

**4<sup>th</sup> Women's World  
Gliding Championships  
Romorantin (France) 2007**



06-22 July 2007 ROMORANTIN France

## Romorantin 2007

**See you in Bailleau 2007...** This invitation was presented at the prize giving ceremony in Klix 2005 by the French organizers of the next world championships.. However, change of site: the International Gliding Commission could not accept the simultaneous organization of the women's championships AND of the yearly Bailleau competition. So: it was not to be Bailleau but Romorantin in the Sologne region.

Maybe participants were frightened by the registration fee quite higher than Bailleau had announced or for whatever reason: the usual pre-championships in 2006 had tempted only one foreign participant: Kathrin Woetzel of Germany, who joined 10 French pilots, just like the organizers eager to acquire experience,

**Welcome in Romorantin.** Two medal holders of Klix 2005 were missing: Danish Mette Pederson, who could not defend her title because she had become mother of a baby girl, Swiss Yvonne Schwarz because she was busily involved with getting professional status of airline pilot. Excellent Czech pilot Alena Netusilova – World champion 2003 in Jihlava was officially registered in Romorantin, but what prevented her from coming was a pregnancy – double twins! According to her Czech team friends she was doubly happy, having to be pregnant only once to have the two children she wants!

These championships were, alas, not really world championships, for all competitors were exclusively European. So no Alejandra Repicky of Argentina – pregnancy was also the key word for her – Japan this time did (could?) not send Akemi Hirotsune (NOT because of pregnancy) and both Australian girls participating in Klix 2005 could not keep their promise to come back in 2007, neither could South-African Jenny Bradley.

Nothing much was going on during training because of rainy weather of a na-



Marching with flags through town.



**Hunting horn presentation.**

ture to seriously compromise smooth proceedings of the opening ceremony. All teams were told to march with flags through town to the “Pyramid”, modern cultural centre. Should it rain, they were recommended to do the same with their cars, flags sticking out of the car windows. It did not rain... yet.

At the Pyramid, after the first speech the rain chased everybody inside (no chairs) for the rest of the speeches, some of which in French AND English, ending with a musical hunting-horn presentation (reminding me of a similar happening in St Hubert European Championships 1983) and a welcome drink. But this official opening day was quite a physical condition test for the pilots, first a 1,7 km march and then 2 hours standing up... Maybe a problem test for some ladies, but certainly not for German newcomer Susanne Schoedel whom I saw regularly performing her elegant daily jogging run all during the championships.

### **THE CONTEST FLIGHTS**

**Training** period had not been generous, thunderstorms and wind gusts of 30-40 knots kept everybody on the ground. The very first competition day club class pilots on the first line of the grid waited...waited, of course, the cloudy sky was not at all tempting. Finally they were launched – it was almost 4 p.m.-on a 159,2 km circuit. Other classes stayed on the ground, not without reason as proven by victorious Lithuanian Edita Skalskiene “*achieving*” ...31,4 km so it was *much ado about nothing*. Better luck next day?

**1<sup>st</sup> official day**, an AAST – assigned areas speed task, quite understandable with the reigning weather conditions. The reticent sun made the director reduce the task at the new briefing on the grid. The motto was: stay high, easier to say than



*Waiting on the grid.*

to do. After 1200 m cloud base in the first sector things got more complicated. Result: about half of the competitors landed out, so not many points were to be gained. In **15 m class** only 2 came home in Romorantin, newcomer Anja Kohlrausch (who has a 1000 Namibian km in her logbook) and Kathrin Senne a whisper behind. So Anja started her first appearance with a surprising victory. In **standard class** Sarah Kelman immediately showed her British credentials. In **club class** winning blond Vera Shishlakova of Russia only got 269 points for her 126,3 km, after stewards had discovered the scorer, whose only company in his scoring office was a lot of computers, had not only used French headings on the result sheets but also used French formulas instead of the ones for the international FAI competitions. It had considerably changed the day factor.



*The weather did not look too nice...*

**2<sup>nd</sup> day** large racing tasks (366,5 km club class, 402 standard class and 461,9 km for 15 m class) offered a perfect but unwelcome occasion for retrieval exercises: absolutely ALL pilots landed out. With 263,2 km it was *bis repetita* for Shishlakova in club class – in the other classes nobody went further than 200 km, so Vera deserved the nice surprise: 1000 points!



Everybody went "Aux Vaches..."

