

8th TOUNOI INTERNATIONAL MÉLUSIN

8/9th SEPTEMBER 2007 - ROUILLÉ

John Seacombe reports on this International event held on 8/9th September 2007 in south west France.

This annual event is held at the regional 'Stade d'Aeromodelisme' at Rouillé, South West of Poitiers in S.W. France, the home of 'Cercle Modeliste Rullicois' (CMR). Classes flown are Aerobatics, Speed and Team Race and the competition attracts fliers from all over Europe. This year there were 26 entries in F2B, 19 from France, 2 from Ukraine and one each from Spain, Italy, Belgium, Great Britain and China.

As the only ex-pat. Brit. member of CMR at present, I made the short drive (by French standards) to the stade as, having read the FAI F2B rules, I wanted to update myself on their practical application, since the last international C/L comp. I attended was the World Champs. in 1966 at RAF Swinderby, when GB was represented by Messrs. Mannal, Jolley and Dowbekin and the 'Aeromodeller' cost two shillings and six pence! (12.5p).

Saturday 8th September dawned sunny, with not a cloud in sight, but a strong wind saw the anemometers out until around 3 p.m. when round 1 got under way. The intervening delay gave me the chance to get to know Robert Kitley, the sole GB entrant, and Roger Ladds, who was present as a judge and fresh from judging at the US Nats. We chatted about some of the differences in attitude by both the public and officialdom to our sport, particularly in relation to financial support. For example, the Rouillé club has facilities that most UK clubs could only dream about. A newly built clubhouse with toilet and showers, office and storeroom, plus a separate building housing a dining area, kitchen, bar and snack facilities, even an overnight sleeping area for 4 persons. There are two fully caged circles, one for aerobatics and the other multi-purpose for Aero., speed and T/R. For those of a nervous disposition feeling caged in, there is also a large tarmac unfenced square, and plenty of grass space to boot, plus a large field parking area adjacent to the circles, so one can relax in ones deckchair and watch the activity in safety. All of this was made possible by the hard work of the club President, Serge Delabarde, and many others, with grants from the FFAM (Fédération Francaise d'Aéro-Modélisme), the local commune and the regional and county councils, with the full support of the Minister for Sport and Tourist Boards. The club also has a fully equipped workshop in the town, used for training and building instruction, plus winter meetings.



Zihua Yang from China (right) prepares to fuel his model
(Roger Ladds photo)

But back to the flying – to my untrained eye, most of the competitors in Round 1 coped well with the strong wind, with one or two engine starting problems, although most got away first flick. I felt sorry for the Chinese competitor, Zihua Yang, who finally got the motor of his bi-plane to start, but soon ran into trouble with his manoeuvres. The model just not suited to the conditions. Rob Kitley was unlucky to suffer a prop strike on launch, but completed his first round flight with no apparent trouble.

In typical French fashion the round was halted at 6.00pm, with two competitors still to fly, when a number of local dignitaries arrived to officially open the new club house. This involved ribbon cutting and many speeches followed by a 'goûter' of wine, nibbles and much amicable chat. Quite what

this did to the nerves of the two waiting to fly I shudder to think, but when in France

For those of you who have waded through this diatribe hoping to find a report of the two rounds on Sunday, I am very sorry to have to disappoint you, but as I had other commitments I was unable to return to watch the final two rounds. However, the full results are on the following page and I trust you will find them of interest. I note that Serge Delabarde won with Rob Kitley coming 9th. Should you be in our area and would like to visit the Rouillé site, please contact me on 0033 5 45 29 03 56 or e-mail me at: john.seacombe@wanadoo.fr when I would be pleased to arrange a visit.

ROUILLÉ RESULTS

Judges: Bernadette Gilbert (France), Patricia Pichot (Belgium), Louis Van den Hout (Netherlands), Roger Ladds (Great Britain), Jaccques Tayeb (France).

NAME	NAT	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	TOTAL	POS
Serge Delabarde	FRA	970.94	999.46	997.74	1997.20	1
Luc Dessaucy	BEL	943.86	987.98	1008.38	1996.36	2
Gilbert Beringer	FRA	925.54	998.14	985.02	1983.16	3
Rémi Beringer	FRA	921.48	974.74	1002.50	1977.24	4
Phillippe Gauthier	FRA	862.56	973.88	977.98	1951.82	5
Gérard Billion	FRA	935.18	968.16	951.24	1919.40	6
Carles Mas	ESP	876.30	933.92	961.12	1895.04	7
Véronique Beringer	FRA	0.0	929.54	954.42	1883.96	8
Robert Kitley	GBR	896.18	935.92	935.62	1871.54	9
Serguel Solomianikov	UKR	907.92	924.40	940.66	1865.06	10
Olivier Charles	FRA	845.50	937.54	899.66	1837.20	11
Jacky Pigout	FRA	811.96	906.94	926.70	1833.64	12
Michel Caillaud	FRA	780.16	909.88	916.74	1826.62	13
Michel Franceschi	FRA	0.0	903.16	917.70	1820.86	14
Nicolas Chapoulaud	FRA	412.30	889.40	906.68	1796.08	15
Alexandre Gauthier	FRA	381.18	913.54	881.28	1794.82	16
Alexandre Osetrov	UKR	876.74	902.16	0.0	1778.90	17
Frédéric Monnier	FRA	774.04	861.94	878.70	1740.64	18
Thierry Saunier	FRA	776.42	871.42	867.08	1738.50	19
Alberto Ravelli	ITA	0-0	822.78	843.26	1666.04	20
Yoann Charon	FRA	0.0	817.26	824.76	1642.02	21
Marc Gabion	FRA	0.0	811.08	825.32	1636.40	22
Alain Jouve	FRA	0.0	709.5	729.74	1439.24	23
Loïc Vaucelle	FRA	0.0	653.18	675.42	1328.58	24
Michel Maudet	FRA	0.0	684.12	598.06	1282.18	25
Zihua Yang	CHN	103.52	697.72	430.42	1128.14	26
Bernard Bador	FRA	0.0	742.88	230.42	973.30	27



From the Ukraine, nose detail of Serguel Solomianikov's model
(Roger Ladds photo)



Rob Kitley says a quick prayer before his flight!
(Roger Ladds photo)