
3 Vladimir KISILEV	RUS	320pt
4= Krzysztof PRZYBYTEK	POL	304pt
4= Miodrag V. CIPCIC	SRB	304pt

S7-Scale Models (179 participants)

1 Marian GRES	SVK	325pt
2 Wojciech KRZYWINSKI	POL	321pt
3 Dmitriy TROHIMENKO	UKR	316pt
4 Miroslav STANCEVIC	SRB	314pt
5 Aliaksandr LIPAI	BLR	281pt

S8E/P-RC Rocket Glider Spot (228 part'pants)

1 Lauris PUMPURS	LAT	325pt
2 Eduard WOWRY	POL	323pt
3 Peter MATUSKA	SVK	316pt
4 Mitija ZGAJNER	SLO	307pt
5 Wojciech BORROWSKI	POL	303pt

S9A-Gyrocopter Duration (534 participants)

1 Aliaksandr LIPAI	BLR	339pt
2 Vladimir KISILEV	RUS	320pt
3 Jaroslav CHMELIK	CZE	311pt
4 Vitali MAYBORODA	RUS	301pt
5 Vladimir MINKEVICH	BLR	291pt

interspace..

The Journal of FAI Space Modelling

The British Space Modelling Association

"There is a saying... 'the man who never made a mistake, never made ANYTHING!?!' So, a number of observant careful readers found several errors in the original placings in CPL 24 distributed late 2010. They were very cooperative and sent me their written remarks. I rechecked CPL 24 - Final Results and found their remarks were correct. I incorporated them in the tables and now the corrected results are available to you and posted at the SM blog on the FAI website. Visit.."

<http://www.fai.org/aeromodelling/space/news>

"There were three kinds of errors: a) name of the same competitor appears at two different locations because of different spelling of his/her name, or his FAI licence; b) points simply were not inserted at a specific position; c) in one case, points of a competitor were allocated to another countryman NB. Ezhov/Egorov (RUS)".

"You will notice in couple of corrections that points in table are lower by 1 than suggested correction. Reason is for we use in placing tables integers from the very beginning, not after rounding".

"Naturally, I am very sorry, for in two or three cases, the corrections affected people in the top part of table, but you are assured that such corrections were necessary and any errors completely unintentional. All people in question deserve my apology. I wish to avoid similar situations in future. So, I will produce a list of 'International Sportsmen' for the coming year, with correct spelling of names and FAI Licence numbers. They will be sorted by NACs, so instead of typing names and licences of competitors at your event, it will be good enough to mark competitors that apply for the contest, carry out a 'sort per marks' and do a "copy + paste" to the list of participants. There should then be no errors in either in your results tables, or in my subsequent placing lists"..

"You ask what will happen with the newcomers? Simply, we shall keep the spelling from their first appearance. If a contest in his native country comes later, spelling of the name will be checked and corrected as required".

"Finally, I wish to express my thanks to Vladimir Khokhlov (RUS), Tadeusz Kasprzycki (POL), Vera Pavkova (CZE) and Antonio Mazzaracchio (ITA), who with their careful reading and constructive suggestions contributed greatly to our striving for accurate final World Cup placings. I wish you a lot of sporting success in the forthcoming competition season in 2011".

Twenty11 World Cup...

another SUPER Calendar!!

PLENTY here to get excited about, so book those holidays NOW! Three continents are represented in the array below and all tastes catered for. Once more, confirmation of dates and venue, plus any further details should be obtained by dialling up:

www.fai.org/aeromodelling

..and checking out the online calendar. Bulletins for most events will be circulated ahead of time.

STOP PRESS There are some alterations arising out of the FAI-CIAM Bureau Meeting, 3-4 December 2010. This Calendar goes live from 1st January 2011. Over to Srdjan Pelagic..

"There are some changes to the Calendar yet to come from the FAI Office, because of undefined status of one member country and some financial problems between another member country and FAI. This is still a 'work in progress'. If/when this happens I shall reissue the Calendar with updated details mid-January 2011, subsequent to CIAM Bureau's Meeting Minutes publication. Other changes initiated from member countries will not be possible any more. I wish to call your attention to the following facts"..

1. *The beginning of the competition season is VERY EARLY in 2011, starting 26-27 February with the 7th Catalunya Cup, in Lleida-ESP. Bravo for Esther, Mama Neus & Jordi!*
2. *We shall have a World Cup in CZE again, but instead of Krupka - there is no flying field these days - there is the novel Tessin Olza Cup, at Hradec in Slezko, 14-15 May.*

interspace..