**3<sup>rd</sup> task** AAST again: very difficult weather conditions – between sectors 2 and 3 we heard pilots complaining about heights between 700 and...350 m! , so there was not much hope to see them come back of 44 pilots only 7 landed on the airfield again: 5 in **15 m class** with a second day victory for Anja Kohlrausch. Gundula Goeke was the only home comer in **standard class** ,climbing up to second overall place, Gill Spreckley the only one in **Club Class. What?** Club class? Yes, after some discussions on the choice of type of glider and having started earlier in 15m and standard class, Gill decided for club class this time. "It is great fun, another way to compete".

We all hoped these championships were not to become mainly out landing exercises...

To be honest, I really did not envy **the task setter** with the ever changing indications of air space limitations Apparently this subject had to be negotiated every morning. Neither did I envy the **meteo** man – meaning well appreciated assistance of the military air base where various international military gliding competitions have been successfully organized. They also had no objection to using their northern military part of the airfield for landing procedures. Their

meteorological French previsions at briefing were translated by Jean Renaud Fal-  
iu, the director himself – he also did this translation job for the safety officer  
and other members of the staff. Quite a busy man, Jean Renaud or JR as he was  
called here. In the beginning he was even also marshalling the tow planes until  
recommended by chief steward Ryder to leave this job to somebody else, being  
director is a full time job. And by the way: in January 2007 the same JR ob-  
tained his FAI 1000 km badge for his flight of 1005 km in 8 hours 11 in his  
Nimbus 3 DM in Bitterwasser, Namibia, where I had the pleasure of meeting  
him a few years ago. "Nice to see you again".

But back to meteo. On several occasions at 10 and even 11 in the morning it  
was still raining. So probably no flying? But then at 2 p.m the sky offered invit-  
ing cumuli...Of all the women's championships I have attended I can hardly re-  
member more capricious conditions than the ones here in Romorantin

**Day 4** – if it is a valid day, there will be three official world champion titles. I  
remember Klix 2005 and how relieved director Hanno Obermayer was after the  
4<sup>th</sup> official contest day with valid results. This 4<sup>th</sup> WAS a valid day even if we  
were far from maximum 1000 points. In **club class** only 232 points rewarded  
Czech winner Dana Novakova but 216 points for second place were sufficient  
for Gill Spreckley to get settled on top of the overall ranking, Very close upon  
her heels however were contenders Agnete Olesen and the German pair Chris-  
tine Grote and Kathrin Woetzel – Kathrin still a gleam in her eyes when asked  
about her world record flight with Klaus Ohlmann and afterwards with Stefano  
Ghiorzo above the South American Andes..

**In 15 m class** a disagreeable surprise made Kathrin Senne tumble down to last  
place in the 15 m class. After crossing the start line she had been hanging around  
a bit and some half hour later just cut the start line. This fix showed only on the  
second logger and according to rule 5.4.f *the organizers shall require the back up  
FR only in the event that the primary FR fails*. The first flight recorder not having  
failed no second FR was required, so the first start time was considered for scor-  
ing. Maybe IGC could have some discussion on being more specific?

For Kathrin this decision meant only 179 points, 237 less than both victorious  
French girls Marilyne Abadie Bérard of Buno and Anne Ducarouge of Vinon,  
who won the pre-championships 2006 here in Romorantin. In the French (gen-  
der neutral).championships 2007 in the Bourgogne region with poor weather  
conditions Marilyne finished 7<sup>th</sup> in the 15 m class, Anne Ducarouge 10<sup>th</sup> and Eva  
Poujardieu of Bailleau 11<sup>th</sup>. At these same championships the bronze medal was  
won by Jutta Sturm but she did not participate here in Romorantin. Neither did  
excellent pilot Claire Luyat. After two European titles in 1997 Slovakia and  
1999 in Leszno she disdainfully announced she considered "the flying level not  
satisfactory", henceforth she would only compete in gender neutral competi-  
tions. This she told me in 2001 at the world's championships in  
Lithuania...where the first world title was NOT for her but for Russian Tamara

Sviridova! In 2006 Claire was 11<sup>th</sup> in the French gender neutral 15 m championships on Ventus 2

In. **standard class** Polish LOT airline pilot Joanna Biedermann won the day before Sarah Kelman but Sarah remained solidly in the lead in overall ranking, a comfortable situation she did not allow anybody to disturb for the whole duration of the championships. Anyway, on this 4<sup>th</sup> contest day Sarah could not at all afford to be late to come home, she was going to manage the Babajaga initiation night, with the help of experienced Ingrid Blecher of Germany.

