

40th WORLD GLIDING CHAMPIONSHIPS CZĘSTOCHOWA 2026



40th FAI World Gliding Championships 2026

Open | 18m | 20m Multi-Seat

Class

Częstochowa, Poland

16 - 30.05.2026

Bulletin no.1



Dear World's Leading Glider Pilots,

We are pleased to invite you to the **40th FAI World Gliding Championships 2026**, which will be held in Częstochowa, Poland.

For the past two years, we have worked intensively to prepare for your arrival. We have tested our airfield, ground operations, procedures, and weather patterns so that in May 2026 you can focus entirely on competing for the world titles in the **Open Class, 18-metre Class, and 20 m Multi-Seat Class**.

Our airfield featuring a paved runway of nearly 2 km and two parallel auxiliary grass runways will comfortably accommodate all participating gliders and ensure safe launch and landing procedures.

May weather in Poland is renowned for long daylight hours and strong cumulus lift. Many 1,000 km flights have been achieved in Poland precisely during this period and within the region where the championships will be held.

We would be honoured to welcome you, your teams, and your families for whom we are also preparing additional attractions.

Should you have any questions, please contact us at info@wgc2026.eu

Championships Director

Jacek Dankowski

President of Częstochowa Aeroclub

Krzysztof Krasinski



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ADDRESS & CONTACT

Częstochowa Aeroclub
Rudniki Airfield
ul. Jana Pawła II 101
42-240 Kościelec, POLAND
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/vXSqJ5VUJZefTiLE7>



info@wgc2026.eu



<https://wgc2026.eu/>



<https://aeroklub-czestochowa.org.pl/>

SCHEDULE

40th FAI WORLD GLIDING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026 - CZĘSTOCHOWA, POLAND		
	DATE	TIME
Preliminary Entries Due	14.12.2025	
Final Entries Due	28.02.2026	
Airfield Available For Training	no restrictions before competition	
Reserve Pilots Acceptance	08.05.2026	
Deadline For Approval Of New GNSS FRs	09.05.2026	
Unofficial Training Begins	09.05.2026	
Registration Begins	10.05.2026	10:00
Technical Inspection Begins	10.05.2026	10:00
Unofficial Training Ends	12.05.2026	
First Team Captains Briefing	12.05.2026	20:00
Official Training Begins	13.05.2026	
Registration Ends	15.05.2026	20:00
Technical Inspection Ends	15.05.2026	20:00
Configuration Changes Due	15.05.2026	20:00
Official Training End	15.05.2026	
Mandatory Safety Briefing	16.05.2026	10:00
Opening Ceremony	16.05.2026	17:00
Contest Flying Begins	17.05.2026	
Contest Flying End	29.05.2026	
Closing Ceremony And Prize Giving	30.05.2026	TBA



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COMPETITION OFFICIALS

Jury President	–	Christof Geissler
Chief Steward	–	Robert van Maarschalkerweerd
Steward	–	Börje Andersson
Competition Director	–	Jacek Dankowski
Championships Manager	–	Anna Messyas
Sporting Director/Task Setter	–	TBA
Chief Scorer	–	Wojciech Ścigała

FEE'S

• Entry fee	-	900€	(due 28.02.2026)
• Aerotow	-	70€	
• Self Launch	-	10€	

NOTE: A request for the adjustment of the entry fee (up to 1000€) and aerotow charges (up to 80€) has been submitted to the IGC and will be decided by the Plenary Meeting held on 6-7 March 2026. In recent years, there has been a significant change in the FAI sanction fee per pilot and per competition compared to the amounts in effect at the time of the bid submission. In addition, prices driven by higher than expected inflation rate and soaring labour costs in our country have increased substantially. The final amounts will be published in the **Local Procedures**. If the increase in the entry fee is approved, we will ask for an outstanding amount to be paid during on-site registration at the airfield by 15 May 2026, 20:00, at latest.