The Journal of *FAI Space Modelling*

The British Space Modelling Association

3. Slovakia...**Bratislava Cup** returns to the list again, at the start of May, plus a novel World Cup, called the **1st Slovakia Cup**, in Partizanske, at the beginning of August.
4. **Kaspichan Cup** (BUL) is moved to 21-22 May at the organiser's request.
5. No **Stip Cup** in Macedonia again. **Marijampole** (LTU); **Pljevlja Cup** (MNE) and **Suceava Cup** (ROM), the same. We must hope they will rejoin us in the coming years.
6. **Impulse Cup**, in Shostka (UKR) and **Zielona Gora** (POL) will take place from 22-25 July and 22-24 July respectively, but because separation of the venues is close to 2000km, implying different participating countries, not considered as date clash and approved for 2011.
7. **2011 FAI European Championships for Space Models (13th EuSMC)** will be organised as announced in **Buzau** (Romania), from 20-27 August, for Juniors & Seniors in all eight classes. Altitudes to be measured electronically! This is now the Gold Standard for flight altitude measuring!
8. A new country shall appear in September - Croatia with **1st Fenix Cup**, in **Vinkovci** - an extraordinary flying field – 10-11 September.
9. **Equinox Cup**, in **Andover** (GBR) and **Capitol Cup**, in **Manassas-USA**, shall be organised on 17-18 September, but as the Atlantic Ocean separates these two venues [and Continents.. – Ed], these are also approved.
10. Contests in **Baikonur** and **Korkyt Ata** shall, as usual, appear at the end of the season and...
11. **Grand Finale – 33rd Ljubljana Cup** – great festivities as usual and closing of the competition season in the wonderful **Terme Snovik**, in **Slovenia**, 15-16 October 2011.

“Summarised...our competition season will contain the following events – 13th EuSMC – 1; Open International & World Cups – ~20; Open International – Non-World Cups - 5 and Open Nationals – 1. A grand total of nearly 30 events. It is possible that a couple more World Cups may yet be added to the list, we’ll see!”

“Congratulations to the future organisers, for there is much hard work to prepare all these events. This is a key year for Space Modelling with many challenges along the way. We deserve a very successful competition season in 2011”.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 26-27 February | 7th Catalunya Cup ~ Lleida-ESP
S4A; S6A; S8E/P; S9A WCs + S3A |
| 16-17 April | Belarus Cup ~ Lida-BLR
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs + S1B |
| 23-24 April | Korolev & Veteranov Cups ~Stupino-RUS
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs + S12/P |
| 6-8 May | Bratislava Cup ~ Pezinok-SVK
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs |
| 14-15 May | Tessin Olza Cup ~ Hradec in Slezko-CZE
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs |
| 21-22 May | Bulgaria Cup ~ Kaspichan-BUL
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs |
| 28-29 May | Buzau Cup ~ Buzau-ROM
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs |
| 4-5 June | Krakow Cup ~ Krakow-POL
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs + S1B |
| 11-12 June | Dubnica Cup ~ Dubnica-nad-Vahom-SVK
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs |
| 25-26 June | Vega Cup ~ Zadovinek-SLO
S4A; S6A; S8E/P; S9A WCs |
| 9-10 July | Liepaja Cup ~ Liepaja-LAT
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs |
| 22-25 July | Zielona Gora Cup ~ Zielona Gora-POL
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs |
| 22-24 July | Impulse Cup ~ Shostka-UKR
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs |
| 30-31 July | Yangel Cup ~ Dniepropetrovsk-UKR
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs |
| 6-7 August | Partizanske Cup ~ Partizanske-SVK
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs |
| 20-27 August | 13th European Space Modelling Championships
Buzau – Romania
<u>Seniors</u> : S1B; S3A S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A
<u>Juniors</u> : S1A; S3A S4A; S6A; S7; S8D; S9A |
| 10-11 Sept | Fenix Cup ~ Vinkovci-CRO
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs |
| 17-18 Sept | Equinox Cup ~ Andover-UK
S4A; S6A; S8E/P; S9A WCs |
| 17-18 Sept | Capitol Cup ~ Manassas-USA
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs + S1B, S3A |
| 20-23 Sept | Baikonur Cup ~Kosmodrome-KAZ/RUS
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs |

interspace..

