

# 2022 COMBAT WORLD CUP AND WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

DAVE WISEMAN REPORTS ON THE WARSAW WORLD CUP ON 5-6 AUGUST AND FAI F2 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS ON 8-13 AUGUST

**W**ell nearly a month has passed since the 2022 World Championships and World Cup in Poland so I have now had time to reflect on what was a very eventful trip, a trip that very nearly did not go ahead.

Due to the conflict in the Ukraine it was touch and go if the Championships would even happen this year and even if it did how many countries would be entering. There were lengthy discussions within the UK as to whether we should send a team and in the event it was only the Combat F2D team that decided to go with the full support of the BMFA.

The team which was made up from myself Dave Wiseman, as both Pilot and Team manager, Gordon Price and Andrew Shields as the other Pilots and Alan Bunker the Team Mechanic all decided to travel via different routes. Gordon, Alan and myself decided to drive the 1200 miles (I also took Vernon Hunt with me who was an organiser) and Andrew flew because he had the job of hiring a car and driving our two supporters, Jimmy Pinkerton and Bill Swinburn, around.

I have to say that although the drive was long once over the water, driving on the continent is an absolute pleasure with relatively clear roads, very little if any road works and sensible speed limits (if you can call 120mph in an Audi A6 Allroad with a roof box sensible!). Following an overnight stop in Germany

Vernon and I arrived later that afternoon at the flying site to be met by the organisers. We immediately saw what a huge amount of effort had been put into organising these Champs and we were thanked for making the effort to enter, which was very gratifying. I have to say that the facilities were excellent and nothing seemed to have been left to chance. The F2A and F2C circles were perfection and whilst there was an early concern over the F2B practice circle this was later resolved after further cutting and rolling; this was soon as good as the competition circle. F2D was located on the far side of the airfield, quite some way from the other classes BUT this was not a problem as it allowed plenty of unrestricted practice flying area at the side of two contest circles. In addition to the contest facilities there was good camping facilities on site, two restaurant areas (one tented and other within the airfield's control building) both serving excellent food choices and most important a BAR (well it was very hot on the airfield).

After Vernon and I reviewed all the facilities it was off to the hotel where I later met up with Gordon and Alan and we prepared for the World Cup which was the forerunner to the World Championships.

## World Cup

The World Cup is a very good opportunity to see what the competition is like and set up your equipment



Article author Dave Wiseman was GBR F2D Combat Team Manager as well as being a pilot taking 3rd place in the opening World Cup competition.



The British team unpack their F2D models after the long journey to Warsaw in Poland.





Alan Bunker far left, Gordon Price in the red shirt and Andrew Shields in the blue shirt getting ready to fly in the World Cup.

and it also allowed Alan and Jimmy the opportunity to fly. The first round draw was not kind to any of us with Andrew drawing Igor Tukubaey from the Ukraine, Jimmy drawing Dmitri Varfolomejev from Estonia, Alan drawing Audrius Rastenis (current World Champion), me drawing Radek Spatenka from Czechoslovakia and Gordon drawing Illia Rediuk a previous World Champion. However after some very good close bouts Andrew and I came out victorious but unfortunately the rest lost their first life.

The Second round unfortunately was a similar result with Jimmy flying against Illia Rediuk, Andrew flying against Dmitri Varfolomejev, me against Robertas Platkauskas from Lithuania, Alan against Vladimir Buyanov of Germany and finally Gordon against Radek Spatenka. Unfortunately for Gordon a shut-off



The British Team at the World Cup. Left to right is Alan Bunker, Gordon Price, Dave Wiseman and Andrew Shields.

failure led to him losing on ground time as the shut-off cut the motor during the launch. So at the end of Round two Andrew and I still had two lives but the rest of the team were now out.

Despite this Gordon and Alan then continued as mechanics and continued to do a sterling job and considering this was Alan's first Champs he didn't put a foot wrong throughout the whole tournament.

Round 3 saw me picked against Toman Dalibor of Czechoslovakia, which I won after a very hard contest and a refly, and Andrew against Radek Spatenka which this time he lost leaving Andrew with only one life.

Round 4 at the start of the second day saw me picked to fly against Igor Dementiev who whilst a friend is also a very hard competitor who knows all the tricks in the book. This bout turned out

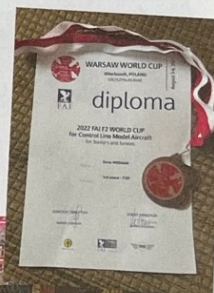


After the final of the World Cup. In the white shirt is Audrius Rastenis from Lithuania 2nd place, in the Yellow and Blue from the Ukraine is Illia Rediuk 1st and Dave Wiseman 3rd in the red shirt.

to be some "Very Old School Combat" both hard in the centre circle as well as competitive. BUT on this occasion I came out the victor, but both of us came out with big smiles after some of the antics in the circle. Andrew was not as lucky against Toman Dalibor and lost, meaning that he was now also out of the World Cup.

