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U.S. Soaring Team Day Reports & Results

	<p>Thursday, August 7</p> <p>Report 17</p> <p>It is going BIG in Poland today. The tasks are long both in potential distance and minimum time. John Good is back. The fleet is in the air and most are on course. Will today break records? Not quite as it turns out. Open winner goes 627km. Beltz is back.</p>	<p>REPORTS</p> <p>LATEST REPORT</p> <p>JULY 22</p> <p>JULY 23</p> <p>JULY 24</p> <p>JULY 25</p> <p>JULY 26</p> <p>JULY 27 -Day 1</p> <p>JULY 28 -NCD</p> <p>JULY 29 -Day 2</p> <p>JULY 30 -Day 3</p> <p>JULY 31 -NCD</p> <p>AUG 1 -Day 4</p> <p>AUG 2 -Day 5</p> <p>AUG 3 -Day 6</p> <p>AUG 4 -Day 7</p> <p>AUG 5 -Day 8</p> <p>AUG 6 -Day 9</p> <p>AUG 7 -Day 10 ◀</p> <p>AUG 8 -Day 11</p> <p>AUG 9 -Day 12</p> <p>CLOSING</p>
<p>EARLY REPORT - August 7, Contest Day 10</p> <p>The morning briefing got underway at its new time of 9:00 and its a big day in Poland. John Good is back and his report below is a classic. The launch, scheduled for 10:20 (!) is postponed several times but cu form over the airfield and the sniffer is reporting 3/4 m/s! Its a go for some of the longest flights of the contest. Or is it? The launch is delayed again to 11:30 and new task is handed out for the 18-Meter and Open. The launch starts and by 12:20 or so all pilots are in the air. The cu are beautiful and the sky is looking great. By 1:44 all have started on course.</p> 		<p><i>Click the dates!</i></p>

[Website Feedback](#)

US TEAM E-NEWS

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U.S. Team Apparel

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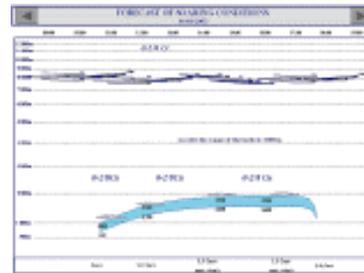
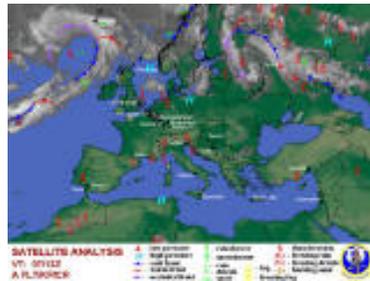


Click Here

In the Standard class most are started by 1:00 but team Germany heads out at 13:03 just behind Beltz and Garner at 1:00. The first 15-Meter pilot starts at 12:37 with the fast pilots starting later, just after 1:00. The French role the dice with a 1:48 start. Karl goes at 12:46 and Mockler at 1:02. In the 18-Meter the first starter is gone at 12:20 and the last at 12:55 with Ittner starting at 12:25. Open class starts are compressed with everyone gone by 12:30. Tabery starts near the end of the pack at 12:25. So now we wait!

Standard Class, Assigned Area Task :5h (367.0-874.0 km), 15-Meter, Assigned Area Task :5h (449.7-870.4 km), 18-Meter, Racing Task : 560.5 km and Open Class, Assigned Area Task :5h 30' (462.5-781.9 km)

PREDICTED WEATHER



Synoptic situation : the region of Leszno is under the influence of the high with the centre over the "NE" part of Germany ,the advection the direction of about 320-340o, with the speed of about 20-25km/h.
 Clouds: 0-2/8Cu h=1000-1300m after 12.00 h=1300-1600m after 14.00n h=1600-1800m over thermally active areas h=1800-2000m, locally 0-1/8Ac and 0-2/8Ci
 Thermals: 1,5m/s rising 1,5-2m/s max.4m/s
 Visibility: >> 10km
 Wind: Variable 1-3m/s during after 12.00 between 340-030 degrees 3-6m/s
 Hazards: Warnings: The thermals will start disappearing at about 17.15-17.45
 Upper wind: [m/s] 500m 1000m 1500m 2000m 2500m. Prepared by Jan Młynarczyk, WGC Chief Meteorologist

AFTERNOON REPORT

Its 5:38 and the first finishers are appearing. By 6:06 over 60 gliders are on the airfield or on final glide. By 6:30 over 100 are back. Just before 7:00 more gliders arrive. No new outlanding reports. By 6:50 the sky is blue and radio silent. Everyone is nervous. KS, PV, CG, ZQ, and YY look to be back. Only Dave Mockler is not scored.