The Journal of *FAI Space Modelling*

The British Space Modelling Association

27-30 Sept **Korkyt Ata Cup** ~ Korkyt Ata-KAZ
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs
15-16 October **33rd Ljubljana Cup** ~ Kamnik-SLO
S4A; S6A; S7; S8E/P; S9A WCs + S3A,
plus parties, strippers, sex and drinking..

Naturally, the Editor repeats the diktat that details from all the above must be checked by scanning the FAI 'page and then contacting respective organisers for full details.

**2010 to 2020... Where are we NOW? ...where are we GOING!?!
by the Editor**

1997 SAW ME Write, No Contest...has FAI Space Modelling run out of SPACE!?! This paper reviewed contemporary Space Modelling, exploring strengths, weaknesses, opportunities & threats and suggested improvements for further developments. The Sapphire Programme was intended to take this onwards. How did my predictions and suggestions fare following the turn of the Millennium? ..How much has Space Modelling evolved onwards & upwards? ..How is 2010 Space Modelling responding to the challenges of the Real World? To recapitulate, my 1997 observations were to:

- *improve spectator appeal across the spectrum*
- *increase the models' size*
- *limit models' performance*
- *fly S1 & S5 with electronic altimeters*
- *attract more young people*
- *create 'festivals of rocketry'*
- *more events around the world*

But first of all, a review of what we take for granted. The past decade and a half has seen more World Cup events come onto the scene, with twenty five being a typical tally for an average summer. The number of participants in most classes flown, has similarly burgeoned year on year and Space Modelling may be allowed a moment's self-congratulation. Time to remind ourselves about the subject that obsesses us all, what's it all about?!?

S1 – Altitude	S3 – Parachute Duration
S4 – Boost Glider	S5 – Scale Altitude
S6 – Streamer Duration	S7 – Scale
S8E/P – RC Rocket Glider Spot Landing	
S9 – Gyrocopter Duration	S8D – RC Rocket Glider
S11/P – Rocketplanes	S12/P – Triathlon Dur'ion

This array is broken down and flown at the various types of event, as shown below. Let's do another SWOT analysis – Strengths; Weaknesses; Opportunities; Threats – on the status quo:

World & Continental Championships

<u>Seniors</u>	<u>Juniors</u>
S1B-Altitude	S1A-Altitude
S3A-Parachute Duration	S3A-Parachute Duration
S4A-Boost Glider	S4A-Boost Glider
S5C-Scale Altitude	S5B-Scale Altitude
S6A-Streamer Duration	S6A-Streamer Duration
S7-Scale	S7-Scale
S8E/P-RC Rocket Glider Spot Landing	S8D-RC Rocket Glider Duration
S9A-Gyrocopter Duration	S9A-Gyrocopter Duration

World Cup events (Senior + Junior combined)

S4A-Boost Glider
S6A-Streamer Duration
S7-Scale
S8E/P-RC Rocket Glider Spot Landing
S9A-Gyrocopter Duration

Open Internationals (Senior + Junior combined)

S1B-Altitude
S3A-Parachute Duration
S5C-Scale Altitude
S11/P-Rocketplanes
S12/P-Triathlon Duration

interspace..

The Journal of FAI Space Modelling

The British Space Modelling Association

Strength - Major Championships feature **EIGHT** classes for Seniors and Juniors; World Cups feature **FIVE**, Open international events normally layered into World Cup events to add diversity. That magic word...Diversity: Space Modelling is many things to many people and forms the cornerstone for our success over several decades.

8 – 3 = 5.. Life was made a little less pleasant for us when the mid-2000s, FAI-CIAM decided that EIGHT classes took too much from their coffers, at Major Championships. It was decided that we must contest no more than FIVE. Not perfect, but many reckoned it was worth a trial and some regarded it as an opportunity to do something radically different.