Round 5 saw the event down to 6 competitors; Illia against Radek, Dalibor against Robertas, and Audrius against me. With Illia, Robertas and Audrius winning it meant that I had lost a life but was still in with Robertas, Illia and I on one life each and Audrius with two lives remaining.

Round 6. To stay in the competition I had to beat Robertas which I did after a



The World Cup F2T Combat podium of winning pilots and the Ukrainian and Lithuanian team mechanics.



Dave Wiseman celebrated his 3rd place by taking out all the team to thank them for their support in the World Cup. Left to right is Jimmy Pinkerton, Andrew Shields, Gordon Price, Bill Swinburn, Alan Bunker and Dave Wiseman.





Scrutineering of the models before the start of the World Champs held a nasty surprise for Andrew Shields.



A parade of the teams and entertainment marked the opening of the CL World Championships.



This is Andrew Shields holding one of his much repaired models in the World Champs as all his new models failed scrutineering.



Bill Maywald's carbon boom models from the States. He says there is about \$200 of carbon in each model because of the moulded carbon leading edges. Lovely to fly but the boom is very vulnerable.



Stanislav Chornyy preparing his model.



The British Team at the World Champs banquet left to right Gordon Price, Andrew Shields, Alan Bunker (Mechanic) and Dave Wiseman.

hard close bout and Illia beat Audrius. Which now left us all on one life.

Round 7. I now had to fly Illia which turned into quite a messy bout where we both unfortunately ended up in a very big line tangle after we each took all the steamer. We each knew that whoever hit the ground first was going to lose on ground time so we both fought hard to keep the models in the air but unfortunately I lost out and Illia won. Illia then had to fly Audrius for the title which he did after a very good bout and then I flew Audrius for 2nd and 3rd place which was my final loss on ground time after taking 6 seconds longer to get my spare model in the air (my fault as I crashed too far away from my pit crew.)

So the final result was Illia 1st, Audrius 2nd and Me 3rd.

Now we get onto the main event - the 2022 World Championships.

## Combat World Champs

Before any Championships there is the processing of all your models and motors and usually this is a bit of a non-event because who would turn up with models and motors which wouldn't qualify? Well in this case Andrew Shields. Unfortunately for Andrew all his new models were purchased Pre-Covid for the Championships in 2019 and since then the rules had changed with regards to engine safety straps; none of his models complied with the new regulations. This meant that with one day before the Champs we had to beg, borrow and

steal models for him to fly, but because the Combat fraternity is so close we were able to acquire models from within our own team as well as models from different competitors. So Andrew was still able to go "to the ball".

The first round saw easy wins for both Andrew and myself, and Bert Gijsbertsen and Kimmo Valkonen, but Gordon suffered his first loss against Dalibor Toman of CZE. One of the more interesting bouts of the day was William (Bill) Maywald from the States flying his Boom Model which has a carbon composite leading edge and carbon boom. A nice model but the boom was a little exposed for the European flying style of F2D flying resulting in a loss for Bill. I did however try his model later in the day and it was a pleasure to fly.

It was also very clear to see that Illia, Audrius, Jussi Forss and Ivan Chornyy were really on top of their game when watching them fly (as they say cream rises to the top).

Day two started off with Round 2 and a win for Andrew against Raul Mateo of Spain after a very enthralling bout with Andrew performing lots of his low flying tactics making it hard for Raul to get on top. Following this later that morning we had a hard fought bout between Gordon and Igor Dementiev resulting unfortunately in a final loss for Gordon putting him out of the Championships.

Then despite the good weather we had been having from nowhere we suffered a torrential rainstorm which resulted in



us all running for shelter. I then realised that the car boot had been left open as well as the tent which we had to store all our equipment in at the flying site, so I decided to run to close everything up. This was NOT a good idea because whilst running I fell and injured my shoulder meaning that I could not lift my right arm any higher than shoulder height. Initially we thought that the collar bone was broken but despite it clicking we eventually decided it was probably only torn muscle so the guys strapped and taped it up so I could carry on flying but it did restrict movement which showed up in later bouts.

I then flew Andre Horst from Germany in the afternoon and lost, Not because of my should but because he was the better pilot on the day. (I did however take off the strapping later). This then took us to Round 3 where both Andrew and I won. Andrew against Radik Mazgiane from the USA and me once more against Dalibor Toman. When watching the other pilots fly it was clear to see that Jussi Forss from Finland, Audrius Rastenis from Lithuania and Igor Dementiev of Moldova were starting to progress in to a different league.

Round 4 was the end of the Championship for me with a loss against Igor after beating him in the World Cup and also saw Andrew lose his first life.

