



TEAM SOUTH AFRICA - COMPETITION REPORT

THE BEST WORLD CHAMPS EVER

A total of 35 countries entered for the event, with over 100 pilots flying for the coveted title of F3A World Champion

TEAM
South Africa

F3A WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
DÜBENDORF – SWITZERLAND 2015



On August 6-16 2015, the bi-annual World Championships was held at Dübendorf airbase, home to the Swiss Air force, located in Dübendorf, Switzerland. The venue is situated about 10 kilometres drive from Zurich's main international airport. This airbase was home of the very first F3A world Championships (called RC-1 back in 1960). The organizers were proud to have Precision aerobatics return to this historic venue in 2015.

THE BEST F3A WORLD CHAMPS EVER

From the outset it was apparent that the event was going to be different to any World Champs previously held. Big screens, marquees tents, and loads of stalls were erected prior to the start of the competition. The organizers were intent on making it an event that the public would enjoy, and huge emphasis went into the entertainment of the crowds. Precision aerobatics was not the only attraction, as the organizers had various entertaining demonstration flight slots incorporated into the event. We saw a host of impressive jets, gliders, large scale aerobatics and pylon racing during the event. At regular intervals the pilots of these magnificent models pulled out all the stops, with shows that made the public stare in awe. Flight line one, situated

near the main stand and attractions, even had red carpet lined access to the flight line. It was sure to be very intimidating for the pilots, as huge crowds were able to stand 20 meters behind the judges in the shade of the air force base open hangers. Flight line two, positioned on the opposite end of the airbase, was in no way infringing on flight line one, and at one point in the competition experienced different weather conditions in relation to flight line one. But true to Swiss precision, the delays between the two flight lines had no impact on the event and any flight line clashes were quickly ironed out. With the impressive live scoring and information displays it was apparent that precision aerobatics

will be changed forever as regards the expectations of major events. Supporters from all around the world could log onto the contest website, and view live scoring from the comfort of their homes, or mobile phones. For the supporters at the event, big screens displayed pilot information, which manoeuvres were currently being flown, with a description and aresti, as well as the scores from each judge as they were entered. This was truly amazing, as pilots were able to get instant feedback in regards to results and flight times.

A total of 35 countries entered for the event, with over 100 pilots flying for the coveted title of F3A World Champion.

Meet the South African Team:

Matthys Botha

(TEAM MANAGER)

Andre' Stockwell (SENIOR)

Clinton Carter-Brown (SENIOR)

Calvin Schroll (SENIOR)

Roston Dugmore (JUNIOR)

Sebastiano Sacca (HELPER)

Susan Miller (SUPPORTER)

Team South Africa left for Switzerland on the 2nd of August, to have a week's worth of fine tuning and getting use to the altitude and climate differences.

The competition altitude of



ANDRÉ STOCKWELL

DR. CLINTON CARTER-BROWN



MATTHYS BOTHA

Calvin Schroll

Roston Dugmore





TEAM SOUTH AFRICA - COMPETITION REPORT



430m was substantially lower to what our pilots are used to, and resulted in our team making slight adjustments to their equipment.

At the practice fields we were greeted by the most polite and caring people. The Swiss were fantastic hosts, and catered to our every need, going well beyond the extra mile. They supplied us with power from their generators, and fresh coffee, biscuits, food, as well as insect repellent. There were some nasty wasp like insects attracted to our African scent, just ask Calvin Schroll, who got stung within minutes of being at the field.

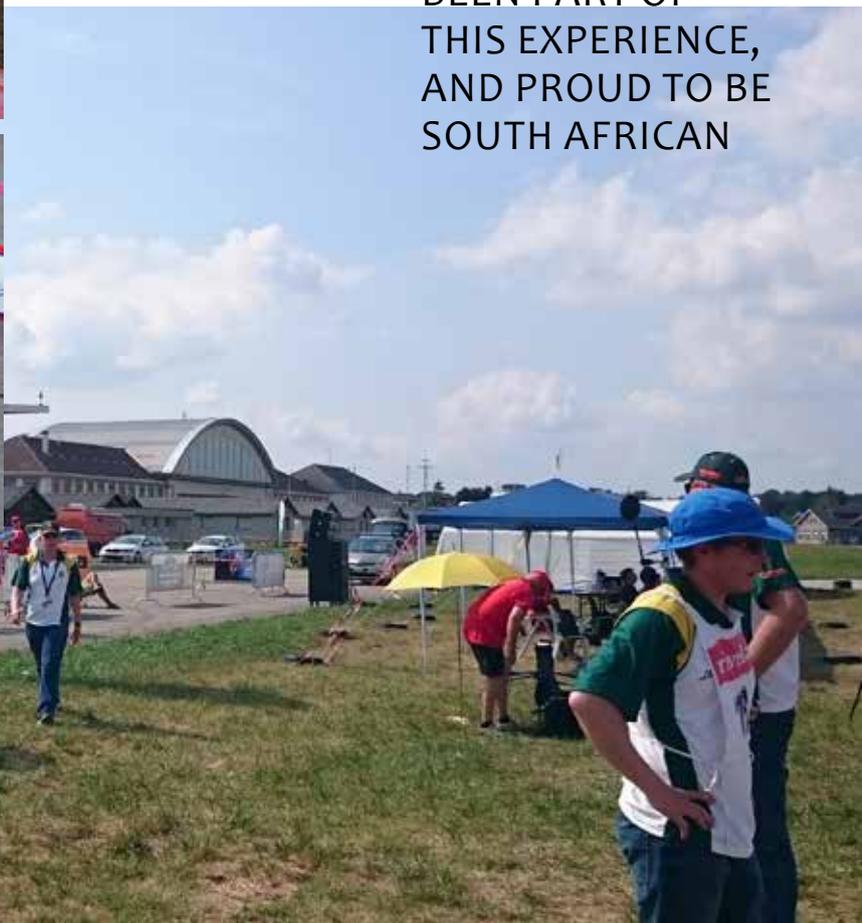
The facilities were fantastic with lushes green fields, and spectacular wild life, eagles in the blue skies. Our pilots got settled in quickly, and were soon flying the competition schedules at a level of precision they had been producing back home in South Africa.