Threat - *This was not to be. The choice of the five classes remained the gift of individual Champs' organisers and the situation in recent times has resulted in the selections being less than satisfactory, even resulting in some countries not sending teams – DISASTROUS! Maybe the best solution would have been to have designated the World Cup suite of classes for Major Champs. Crucially, reducing to 5 classes cut down on Diversity, that fundamental strength of Space Modelling. Thankfully, commonsense prevailed and the 18th World Space Modelling Championships and corresponding 9th Juniors' WSMC carded the classic Eight classes.*

Minakov Project.. This appeared almost as a backdrop, just as the 'Classes Reduction' issue was being forced upon us. The legendary Vladimir Minakov published his vision of the future. This was a 'root & branch' rethink of Space Modelling – no space here to spell out the details – but more *revolution*, than evolution. Nobody reading it would agree with every radical element within, but for a couple of years it seemed likely that we would take some steps down this road. However, things have gone very quiet and nobody discusses it any more.

Opportunity (missed..) – *This might have been the future. Maybe not all of it, all at the same time, but this document must be kept in the forefront of the mind, put on ice and not forgotten.*

Specific Classes.. Naturally, rule changes have altered virtually all the classes we flew back in 1997: bigger models in S1-Altitude, S3-Parachute Duration, S6A-Streamer Duration and S9-Gyrocopter Duration. At Major Champs, Seniors fly 500 x 40mm models under 2.5Ns impulse; Juniors, 350 x 30mm models, again under 2.5Ns...resulting in the slightly ironic reality that the kids fly higher performance birds than their senior contemporaries!?! S4-Boost Glider has been given an impulse reduction and S8E/P-RC Rocket Glider replaced S8E-RC Rocket Glider Duration, at both the Major Champs' and at World Cups; S8D-RC Rocket Glider Duration inserted as a Juniors' event. S5-Scale Altitude is also split into Seniors' and Juniors' generics – S5C and S5B – with the 'quantum shift' to *electronic altimeters* (eAltimeters) put in place for 2010. That naturally includes S1-Altitude and...deserves a section to itself..

Strength – *Diversity aplenty and plenty of opportunity to tweak and improve specific classes. Maybe introduce minimum weight limits in some classes and increase motor impulse. Lots of people flying lots of rockets...great!*

eS1 + eS5 = Nirvana??? No contest...we'd flown Altitude competitions for decades, with methodology from the Stone Age! Measuring a splodge of coloured chalk high in the sky with theodolites, was at best slow and inefficient and at worst, missed the winners and lots, lots more. In the autumn of 2009, Srdjan Pelagic published the following statistics from S1-Altitude flights at the 12th EuSMC, in Srbija. These showed that the prospect of getting a successful track was only ~35%!! Full details in a recent **interspace..**

..Shocking!! OK, one class at one event only, but this is the pattern we have tolerated since Space Modelling's inception. Classes S5C & S5B produce similar numbers and consequently a changeover to eAltimeters obviously required. And 2010 deemed the (over..) due date!!

Srbija's 18th World Space Modelling Championships – Seniors and the 9th World Space Modelling Championships – Juniors, 21-28th August, saw eS1B, eS1A; eS5C & eS5B flown for the first time in a major event, by Seniors & Juniors. Naturally, trial competitions had been set up at World Cups, during the run-up?!? But there's a problem, these events were very poorly supported by competitors and consequently, not much organisers' data obtained. Why?

interspace..

The Journal of *FAI Space Modelling*

The British Space Modelling Association

Threat or Opportunity?!? *Who is responsible for the eAltimeters? Who buys them? Who replaces them, if lost during a contest? eAltimeters cost ~€40-60 per unit, a significant sum for an organiser who commits to buying, for instance, 20 units = €800-1,200 (very similar in US\$)...Ouch! These eAltimeters need custom fitting in the S1 or S5 birds in question – more commitment on behalf of the competitor. If an eAltimeter is lost – or smashed – during a contest, who should pay? Lots of question marks (?) in this paragraph and even more out there on the Rampa. The trend is to demand a competitor pays a deposit – a significant sum - to cover the cost of a replacement unit – so more commitment and risk too. Maybe this has deterred participants who would routinely have flown S1, or S5 before?!? Maybe one or both should be World Cup classes?!? Altitude competitions are specialist events. Crucially, they are not included the World Cup suite of classes and traditionally flown infrequently outside Major Championships. Genuine S1 & S5 specialists are relatively unusual amongst competitors and many competitors have flown S1, in particular, as an ad hoc class, to boost the numbers. There is a real danger that we have lost these occasional altitude competitors. Srbija proved that eAltimeters are the way to go. It's to be hoped that more will now 'Go for it and bend the Sky'!!*

