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U.S. Soaring Team Day Reports & Results

POLAND 2003 LESZNO 2003 28th WORLD GLIDING CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Tuesday,
August 5**

Report 15

The day starts weak but then turns on and its good soaring. The U.S. Team is on course by 2:00. Gary Ittner goes down, landing out before the first turn. Ron Tabery scores big with a 2nd. John Good visits for two hours and back tomorrow.

REPORTS

LATEST REPORT

- [JULY 22](#)
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CLOSING

EARLY REPORT - August 5, Contest Day 8

The weather in Leszno is predicted to be blue with thermals going to around 4,000 ft at 3-5 knots. In all a very soarable day but on the weak and low side of the scale. The briefing gets under way at 10:00 with launching scheduled for 11:45 but this is delayed to 12:00 as the sniffer reports weak climbs and low thermal tops. Launching starts at 12:15 and 46 minutes later all are in the air for a new launch record. Its a very



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US TEAM E-NEWS

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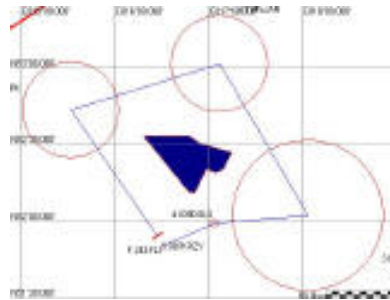
U.S. Team Apparel

- ✓ Shirts
- ✓ Hats
- ✓ Jackets
- ✓ Polos



Click Here

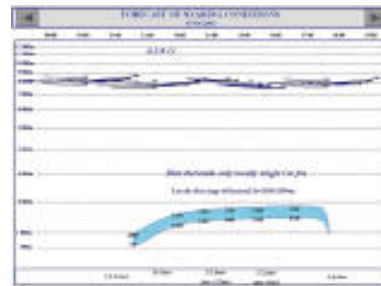
slow start with big gaggles but then cu start to form locally and they are off to the races.



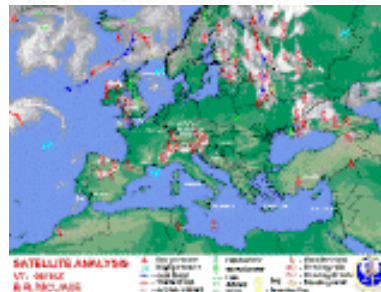
All tasks today are Assigned Area Tasks except for the Open Class. Standard Class, Assigned Area Task : 4h 15' (283.0-585.2 km), 15-Meter, Assigned Area Task : 4h 15' (260.7-648.0 km), 18-Meter, Assigned Area Task : 4h (283.3-659.1 km), Open Racing Task : 495.5 km.

The starts are as follows. Chip and Tom are underway just after 1:30, with the German and British teams going later in the 1:40 range. Karl and Dave start at 1:44 which is near the end of the pack, Gary goes at 1:43 which is near the end of the 18-Meters and Ron starts at 1:34 along with almost everyone in the Open class.

PREDICTED WEATHER



Synoptic situation: the region of Leszno is still under the influence of the high with the centre over the North Sea, the advection of dry and cold airmass from the direction 300-320 with the speed of about 20-25km/h. Clouds: blue thermals with the rang of about 500-900m rising up to 1100-1400m after 14.00 h=1400-1700m after 15.00 over thermally active areas h=1700-2000m, only locally possible single Cu fra. Thermals: 1m/s rising 2-2,5m/s max. 4m/s Visibility: >> 10km Wind: between 340-030 degrees 3-6m/s Hazards: blue thermals Upper wind: [m/s] 500m 007/3 1000m 343/4 1500m 323/9 2000m 303/12 2500m 295/13. Prepared by Jan Młynarczyk, WGC Chief Meteorologist



AFTERNOON NEWS

Click the dates!