Early on Tom Beltz is the fastest Standard class. Will



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

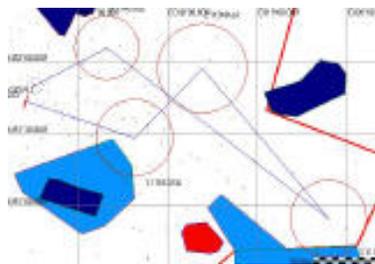
it last? Centka looks to have won the day in Opens with a 627 km flight at 114km/h indicating a good soaring day! In the Standard Class Tom Beltz ends up and excellent 5th for the day, with Chip Garner 34th. In the 15-Meter things got interesting with the German team of Grund, Horn and Meuser placing in the low thirties. Dave Mocker places 39th and Karl ends up 15th. Leader John Coutts places a respectable 13th. The 18-Meter is hart break hotel today with Gary Ittner going down early and placing 23rd at 153 km. (Gary did not landout but was scored as if he did - which was corrected the next day). In the Open class, Ron Tabery is 7th. Local favorite Janusz Centka brings the Eta home in first but very tough Holger Karow places 3rd and retains his lead in the class.



Through the magic of the Internet and a trusty laptop, the final reports will be brought to you from San Francisco while the U.S. Team web manager is traveling.

WGC 2003 – Leszno, Poland, Report for 7 August By John Good

This looks like the day we've been waiting for. The early-morning air has just the right cool, crisp and dry feeling. The morning briefing has been moved from 10:00 to 9:00, and everyone expects an early launch and some very long tasks.



The consensus on yesterday's tasks was that 725km was about right for the Open class, but the short-wingers' tasks were too short. (Today's Open Task at left) The winning speeds reflect this: close to 120 kph in Standard class, and an amazing 130.8 kph in 15-Meter class (partly due to their task being well aligned with cloudstreets). Note that Dave Mocker was one of those guilty of excess speed – he did 130.2 kph (80.9 mph!) for second place (and now can also claim the second-fastest speed by any glider in any class during this contest). Of course, these speeds are done by flying in the strongest part of the day, which means that the smart money waited to start until as much as 2 hours after tasks had opened. In a World contest, the general thinking is that tasks should be set so pilots are doing their flying on

course, not in pre-start gaggles. We all expect that today's tasks will be long enough to ensure that most everyone gets going early.

It's now 10:00 – just 20 minutes before the first scheduled launch. At the briefing we got a weather report not quite as optimistic as the rumors had suggested – it should be a good day, but



perhaps not quite as good as yesterday, and with the same tendency toward weakening thermals late in the day. The tasks are certainly long: 18-Meter class has an Assigned task of 625 km and the others have area tasks with minimum times ranging from 6:00 to 6:30. This should get the boys out on course without delay - I don't think we'll see too many 14:15 starts today.



The surprise today (and a most unwelcome one) is a very complicated maze of closed airspace, affecting all classes, with 15-Meter and Standard having the worst of it. So far the task setters have done a

reasonably good job steering clear of troublesome airspace, and most pilots have managed to avoid problems (the penalty for even a momentary incursion into closed airspace is to be scored as having landed at that point). But today the task area is like a minefield: for example, a 15-Meter pilot who flies directly from the start toward the center of the first turn area (as many pilots naturally tend to do) will pass through a chunk of closed airspace located just at the edge of the turn area. If he's not careful, his flight (for scoring purposes) will end there. I hope that all pilots can avoid this trap (certainly, all team captains will have issued stern warnings to be careful about this), but I think the chance of a problem is a lot higher than it needs to be. No one wants to see a soaring contest decided by a moment's inattention to a line on a map.

It's now 13:30, and all pilots are on their way, though not on the original tasks. At the scheduled launch time the sky was entirely blue and the sniffer was hovering around 2000'. After a couple of delays, it was clear that tasks would have to



be revised. This is done at the front of the grid amid some confusion – team captains crowd together to receive new task sheets and sign for them. These new tasks will have the pilots on course for 5 hours or so, much more realistic given the way the day was developing. I heard several comments that the original tasks were a case of calling today’s task based on yesterday’s weather.

I thought that yesterday’s 47-minute launch would have to be a record, but today 129 gliders were flung into the skies in 44 minutes. I know I’ve said it before, but this is



bordering on astonishing, and a great credit to the Leszno contest organization. When it was announced six months ago that something like 130 gliders would compete at WGC 2003, I know that many people around the world asked themselves “How can any site hope to launch that many gliders in an acceptable time?” Thanks in no small part to the Hungarian Čmelak (I have learned that this is the correct spelling) squadron, the launch crew here put on a show every day that waters the eyes of the most experienced pilots and crews. They could probably handle 200.



At 14:00, the sky is not looking wonderful. The rather small and short-lived cumulus that were present during the launch have retreated to the south, leaving blue skies elsewhere with traces of

banded cirrus to the north. As all classes have to visit the area northeast of Leszno during their tasks, I think there may be some tough sledding today. I’ll at least predict that it won’t take 130 kph to win.

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 7, Day 10

Class	Pilot	Sailplane	Contest Number	Day Place & Points	Overall Place & Points

Open	Ron Tabery	Nimbus 4T	YY	7 - 923	5 - 8413
18-Meter	Gary Ittner	Ventus 2cx	ZQ	23 - 115	23 - 5815
15-Meter	Karl Striedieck	ASW-27b	VW	15 - 889	30 - 6978
	David Mockler	Ventus 2ax	W	39 - 647	20 - 7328
Standard	Tom Beltz	ASW 28	PV	5 - 988	10 - 7865
	Chip Garner	Discus 2a	CG	34 - 795	12 - 7839

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](#)