S7-Scale and S8E/P-RC Rocket Glider Spot

The 'shop window' classes of Space Modelling, what the public come to see; both World Cup events. S7-Scale...fantastic, the best space models on the planet, built and flown by the greatest experts around. But...and it's a **BIG BUT**, has this class progressed with the times, some say it's not moved forward in two decades?!? Stupendously contested at Major Champs, but very 'up and down' in World Cups. Srdjan Pelagic recently published some 2010 mid-season figures which showed that S7 and S8E/P were lagging significantly behind other World Cup classes, in participation. [see Srdjan Pelagic' 2010 review later in these pages – Ed]

S7-Scale demands the highest commitment of all and one might expect numbers of participation to be lower than the simpler performance classes. But only to record 20-25% is worrying. Another serious issue cannot be glossed over. Many Juniors fly S7-Scale with prototypes built by their Seniors – everybody knows this happens, but naturally, it cannot be proven. There is a viewpoint that Junior S7-Scale should not be flown at Major Championships, for this very reason. It is strategic cheating and a real deterrent to those who wish to start in this elite category of Space Modelling.

S8E/P-RC Rocket Glider is another case – complex and high tech, but...should be the easiest to sell to the Aero Modelling community: Lots of people fly radio controlled gliders in one guise or another. Consequently, hard to understand why S8E/P does not feature record entries. Taking a broader view, some World Cups do feature entries >20 in both S7 and S8E/P, but these are the exception, rather than the rule. No easy fixes.

SWOT?!? ***Strength** – S7 & S8E/P are visually the most attractive 'shop window' classes in Space Modelling. **Weakness** – participation lower than is healthy in World Cup events and remember...they ARE long-standing World Cup classes, offering real incentives to take part and be successful. **Opportunity** – can we make them easier in which to participate; sell them better to existing Radio Control & Scale flyers; make them more attractive? **Threat** – can't imagine Space Modelling without S7 & S8E/P and if they disappeared, for whatever reason –or became absorbed into FAI disciplines F3 & F4 - so might Space Modelling, very soon after.*

Open international classes S3A-Parachute Duration; S1-Altitude & S5-Scale Altitude; S11/P-Spaceplanes and S12/P-Triathlon Duration. Considering S3A – stood the test of time; too much performance, but very popular whenever it's flown.. It's an icon, we might think about minimum weight limits, but we must keep it. S1 & S5 are covered above. S11/P-Spaceplanes – seriously, isn't this what we *should* be doing?!? ...we are **Space Modellers!** Visually attractive – more so than most S4-Boost Gliders – could they not feature alongside at events, just like S8E/P-RC Rocket Glider Spot Landing did, alongside the then World Cup class of S8E-RC Rocket Glider Duration? It's the only way to kickstart novel

interspace..

The Journal of FAI Space Modelling

The British Space Modelling Association

events. S12/P-Triathlon has been flown occasionally, mainly at Russian events, but never on a regular basis.

Strength & Opportunities *Considering S1 & S5, these have received coverage elsewhere. S3A-Parachute Duration is the oldest class, closest to what 'fly for fun' rocketeers fly and always popular. S11/P-Spaceplanes represent the greatest opportunity of all – but we've got to fly them regularly at World Cup events. S12/P looks to tap into the diversity that is the major strength of Space Modelling. Again, needs to be flown regularly. Organisers...this means YOU!*

Grass roots in the Western World

The 11th of September 2001 changed the World as we know it. The terrorist outrages on the World Trade Centre in New York and elsewhere, has had a knock-on effect that we are feeling in Space Modelling – especially 'fly for fun' hobby shop Model Rocketry – to this very day.

More legislation, especially in the United States, has restricted how rocketry-related products can be transported, which has made life difficult, even for domestic markets in the USA. Exporting hobby shop products like Estes and Quest kits & motors is more difficult and the price of these things in the UK and EU countries has risen to very high levels indeed. The global economic recession has forced EU consumer prices higher still and for the first time, there is a real danger that the activity may end in several countries. Summed up..

Threat.. *Unless this situation improves drastically, model rocketry stuff is likely to disappear from the hobby shops, in the UK and other European countries, indirectly hampering the growth of FAI Space Modelling in these lands.*

FAI Space Twenty10 to Twenty20..

Ironically, global realities seem largely to have bypassed FAI Space Modelling. For one reason or another, it is a European-based activity, largely self-supporting and less troubled by turmoil in other

continents. Taking a step back and considering all the evidence above, will give an impression that there is more right than wrong.