With week one complete, and the team ready for the official start of world champs, we went into the competition with great expectations.

Sunday, 9 August 2015, Day one of the competition, with round one complete and our pilots having flown some respectable rounds, we were in a very respectable position, with 3 more days to fly the preliminary rounds we hoped to further improve on our current placings, and we did. With our pilots flying better and better each day we improved our overall positions.

There were some setbacks, but

IT IS REALLY CUT THROAT, AND WE SHOULD BE PROUD OF OUR PERFORMANCE. I FOR ONE, AM PROUD TO HAVE BEEN PART OF THIS EXPERIENCE, AND PROUD TO BE SOUTH AFRICAN





***I would like to
congratulate
Christophe
Paysant-Le Roux***



TEAM SOUTH AFRICA - COMPETITION REPORT



it took real BMT (big match temperament) to fight back and improve.

The evening of day one of the competition the team discussed their observations of the flying, styles and judging, as was especially transparent via the real time scoring feedback. Our flying styles had not materially changed from the experiences and trends observed at the previous world championships held in South Africa in 2013. We realized that we needed to adjust our flying styles to suit the current trends which included; flying a much higher baseline to avoid the very turbulent lower air as was particularly problematic at the competition venue, flying relatively far and faster thereby also assisting with the turbulent conditions, and making snap rolls much deeper with a huge elevator induced break in pitch. Furthermore the execution

of stall turns was surprising in that many pilots were rewarded by the judges for doing a power induced rudder flick. It soon dawned on the team that making major changes in flying styles and the execution of elements was not possible during the event, and that if we want to be competitive at a world championship event we need more exposure on the world scene.

Competing at this level will

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND OUR GREATEST GRATITUDE TO OUR FAMILIES, AND SUPPORTERS WHO STOOD BY US ALL THE WAY

assist with having our pilots up to date with current trends, not to mention the word of mouth exposure it entails. Having judges present at these events will also assist in growing our overall positions in future events, as the judges can always give invaluable feedback to our team right there and then, as well as providing feedback to our judges back home, keeping our judges up to date is also of great importance.

In my view, changing one's flying style this close to a world championship is a reactive method and rarely works in your favour. We need to be part of the world scene, an extremely difficult task considering the cost it entails.

After day 4 of preliminary flying our team placed overall 12th in the competition. Unfortunately none of our pilots made it through to the Final schedules and fly offs. Calvin Schroll placed the

highest of the South African contention, at 45th overall position in the world, followed closely by Andre Stockwell, and Roston Dugmore, at positions 48 & 49 respectively. Clinton placed 69th overall. To put the level of flying into perspective, after Calvin's first flight Andre remarked that it was the very best first flight he had ever seen a RSA pilot perform at a World Champs. Such was the very high standard of flying produced by the RSA team.

In my view our pilots flew exceptional, and should be commended for their efforts, I have seen some of their best flights to date at the event, when it mattered most. There were some mistakes made, and with the added pressure of an event like this, some mistakes are inevitable, and were even seen by some top pilots such as a flopped stall turn by one of the Swiss pilots in the semi-finals. Taking into



I for one, am proud to have been part of this experience, and proud to be South African, to have had the opportunity to represent my country at a competition of this magnitude.

Congratulations to the team winners, USA (1st), Japan (2nd), and France (3rd). You are most deserving of these awards.

I would also like to congratulate Christophe Paysant-Le Roux and Joseph Szczur on their exceptional victories. They are true champions.

From the team, and myself I would like to thank our Sponsors, Futaba Redipak, as well as all the people involved in assisting our team in getting this far, there are truly too many to mention. Thanks to all the great Friends that were made on our journey.

We would like to thank the organizers of the event the Swiss have really raised the bar, and set an extremely high standard for the hosting of future Wold Champs.

The 2015 F3A World Champs is a tough act to follow. The host for the next



TEAM SOUTH AFRICA - COMPETITION REPORT

F3A World Champs in 2017 has not yet been announced.

We would also like to extend our greatest gratitude to our families, and supporters who stood by us all the way. Without your support and commitment we could not achieve what we have done. Many have made serious financial and time sacrifices to allow the team to compete internationally, in Europe, especially given the huge costs involved.

Thank you,

And we hope to be part of the experience in future events.

Regards

Matthys Botha

Team manager South Africa F3A



TOP TEN FINAL RESULTS

1	PAYSANT-LE ROUX Christophe	58	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	3000.00
2	ONDA Tetsuo	49	951.06	975.16	991.81	973.80	2940.76
3	Kaiser Stefan	37	923.45	943.99	978.19	966.56	2888.75
4	JESKY Andrew	46	937.68	944.06	973.08	918.99	2836.14
5	SHULMAN Jason	36	925.91	935.35	956.20	927.06	2818.61
6	BRUCKMANN Gernot	17	916.26	891.93	986.26	939.47	2817.66
7	MAZZUCHELLI Marco	14	903.64	873.66	970.02	943.13	2786.81
8	NURILA Lassi	32	926.59	952.27	931.28	889.48	2773.02
9	SUZUKI Koji	87	855.82	859.20	913.37	874.77	2647.34
10	TRUMPP Robin	6	874.37	815.56	918.91	889.11	2623.57