WEB LINKS

[WGC Reports & Scores](#)

[Weather](#)

[Photo Gallery](#)

[Meet this Team](#)

[Time in Poland](#)

[Official Web Site](#)

[Team News](#)

[Junior & World WGC Reports](#)

SCHEDULE

Official Training
22nd - 25th

Opening
26th

Contest Flying
27th - Aug 9th

Closing
10th August

Most competitors have started by 1:40 and are on course. By 5:13 the first finishers are on final glide. It sounds like the day started slow but then turned



into decent soaring with some cu then a drying trend late. A report comes in that Gary Ittner has landed out. Gary is carrying a tracking unit today and it looks like Gary is down. Confirmed by Rick. Just before 6:00 many finishers are on their way in with impressive (see below) finishes in action. By 5:51 45 are home. By 6:08 almost 90 are back. By 6:30 almost 120 back. All U. S. Team pilots are home save Gary Ittner.



The preliminary results in the Standard Class Chip Garner was 17th and Tom Beltz 31st. In the 15-Meter, Karl Striedieck placed 23rd and Dave Mockler was 25th. In the 18-Meter Gary Ittner landed out

and does not yet have a score. The big news of the day for the USA was in the Open class with Ron Tabery placing 2nd just behind leader Holger Karow.

From Rick - Everyone but Gary got home today (he's not back yet). On our team, Ron probably turned in the best performance. He got back early, and hopped out of the Nimbus with a big grin on his face. When asked how he did against the Etas, he replied "I smoked 'em!" It's still too early to tell how everyone else did today. The score sheet is very volatile at the moment.

The French and German teams have collaborated to put on an "Old Europe" party tonight. At briefing this



morning, they announced that they do not intend to run out of either wine or beer. The party started half an hour ago, and I don't intend to test their claim: I'm showing up early. Bye.



FINISH FOLLIES by Rick Sheppe



The airfield is a giant quadrilateral, two of whose boundaries are finish lines. The line we've been using recently is "Finish Line West," which the gliders cross while heading east. The

trailers and tiedowns are on the opposite side of the field, so the gliders usually land straight ahead after crossing the line.

This setup has several consequences. The first is that instead of high-speed finishes, the crowd is treated to high-speed landings. Approaching gliders can be spotted quite a ways out, backlit by the sun. We know they've crossed the line when they do a slight pullup to open the spoilers. They carry on for another half a mile, trying desperately to lose energy. At touchdown, they are still pointed right at us. If all goes well (i.e. no groundloop), the glider comes to rest a few hundred yards in front of us, still pointing head on. This is a problem, because we still can't be sure who it is. We're getting used to waiting for the canopy to open and identifying our pilots by how they wave. Then we rush out and greet them. The ones that groundloop are much easier to identify.

Another consequence of this finish procedure is that we aren't getting any dramatic photo-ops. The sun is in our eyes, and the very nose of a glider isn't all that photogenic. We are



looking for the opportunity when we can dispatch a spare crew member with a camera to the cornfield on the other side of the finish line. We have also had the idea of ascending the clocktower in the little village half a mile out. The finishers go by at

the level of the clock. So far, we don't have any spare personnel for the job.

Finally, I have to describe the learning curve associated with this method of finishing. During the practice week, we watched gliders touching down at over 100 knots, sometimes with flaps up, and long wings bending to the limits as spoilers were opened at high speed. World-class pilot induced oscillations! Picture the hundred best glider pilots in the world making six-bounce touchdowns. We loved it.

UPDATE ON JOHN GOOD

Rick reports that John is doing very well and back to his old self. It looks like he will visit the airfield today for several hours and be discharged tomorrow. - John Seaborn

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 5, Day 8

Class	Pilot	Sailplane	Contest Number	Day Place & Points	Overall Place & Points
Open	Ron Tabery	Nimbus 4T	YY	2 - 977	8 - 6556
18-Meter	Gary Ittner	Ventus 2cx	ZQ	23 - ??	??
15-Meter	Karl Striedieck	ASW-27b	VW	23 - 873	33 - 5169
	David Mockler	Ventus 2ax	W	26 - 861	22 - 5742
Standard	Tom Beltz	ASW 28	PV	31 - 735	12 - 6168
	Chip Garner	Discus 2a	CG	17 - 827	13 - 6151

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 WCG? 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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