World and Continental Championships are massively supported and a real challenge to organisers, for all the right reasons. World Cups are, well...more correctly termed *European Cups*, by and large, although Asia has recently come on-board and recently, the continent of North America, in spectacular fashion! The 1st Great Lakes Cup, held over the weekend of 26-27th June 2010, redefined how World Cups can be set up, attracting competitors and officials from other continents, by sponsoring their expenses. NAR's Tony Reynolds and Pat Butler were prime movers in this revolutionary project and their methods were spelt out in a previous **interspace..**

Festival of Rocketry = Fistful of Dollars... No apologies for flagging up the 1st Great Lakes Cup. Focus...this event was a real 'Festival of Rocketry', attracting commercial sponsorship amounting to ~\$10,000!! Super FAI contest, HPRs, show flights, large numbers of enthusiastic spectators, young people and sensationally successful as a result. Unprecedented enterprise: paradigm shift in thinking: quantum success. Space Modelling has a rosy future if this can form the template for future events.

Considering the rest, we have *Bigger Models, S1 & S5 are using eAltimeters*, we are able to attract *Young People* into the activity, lots of *Festivals of Rocketry* and *more events* – now in *THREE continents*. Space Modellers promote their obsession positively and *Spectators* enjoy the events. No complacency, but we are going *Forward*.

Summary.. SWOT ~ *Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities; Threats*. Space Modelling features the lot. But it's been getting bigger and better every year since I penned, *No Contest...Has FAI Space Modelling run out of SPACE!?! ..in 1997*. Except for one thing...what is the *Sapphire Programme* doing?!? ...where is the *Sapphire Programme*?!? ...come back, *Sapphire*, all is forgiven, you're sure needed as we transition from the 'noughties' into the 'teenies'!

interspace..

The Journal of *FAI Space Modelling* The British Space Modelling Association

More stuff.. for the 'collectors' out there **by Jason Wentworth**

ANOTHER compilation from Jason Wentworth, providing some *diversity* once more. There *are* other manufacturers out there, besides Estes & Quest. Over to Jason..

"Two of Starlight Model Rockets' nose cones - the BNC5A and PNC7B, see:

[www.starlightrocketry.com/](http://www.starlightrocketry.com/Scratch_Building_Parts.html)

Scratch_Building_Parts.html

...would, along with "new" fin shapes, make for two excellent yet simple new competition model rockets, both of which could be used for streamer duration and parachute duration contests".

"Unlike the clipped delta and trapezoidal fin planforms that are commonly used for competition model rockets, experimentation has indicated ~ see:

[www.apogeerockets.com/](http://www.apogeerockets.com/technical_publication_16.asp)

technical_publication_16.asp

... that the even simpler rectangular and parallelogram fin planforms are more efficient (for constant-thickness fins, because very few model rocketeers can sand a root-to-tip taper into fins because they are already so thin). In addition, these fins are much easier to cut out of a constant-width strip of sheet balsa--just a few perpendicular (or slightly angled) cuts across a balsa strip are all that is needed to make them. A 13 mm motor (BNC5A) rocket and an 18 mm motor (PNC7B) model would cater to all contest impulse classes from "1/4A" through "C," and their simplicity would also make them very good beginners' model rockets". And taking things on further...

www.questaerospace.com ..we have:

Semroc Astronautics

www.semroc.com

Starlight Model Rockets

www.starlightrocketry.com

...other non-Estes model rocket (not HPR)

manufacturers include – amazed there are so many!"

Advanced Rocketry Group Ltd

www.argrockets.com

Aerospace Speciality Products

www.asp-rocketry.com

Apogee Components

www.apogeerockets.com

Cosmodrome Rocketry

www.cosmodromerocketry.com

Custom Rocket Company

www.customrocketcompany.com

Dr. Zooch Rockets <http://drzooch.com>

FlisKits

Inc. www.fliskits.com

The Launch Pad

www.the-launch-pad.com

LOC Precision

www.locprecision.com

Odd'I Rockets

www.oddrockets.com

Pratt Hobbies

www.pratthobbies.com

Qualified Competition Rockets

www.cybertravelog.com/qcr

Red River Rocketry

www.redriverrocketry.com

Squirrel Works

www.squirrel-works.com

Sunward Aerospace Group Limited

www.sunward1.com

True Modeler's Rocket Kits

www.truemodeler.com

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The Journal of FAI Space Modelling

The British Space Modelling Association

World Cup '10 trends.. *how's it all looking for the future?!?*

by Srdjan Pelagic

THERE WERE 24 Space Models World Cup events on the FAI Contest Calendar 2010 - Space Models. These events attracted competitors from twenty five countries and three Continents - North America, Asia & Europe. Nations represented - USA, Canada, United Kingdom, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia, Romania, Bulgaria, Belarus, Ukraine, Russia, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan.

