

Some Thoughts about Space Modelling

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Aeromodelling Mainstreams

- RC Control everywhere, including Free Flight, Control Line, Indoor and beginners models (thanks to 2.4 GHz)
- Broad and well organized movements keeping distance to CIAM activities and attracting new members
- Trend to bigger models
- Scale models (ARF) with electric motors almost universal

CIAM Policy

- Keep model sizes and costs moderate (to allow broad participation with acceptable transportation charges)
- Reduce international championships for classes not well supported anymore
- Introduce new classes in order to follow trends, particularly in respect of juniors
- Skip the BOM-rule in favor of model performances and emphasis on flying skills
- Fly in groups to gain fair results (soaring)

European Championships 2009

- Only one RC Class – for Juniors!
- Seniors flew instead the simplest class (S6A Streamer)
- Two classes with emphasis on retrieving (Parachute + Gyrocopter)
- Adequate representation of altitude and scale

Future Championships (as planned)

- Back to 16 classes
- Only one RC class (of 8) for seniors and for juniors (well against the mainstream)
- S8D - no precision landings for juniors (RC tasks should be more demanding)
- Streamer (S6A) for juniors and seniors (too simple for an international level)
- Scale (S7) for juniors (very unlikely that the BOM rule is kept)
- 4 of 8 classes (seniors) resp. 5 of 8 (juniors) in event class A (small size = cheap, but little attraction)

Proposal for future SM policy

- Streamer + A classes for introduction (national level, keep BOM rule)
- Scale classes for seniors only (keep BOM rule, juniors interested may compete)
- Bigger sizes of models (skip BOM for S8)
- Demand payload (beeper for all duration, altimeter for all altitude classes)
- Introduce a second, a different RC class
- Define 5 + 5 classes mandatory for international championships