So now we reach Round 5 and Andrew is back on fire with a win against Stanislav Chornyy putting Chornyy out of the Champs.

Round 6 saw Andrew up against Dalibor Tornan, who by now must have been fed up coming up against the GBR team and this again was a win for Andrew putting him into the top 6 pilots in the World Championships.

Round 7 saw Andrew against Igor Dementiev which after another hard fought bout this time saw Igor come out on top. Jussi Forss then went on to beat Raul Mateo and Audrius beat Manuel Mateo which left Jussi, Audrius and Igor to fight out the final places. With both Jussi and Audrius having two lives each who ever won had to beat the other pilot twice. Jussi seems to be able to go up another gear when needed, which he did in the final beating Audrius twice to take the title in fine style as the first Finnish pilot to win the World Championships. So the final result was 1st Jussi Forss, 2nd



The F2D Combat World Champs podium: 1st Jussi Forss, 2nd Audrius Rastenis and 3rd Igor Dementiev.



Celebration! After the closing banquet it's Illia Rediuk, Jussi Forss from Finland the New F2D World Champion and Vernon Hunt.

Audrius Rastenis and 3rd Igor Dementiev with Andrew Shields a very creditable joint 4th, all with borrowed models.

Other things which made the Championship so memorable were events involving Jimmy Pinkerton. Jimmy has been a long time aeromodeller who has involved himself with not just Combat but other forms of CL such as racing as well. Jimmy is also well into his 70's and still an active competitor. At this World Championships some teams

had issues with being able to make up a complete team of pilots and mechanics. So it was agreed by the FAI that FAI licence holders who were not part of another team could volunteer to be a mechanic for other countries. To Jimmy's credit he volunteered with just one other person (who was seconded rather than volunteered) to pit for the Italian and the Belgium teams and he did a really good job. Not just for someone of 70+ years but as a genuinely good mechanic, so a



big thank you to Jimmy. On top of this I think he was the only person I know to get arrested for jay walking in Poland but managed to talk the police around to giving him a lift to the garage and then back to his hotel!! But that's a story for another day...

So in finishing I think that the GBR members performed well as a team getting an individual 3rd in the World Cup and 4th in the Championships, with Alan Bunker performing faultlessly in the roll of mechanic at his first Championships. Not only did I pilot in the team but also acted

as Team Manager and if I am to believe a comment made by a GBR team member "If Heineken made Team Managers they would call him Dave Wiseman," which probably means I did OK... or I bought most of the beers! So roll on the 2023 European Championships. ■

## COMPREHENSIVE WEBSITE

Further information on the 2022 CL Warsaw World Cup and World Championships across all F2 classes can be found on the website [cl-f2abcd-wchs2020.pl](http://cl-f2abcd-wchs2020.pl) (Note the address includes 2020 not 2022 as this event was postponed due to the Pandemic.)



Fabulous photos by Bogdan Wierzbza taken at the Opening Ceremony and across the F2 classes, together with full results for Combat F2D and other classes, can also be found on the website [cl-f2abcd-wchs2020.pl](http://cl-f2abcd-wchs2020.pl)



18 AeroModeller 1026 – November 2022



### 2022 FAI F2 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS for CONTROL LINE MODEL AIRCRAFT for Seniors and Juniors

August 8th - 13th, 2022 Wloclawek POLAND



Rank	Junior Rank	Female Rank	Start No.	Competitor	Country	FAI Id	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Fly off Junior
1			D40	FORSS Jussi	FIN	10571	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	
2			D35	RASTENIS Audrius	WCH (LTU)	27189	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	
3			D49	DEMENTIEV Igor	MDA	84006	W	W	W	W	L	W	W	L	L	L	
4			D19	MATEO GARCIA Manuel	ESP	17483	W	W	W	L	W	W	L				
4			D20	MATEO SALA Raul Manuel	ESP	17516	W	L	W	W	W	W	L				
7			D29	SHIELDS Andrew	GBR	66350	W	W	W	L	W	W	L				
7		1	D04	BERTELSEN André	DEN	17272	W	W	W	W	L	L					
7			D07	DEMENTIEVA Natalia	DEN	163290	W	W	W	W	L	L					
7			D11	TOMAN Dalibor	CZE	16929	W	W	L	W	W	L					
7			D21	VAZQUEZ PEREZ Benjamin	ESP	17617	L	W	W	W	W	L					
12	1		D26	GRAVES Russell	USA	164158	W	W	W	L	W	L					
12			D56	CHORNY Ivan	UKR	84058	L	W	W	W	L						
12			D18	KONIGSHOFER Rudolf	AUT	46361	W	W	L	W	L						
12			D24	MAGZIANOV Radik	USA	137532	W	W	L	W	L						
12			D55	CHORNY Stanislav	UKR	84048	W	W	L	W	L						
12			D58	REDIUK Illia	UKR	84050	W	W	W	L	L						