Three contests suffered cancellations because of organisational difficulties; Krupka – Czech Republic; Suceava – Romania; Pljevlja - Montenegro. All the rest went off successfully. In several World Cups, classes S7 and S8E/P were neither registered in the FAI Contest Calendar, or just not flown. Most organisers were very correct in preparing and forwarding completed results lists in a matter of days following the event in question, facilitating the publication of current placing lists. This contributed very much to the dynamics of the competitions.

After several years of very intensive progress has come a “relaxation period”, with miniscule positive variations of number of contests and participants with respect to 2009, but was still able to show an overall increase of participants of plus 9.03%.

More disturbing was that we saw a decrease of **minus 9.6%** in that most attractive class of Space Modelling... *S7-Scale*. This illustrates clearly that S7 requires extensive discussions and rule changes to retain the interest of existing flyers and to attract novel sportsmen. This must embrace new technologies.

Finally – and in direct contrast - a super increase of plus 21.64% is seen in the other “shop window” class...*S8E/P-RC Rocket Glider Spot Landing*.

Editor's note Remarkable then, even in this era of economic trauma, Space Modelling seems able to thrive, not writhe!?! We'll just keep boosting onwards and UPWARDS!!

World Space Champs..

..perspective from 'Stateside!?!'

by James Duffy

TEAM USA normally put together a film of their exploits in the World Space Modelling Championships. 2010's 18th/9th editions, for Seniors & Juniors, during August '10 were no exception and the editor is now the proud owner of a great CD that shows all the stuff he missed whilst in a steamy judging hall, all week! Over to James Duffy..

“Hi Stu...Glad to hear you enjoyed the disk! It was a great deal of fun to put together. I saw your piece on Lexa Liuty last time. That young man scored a bunch of points with me when he elected to turn in a truly competitive flight in S8D-RC Rocket Glider, after Alyssa's misfire. He could have chosen to simply get

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the glider up and bring it right down safely again, but made the sporting decision to turn in a true World Champion caliber flight. Good on him!"

"On the subject of wine...I did enjoy a couple of great Serbian reds at the 'Yellow House' during the week, so your comments defending the honor of the home country's wine industry are well taken. But the stuff Todd was tasting in the video just truly hideous, though! Maybe it was in-country illegally?"

"By the way, I've placed a version of the US Team video online for everyone to share. Perhaps you could mention it in your next interspace..?"

<http://vimeo.com/14926448>

"As a longer-term heads-up, my next DVD will cover the history of the V2 rocket in America, and will ideally see light by the end of the year [2010 -Ed]. All that Bumper-WAC research has finally come to fruition! Enjoy the below.."

<http://www.rocket.aero/v2.html>

Ringpiece.. another massive edition to kick off 2011!!

THAT'S ALL FOLKS! My *dreams* of a little issue to set the scene for the new season, became a real *nightmare* !! Actually no, for despite all the challenges life is rolling in our direction, Space Modelling is forging ahead. *"That which does not destroy us, makes us stronger"* [Nietzsche]. And I hope you found this issue a good read?!? Hard work for me, but.. *"Sheer plod makes plough down sillion shine.."* [Gerard Manley-Hopkins, *The Windhover*].

And on that bit of culture we depart. Suffice to say...

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

...to all readers, wherever you may be. The Editor looks forward to seeing many of you, sometime in 2011.

STOP PRESS

SERFs gonna get Social!?! For UK readers, Southern England Rocket Flyers will be indulging their Annual Social on..

- **Saturday 19th January 2011**
- ***The Bear Hotel* ~ Marlborough**
- **Full details may be obtained from organiser, Dave Tranter, on: 01249 446149**
nutdat@datcl.eclipse.co.uk

...always the event that kickstarts a new season. Hope to see you there.

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