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U.S. Soaring Team Day Reports & Results

POLAND 2003
LESZNO
28th WORLD GLIDING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Friday, August 1

Report 11

The news is that the sky is blue and the sun is out in Leszno. T storms predicted for afternoon. Briefing at 10:00 with rather long tasks today. The launch is underway at 11:30. By 12:30 all competitors are in the air and the sky is beautiful. One or two outlandings. U.S. Team going strong.

REPORTS

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CLOSING

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EARLY REPORT - August 1, Contest Day 4

After yesterdays poor weather the situation has changed. Today dawns blue with bright sunshine and a good soaring forecast. The only hitch may be afternoon thunderstorms. The briefing is held at 10:00 and the launching commences by 11:30 into a beautiful 3/8 cu filled sky. By 12:30 all gliders are in the air. The 15-meter class leaders start just after 1:00 with Karl and Dave starting at 1:10. Most of the Standard class are gone by 1:30 with Tom starting at 1:05 and Chip at 1:13.



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The 18-Meter class starts are in the 12:40 to 12:55 range with Gary going at 1:00. The Opens are all started by 12:30 with Ron having the last start at 12:24. No tracking today but the system is going to be fixed today! John Good has been under the weather for the last two days but is soldering on between bed and the airport.

Tasking today is rather long with the Standard Class flying an Assigned Area Task: 4hours (311.4-614.9 km) and the 15-Meter flying and Assigned Area Task: 4 hours 15 min (346.6-714.8 km). The 18-meter is on a Racing Task (AST) of 537.5 km with Open Class Racing Task of 608.3 km.

PREDICTED WEATHER

Synoptic situation: the region of Leszno is still under the influence of the high with the centre over Russia, the advection of warm and unstable airmass from the direction 050-080 the speed of



about 20km/h. Clouds: At the beginning 0-2/8 Cu h=600-900m after 12.00 2-4/8 Cu h=1200-1500m after 14.00 h=1400-1700 on the East from Leszno locally h=1600-1800m, locally single Cb clouds with thunderstorms & showers Thermals: 1m/s rising 1,5-2,5 max. 4m/s Visibility: >> 10km in showers 6-4km Wind: 010-050 degrees 3-6m/s, close to Cb clouds QNT 15-18m/s Hazards: Locally single Cb clouds with thunderstorms & showers!!! Upper wind: [m/s] 500m 115/7 1000m 118/8 1500m 088/6 2000m 091/6 2500m 098/5.

AFTERNOON REPORT

Several Standard Class gliders are on final glide just before 5:00. By 5:22 almost 45 contestants are back. By 5:30 both ETA are back and it might be their day. By 5:30 half of the competitors are back. By 6:00 almost 100 pilots are home. No word on U.S. pilots yet... Several landouts at Leszno before making the last steering turn. Early report has Gary Ittner 10km from the airport at 6:24. Not clear if landing or on final glide! Preliminary scores in Open Class have Ron Tabery placing 18th. The Eta are 5 and 6 for the day. The winner is Gerard Lherm from France at just over 120 km/h. Gary Ittner makes it home for 8th today. Only three gliders still out at 7:00. Looks like all U.S. Team members are back. Standard pilots Tom Beltz places 12th with Chip Garner 16th for the day. The 15-Meter pilots Dave Mockler places 19th and Karl is 31st

WEB LINKS

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[Meet this Team](#)

[Time in Poland](#)

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SCHEDULE

[Official Training 22nd - 25th](#)

[Opening 26th](#)

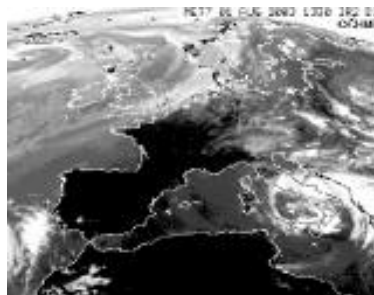
[Contest Flying 27th - Aug 9th](#)

[Closing 10th August](#)

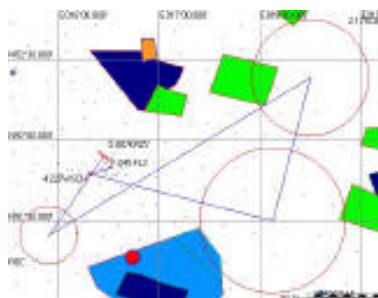
for the day. Final scored to be updated soon in the scores box below.