Payment details (EUR):

Bank:	ING Bank Śląski
SWIFT/BIC code:	INGBPLPW
Account no:	06 1050 1142 1000 0090 8106 8125
IBAN:	PL06 1050 1142 1000 0090 8106 8125

PRE REGISTRATION FORM

<https://forms.gle/idwo3gh6Rai8NXFv7>

We kindly request that Team Captains and competitors complete this form until **14th December 2025**. Team Captains fill only NAC, name & surname, contact data and optionally accommodation. **Team Captains registration is the most important at this moment so we can get in touch with national teams.** The information provided will enable us to prepare the appropriate organizational arrangements tailored to your needs. Even if certain details are not yet available, any information you can share at this stage will be of great value. Should new details arise, we encourage you to submit the updated form once again or contact us at info@wgc2026.eu

In the next Bulletin, the Official Registration Form for NAC will be made available.





ACCOMODATION:

A campsite for tents and camper vans with access to electricity and sanitary facilities will be available at the airfield. High-speed WiFi internet access will be provided. There will also be a designated area for team tents with access to electricity.

Camping Fees

Tent	-	15€/day (up to 3 pers.)
Camper/Caravan	-	25€/day (up to 3 pers.)
More than 3 person	-	10€/day/person

The competition website provides links to recommended camper/caravan rental companies that have been supporting our competitors year after year to ensure good rest between contest days.

Restaurant “Tazza”

During the Championships, on-site catering will be provided by the Tazza restaurant. The following services will be available:

- Breakfast buffet: approximately €13 per person.
- À la carte service: available throughout opening hours.

ELECTRIC GLIDERS & CARS

E-Gliders

We will provide a limited number of parking stands equipped with charging points for electric motor batteries of electric self-launch/sustainer gliders. We do not anticipate providing individual power access for charging avionics batteries for every glider.

Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging at the Airfield

- EV charging will be available on site at the airfield
- Availability is limited and operated on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Users must provide their own certified charging cables/adapters





GENERAL CONTEST INFORMATION

Competition Area

The Championships will be flown across Poland and Czechia.

Meteorological Conditions

- Expected thermal tops/lift below FL95; oxygen is not required.
- Anticipated usable lift heights during the event: 1,000–2,500 m AMSL
- In the Częstochowa area, May is typically mild: average daily temperature around 14°C, with typical night minima of 8–9 °C and daytime maxima of 18–19 °C. Short cold spells with ground frost as well as warm episodes with > 25 °C are possible. Under cloudbase temperatures below 0°C are common in May

Outlandings

- Field aerotow retrieves are not permitted in Poland.
- Returns from outlandings are possible only from other aerodromes or registered airfields (as published in the Turnpoint database).
- From unprepared fields: ground/trailer retrieve only.
- In May, crops are low and do not pose a hazard to outlandings.

Aerotow Ropes

Aerotow ropes will be provided by the Organiser.

Airspace

- The competition area includes permanent and temporarily activated airspace structures.
- The Organiser will brief daily on the status and availability of individual airspace elements.

War in Ukraine

- Providing that the situation will not escalate beyond current status we don't expect direct impact of the warfare behind the Polish eastern border on championships. Substantial airspace limitations stretch along the Polish eastern border, but these don't reach closer than 120 kms from the competition site to the east.
- GPS jamming and spoofing occurs in northern and north-eastern Poland, generally along the border with Russian Kaliningrad Oblast, and don't protrude closer than 200 kms to the north from the competition site.





Legal requirements for gliders and pilots from outside EU/EEA

Gliders are subject to national requirements of the country of registration regarding certificate of registration, certificate of airworthiness and radio license. Pilots must hold a valid license issued, recognized or accepted by the country in which the glider flown is registered, accompanied by the documents required there (e.g. aeromedical certificate, radiooperator certificate, etc.).

Required third party liability insurance sum is not subject to the above exception and shall abide by EU requirements set out in Regulation of European Parliament and Council no. 785/2004. The insurance sum required depends on MTOM of the aircraft as follows:

- MTOM < 500 kg 750'000 SDR
- MTOM <1000 kg 1'500'000 SDR

To fly a competition in Poland pilots not holding PART-(S)FCL compliant licences shall apply for recognition of the licence to the Polish Civil Aviation Authority (ULC). Such a recognized license may be used on any glider registered in an EU/EEA country. Detailed information about the process in both Polish and English is available at:

<https://ulc.gov.pl/personel-lotniczy/lpl/licencje/uznanie-licencji-na-zawody-sportowe>

Gliders for Hire

If any gliders available for hire become known to us, we will post that information on the website.