### **BABAJAGA**

Not less than 11 new novices were to be initiated in the international witches circle *babajagas*. France being absent in these championships since 2001 now suddenly the whole lot of six French pilots had to repeat the fair play oath after their “godmothers” in Polish, Czech, Russian, Danish, Swiss or Lithuanian languages. The French pilots had not been sufficiently briefed about this international happening, they were the only non-disguised ladies present but they immediately joined in, accompanied their godmothers on the “two-seater” broomstick dancing around the flaming bonfire and played their part like all their colleagues before the amused crowd.. It was a memorable end of the 4<sup>th</sup> contest day. Threatening thunderstorms kept everybody on the ground the next day – the 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday of the sweet little Eva Senne for which the organizers had a nice pres-



A new “baby” witch is going to kiss the book to promise to be a good witch.

ent. Looking outside: no hesitation, excellent occasion to visit one or several of the renowned *chateaux de la Loire*: Blois, Amboise, Chambord, Chenonceaux, unless one preferred going mushroom hunting (that is if I had left some after my expedition of the day before...).

Anyway everybody had been seriously encouraged to be back in time for the **international solidarity night**, with friendly contributions like typical food and drinks of every country. Beautiful sight, all these inviting well furnished tables! Astonishing how quickly Russian blinis and vodka had to be re-supplied...

The reward for this international generosity was an inviting 4/8 cumulus sky next day. At launch time cloud base was 1200 m rising to 1350 later in the day, with 1 ½ à 2 m/sec lift. Would this

**5<sup>th</sup> task** finally allow reasonable speeds? Until now they had rarely exceeded 60 kmh.

In **15 m class** Katrin Senne showed fine reaction capacity after her unfortunate fate on day 4 .

Said proud father Klaus Keim: "My Katrin does not argue, she flies" . Indeed the right stuff real champions are made of! In several preceding championships she had worked out a perfect teamwork pattern with her regretted friend Angelika Machinek.

*The organizers had a nice gesture, one morning at briefing: one minute of silence in memory of Angelika, well known and loved by many of the participants*



**Briefing time: the meteo.**



Katrin Senne's new German team mate Anja Kohlrausch was of quite another character than Angelika. Here and now in 2007 both German 15 m class competitors had two different approaches, were of two different natures. Once I heard Katrin Senne on the radio speaking to Margot Acquaderni, friends in the air, friends on the ground. It seemed to work out fine for both of them on this **5<sup>th</sup> day** on a racing task of 378,9 km. In less than 4 hours Kathrin Senne achieved

**95,1 kmh, the best speed of the whole championships** and Italian Margot (57) was just behind. A well deserved 1000 points harvest brought Mrs Senne back on top of the overall ranking and then her motto became: *j'y suis, j'y reste*". (here I am, here I stay)

The same motto worked for Sarah Kelman, she won the standard class day and these 1000 points were a welcome present to stay on top in the overall ranking, till the very end.

In **club class** after 4 tasks with only 4 points behind Gill Spreckley smiling Agnete Olesen was in a hurry to finish her 300 km race – with 79,1 kmh she not only won the race but added 1000 points to her overall ranking, which allowed her to take the lead, with Gill Spreckley *of course* on her heels.

Was Agnete to follow the excellent example of her compatriot Mette Pedersen, the world champion in Klix?

So finally we had a fine championships day with 1000 points for all three winners! Not two days are alike. Whereas yesterday only three pilots **did not** make it back to Romo, this time, for the **6<sup>th</sup> task**, the adventure was *vaches* ("cows" as the French call outlandings) **for everybody**. Blame it on the grey sky with al-



From the left: Anja Kohlrausch, Katrin Senne and Margot Acquaderni "aux vaches".

tocumuli and rare blue holes. The *flat low pressure* over France was apparently just as flat as the fields the girls went landing on...

Some pilots landed back on Romorantin but without completing the task.

**Club class:** with 249,8 km Gill Spreckley, practicing team flying with Rose Johnson, won the day which allowed her to chase Agnete Olesen from the top and that is where Gill was to stay from now on. Henceforth the battle was for the silver medal. For this metal nothing much separated candidates Olesen and both fighting Germans Woetzel and Grote. Blond Russian Vera Shishlakova seemed to have lost the stamina she showed in the beginning of the championships.

In **15 m class** just like the day before Margot Acquaderni flew only a few kilometres less than Anja Kohlrausch (even landing out can provide 1000 points), with Kathrin Senne very near and Anne Ducarouge confirming her medal ambitions.

In **standard class** blond Czech Jana Veprekova, defending world champion and starting in these women's championships for the 13<sup>th</sup> time with already five medals in her treasury chest, was more than happy with her 1000 *landing out* points. Polish Joanna Biedermann was second with only 17 points less and IF Jana had gained 7 more points this day, SHE would have become number 2 in overall ranking. Understandable that from now on all attention was concentrated on both these experienced ladies. Who would get the silver medal at the end? They could normally hope to keep the other competitors at a reasonable distance from the podium, the indeed preceded the rest of the field by some 300 points.



