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Society of America

U.S. Soaring Team Day Reports & Results

POLAND 2003 28th World Gliding	Friday, July 25 Report 4 With the last practice day the hectic pre- contest period is over. Today there were airspace problems for some teams. There will be no flying tomorrow with the opening ceremonies. More to come!	REPORTS LATEST REPORT JLY 22 JLY 23 JLY 24 JLY 25 ◀ JLY 26 JLY 27 -Day 1 JLY 28 -NCD JLY 30 -Day 2 JLY 31 -NCD AUG 1 -Day 4 AUG 3 -Day 5 AUG 4 -Day 7 AUG 5 -Day 8 AUG 7 -Day 10 AUG 8 -Day 11
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WGC 2003 – Leszno, Poland, Report for 25 July - Final Practice Day By John Good

Yesterday's tasks proved generally tricky, but most who attempted them got around at reasonable speeds, and nearly everyone reported some areas where conditions were excellent. (There were also some pilots who flew tasks different from those assigned – I spoke to some British pilots who elected to fly a turn-area task, a type new to them.) Winning speeds were over 110 kph, and there were few landouts.

There were tales of airspace violations and near-misses, which will probably serve



as a warning. These are not being penalized during the practice period, but once the contest starts a single fix inside closed airspace will result in a pilot being scored for an outlanding. Though not bad by European standards, there is enough special-use airspace in the Leszno task area to be of concern most days. In addition, a maximum altitude will be set each day, and the practice thus far has been to set this not much above the expected top of the lift. On a day with improving conditions, a strong afternoon thermal may take you to above the ceiling and into trouble.

The general impression of the task area is that it's fairly uniform with some large forests and some broad river valleys, but mostly large agricultural fields and good landability. We don't have a close impression of tasking philosophy yet – practice tasks have been moderate for the condition, but most pilot believe the

AUG 9 -Day 12 CLOSING

CLOSING

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 contest tasks will be long.

Today, the final scheduled practice day, is overcast with a chance of rain and possibly thunderstorms. No task has been set and I expect that few pilots will fly. Thus, those who got here late will be going into the start of competition with rather little time in the air. US Pilots have all had some good practice flights (though we'd probably be happier with a couple more good-weather days).



Tomorrow there will be no flying. The opening ceremonies start a 14:00, followed by an airshow around

15:00. There are rumors of MiGs, but all we've seen in the way of practice so far is a triple tow – a Wilga towing two PW-5s and an SZD Junior. (The first PW-5 was on a very short rope – it looked to be about 75'.)

After the airshow we board busses for a picnic hosted by the town of Leszno in the town square. Should be interesting, and will no doubt include plenty of the excellent Polish beer.

As is always the case, the practice period has been intensely busy, both for pilots, crews and team administrators. I'm reasonably happy with where we now find ourselves: the gliders seem to be going well, crews are in their routine, pilots are loaded for bear, and the contest admin looks to be running reasonably smoothly. A team strategy and tactics meeting is set for tomorrow at 10:00, where we'll discuss the nuances of WGC tasking and scoring (different from US rules in a number of ways).

U.S. Soaring Team				
Class	Pilot	Sailplane	Contest Number	
Open	Ron Tabery	Nimbus 4T	YY	
18-Meter	Gary Ittner	Ventus 2cx	ZQ	
15-Meter	Karl Striedieck	ASW-27b	VW	
	David Mockler	Ventus 2ax	W	
Standard	Tom Beltz	ASW 28	PV	
	Chip Garner	Discus 2a	CG	

Points of Interest

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.

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 competition.

ABOUT DAY REPORTS

The U.S. Team Day Reports are brought to you by several hard working U.S. Team volunteers. 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 helping the team financially through a contribution. 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.

Contest Site



Leszno is well situated in the western part of Poland in Wielkopolska (Great Poland) between Poznañ and Wroc³aw. 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

US Soaring Team WGC Reports & Results

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