WGC 2003 – Leszno, Poland, Report for 1 August By John Good

Yesterday's weather was certainly grim, though not quite so grim as the forecast had it. Instead of the promised afternoon showers, we actually had a period of sunlight and some cumulus clouds. A few local flights were made, though the fair weather was far too brief for any chance of a task.



The grim weather was supposed to be a threat for today as well, but you would not think this after a view of the morning sky. At 8:00 it is clear in all directions and looking promising. I'll be surprised if the tasks aren't rather long today.

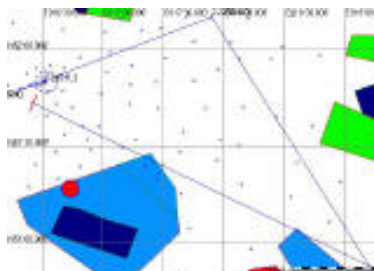


It's now 11:00, and the weather continues to look promising. At the 10:00 briefing (on time again!) the met man said we could expect a good day with 3 to 5-knot thermals (and occasionally better) to around 5500'. Once again

there is a forecast of isolated afternoon thunderstorms. Since these have often been predicted and rarely seen, I suspect that few pilots are much concerned.

The tasks are the longest yet: Open and 18-Meter classes have assigned tasks of 608 and 538 km; 15-Meter and Standard classes have area tasks with minimum times 4:15 and 4:00, and possible distances ranging from around 300 to over 600km. The tasks lie generally to the east, where the cumulus are not so plentiful just now. Yet the day looks to be developing well and the task setters here have shown they know their job.

I give the Leszno contest organizers fairly good marks thus far. Things have generally run smoothly and with almost nothing in the way of





unnecessary of overly severe regulation. The tow operation is just about as good as it could be – to consistently launch 130 gliders in around an hour is amazing. And, as I mentioned, after a first-day undercall the task setters have shown their stuff. Weighing the gliders on the way to the grid was a problem on the first contest day, but has been smooth since.

Scoring seems to be rounding into shape. We had a report that the SeeYou scoring software has been fixed and will no longer give one pilot's flight track to another pilot. Scores now seem to be coming out reasonably quickly, and the website seems more reliable in displaying them.



Film maker intercepts the finishers and follows them home for some must see footage. Click image...

The airspace issue that I reported on yesterday is almost resolved. In response to various team captains pointing out that the Rules do not consider the Contest Area Boundary as closed airspace, today's task sheets include a statement under Daily Airspace saying that it is. The trouble here is that it still doesn't appear in the official list of closed airspace, as it should. I hope this means the problem won't reappear, but I do wonder why the approved methods aren't being used.

The morning briefing is a small gripe. The public address system is not what you'd call extremely high fidelity, and it's apt to generate a loud hum at and point during the meeting. Today, we were told that this was due to mobile phones in the audience (the fact that it comes and goes was not explained). All briefings are in English and in general the speakers are reasonably fluent, though not to the point where extra sound quality would be wasted.



I'll pass along an anecdote that at first seemed strange and now is amusing. At the briefing a few days ago we were told that an automobile had been spotted with a child



driving it, and this would not be tolerated (as indeed it should not be). But it seemed strange – glider pilots engage in all sorts of unusual behavior, but I'd never heard of that trick. A

day later, the explanation dawned on me. Most members of the British drove from England, where the cars have the steering wheel on the right. To someone not used to this, a child in the passenger seat could look like the driver.

The launch is now underway and going smoothly, as usual. I have prepared some comments on what is surely the most interesting design to make its WGC debut in many years – the 101' wingspan Eta. But unfortunately, I've come down with some sort of sickness that is going to require me to spend the afternoon in bed. I will tell you the Eta's story when my strength is up to it.



About pictures. Some of the images are taken by the U.S. Team Captain John Good or by pilot Gary Ittner. Many of the images used here can be found on the official website and are taken by one of several excellent contributors including Marysia Klamecka. and Ewa Hajek. See the official photo page [here](#).

U.S. Soaring Team - August 1, Day 4

Class	Pilot	Sailplane	Contest Number	Day Place & Points	Overall Place & Points
Open	Ron Tabery	Nimbus 4T	YY	16 - 740	11 - 2926
18-Meter	Gary Ittner	Ventus 2cx	ZQ	7 - 864	19 - 2473
15-Meter	Karl Striedieck	ASW-27b	VW	33 - 711	20 - 2940
	David Mockler	Ventus 2ax	W	21 - 793	26 - 2828
Standard	Tom Beltz	ASW 28	PV	12 - 886	10 - 3101
	Chip Garner	Discus 2a	CG	16 - 839	12 - 3095

See the official scores [here](#)

Points of Interest

CONTACT THE TEAM IN POLAND

Back by popular request you can now e-mail the U.S. Soaring Team in Poland with greetings, an encouraging word and well wishes. Please note that all team members are very busy while the championships are underway and may not be able to reply to your message. To write and send your message click [here](#) or on the GO TEAM logo.



CONTACT WEB MANAGER

Idea, suggestion, correction on the U.S. Team Web? Please send these along to U.S. Team Web Manager John Seaborn by clicking [here](#).

WGC FLIGHT LOGS

Courtesy of John Leibacher the daily flight logs from the 28th World Gliding Championships are available individually online for fast downloading of your favorite pilots [here](#). All flight logs are available by class single large files on the organizers site [here](#).

OTHER TEAM WEB SITES

Visit other teams web sites for their prospective on the championships. And there are some great sites including the [British](#), [French](#), [Italian](#), [Danish](#), [Austrian](#), [Netherlands](#) and [German](#) team sites.

WGC NEWS JUNKY?

Every modern world championships has a daily newsletter. Over the years these newsletters have ranged from simple one page announcements to full fledged magazine quality productions. The 28th WGC version is of the highest quality with excellent content and many pictures. The editor Janet Hider Smith has done a magnificent job. Available online in Adobe PDF format, go to the Daily News link and look for the "Daily Bulletin on the day" link. See the Daily News [here](#). Check out Karl Striedieck's profile in the 7/30 issue.

PRE-WORLDS REPORT AVAILABLE

Want the real scoop on the site and flying WGC? Click the [pre-worlds report here](#) provided by team pilot Chip Garner for a detailed pilots eye view of the site, weather and the competition.

ABOUT DAY REPORTS

The U.S. Team Day Reports are brought to you by several hard working U.S. Team volunteers. John Good creates the reports in Poland and e-mails them to John Seaborn in Colorado who posts them to the SSA server. The goal of these day reports are to provide the U.S. soaring community with improved coverage of World Soaring Championships and the U. S. Team's participation in these events.

YOUR SUPPORT - THANK YOU!

All US team members would like to thank those of you who have contributed to make participation in these international events possible. If you have not contributed to the team please consider making one! To see how, visit the U.S.Team Funding page [here](#) and the [Robertson Trust Web](#) here.

U.S. TEAM COMMITTEE

The newly elected U.S. Team Committee has been working to establish a more stable management structure and better resources for our soaring teams. The objective are more transparent, accountable, sustainable and competitive United States soaring teams. See the full information on the new [U.S. Team Committee here](#).

U.S. TEAM E-NEWS

Sign up today for the U.S. Team E-NEWS. This electronic newsletter is sent out roughly quarterly and covers all the team news. The sign up process is simple - start by [clicking here](#).

TEAM NEWS, HISTORY & ARCHIVE

To catch up on all the news for the U.S. World Soaring Teams see the [U.S. Team News](#). See the [U.S. Team Archive](#) for team background since 1950. As part of the Archive tour see the [U.S. Team History](#) page for a complete listing of US Teams since 1950 or the [World Champions](#) page for a complete listing of champions since 1937.

Country and Contest Site



Leszno is well situated in the western part of Poland in Wielkopolska (Great Poland) between Poznań and Wrocław. Three European capitals: Warsaw, Berlin and Prague are all situated approximately 300km away from Leszno. Since 1 January 1999 Leszno has been one of the 68 administrative districts.

Labor turmoil in 1980 led to the formation of the independent trade union "Solidarity" that over time became a political force and by 1990 had swept parliamentary elections and the presidency. A "shock therapy" program during the early 1990s enabled the country to transform its economy into one of the most robust in Central Europe, boosting hopes for acceptance to the EU. Poland joined the NATO alliance in 1999.

Map courtesy of the CIA. See the [CIA site](#) for a fact sheet on Poland. Click images to expand.

Web Links

- ▶ The official World Soaring Championship web site [Click Here](#)
- ▶ FAI Web coverage of the World Gliding Championships [Click Here](#)
- ▶ See the team photo gallery [Click Here](#)
- ▶ What time is it at the site? [Click Here](#)
- ▶ Visit the city of Leszno? [Click Here](#)
- ▶ See the 2003 US Team Junior & World Class Championship reports [Click Here](#)

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