Gillian Spreckley, Susanne Schloedel and Swaantje Geyer at the party.



*Confrerie des Vignerons des Coteaux du Cher handing over diplomas*

Result of the complete field landing out and long retrieves was postponing and postponing again the start of the **Surprise evening of the Aéroclub de Sologne** – admission of a few new members – in this case a few team captains – in the Confrérie des Vignerons des coteaux du Cher – the Brotherhood of the Wine producers on the Cher slopes. It was a solemn ceremony, including traditional knights chasubles, oaths, diplomas...and wine tasting for all. The German team made an unexpected appearance with their version of the traditional French “ban zobé” and Russian Larissa Kamithova was nominated the lissomest dancer of all present. The evening was quite a success, mainly thanks to Daniel Violette and his wife, who did a fine job, assuming responsibility for animation of all social events in Romorantin.

**7<sup>th</sup> day** . The weather sheet showed possibility of 1300 m cloud base early afternoon and possible thunderstorms late afternoon, So early start was a must for the races on polygons with 2 or 3 points, distances somewhat less than 200 km. This day one could expect good speeds....and all pilots coming home which would be a nice surprise after having all landed out yesterday. And indeed they **ALL** landed back in Romorantin.

In **club class** the inseparable German duo Woetzel-Grote was on the war path to evince Agnete Olesen from silver position after Gill Spreckley's probable gold. *Club class* Kathrin Woetzel succeeded the **best speed of the day**, all classes confounded, with 89,9 kmh and Agnete Olesen had only 2 kmh less. The short distance did not allow many catching up points but the gap narrowed. Tension rose, also in the hangar where one could follow the track of Kathrin Woetzel – of the 11 tracking devices only a few units worked, this time also no more than

4 could be shown! We saw Kathrin's glider drawing harmonious curves on the screen but not those of her "shadow" Christine Grote who, as we knew (radio) was in close formation with Kathrin.

Tracking is nice when it functions but after all here it seemed a waste of money. In **standard class** it had been a long wait to find Sue Kussbach in first place, team flying with Gundula Goeke. They finished 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> but this was not enough to come much nearer medal positions.

The day victory of Kathrin Senne in **15 m class** helped her to increase her advance overall.

7 valid days – weather conditions had really improved the second half of the championships. And why not continue to walk this "no outlanding" road.



*Looking for cables after take off.*

**On 8<sup>th</sup> day** we were somewhat surprised by the late first take off: only at 2.30 p.m. Fortunately the meteo was better than expected and all pilots made it back to Romo. Sorry, NOT ALL for there were two unlucky standard class pilots landing out: Gundula Goeke- although like yesterday she started together with Sue Kussbach (who came in) – and disappointed Swiss Christine Burki.

In **15 m class** both French ladies finished quite quicker than both German contenders: Marilyne Abadie Bérard 82 kmh and Anne Ducarouge 81,7 kmh . Result: they gained 100 day points more than numbers 3 and 4. Consequently Anne Ducarouge chased Anja Kohlraush from 2<sup>nd</sup> overall spot – a serious warning, should there be a 9<sup>th</sup> task!

In **standard class** Sarah Kelman was once more superior, landing 5 minutes ear-

lier (93 kmh) than Jana Veprekova but what a nerve racking affair for second podium place. Scoring gave Jana 36 points more than Polish Joanna Biedermann for the day. A simple addition told the story: Jana became second with 15 points advance on Joanna – IF we fly to-morrow, who will have the more solid nerves?

In **club class** this was doomsday for friendly Agnete Olesen. At the start of the day she still occupied second placing overall but now with only 57,6 kmh she plunged down not only in daily ranking but unfortunately also overall where she was no longer in medal position, although only 35 points away from it. Could she still hope to climb up again on the last day of the championships?

*In the beginning I never thought it would take 8 or to-morrow maybe 9 days to write my impressions on... or I would not have commented every day and have dropped details. Pages are now heaping up, I hope you will have the patience to continue reading...*

**9<sup>th</sup> and last task.** Some might play it cautiously to keep their ranking or attack to improve them?: AAST and 2 hours 30 minutes for all three classes. In other words: it would require fast (but correct) scoring to have unofficial and then final results. Leading pilots in all three classes did not have much to fear. Kathrin Senne 's advance was 205 points, Sarah Kelman's was 180 and Gill Spreckley 85. Nothing similar for the silver. In standard class Jana Veprekova preceded Joanna Biedermann by 15 points, in 15 m class Anne Ducaroughe had 45 points more than Anja Kohlrausch and in club class Kathrin Woetzel was followed at only 12



**Waiting for the last take off.**



15 mt. class Podium: 1. Kathrin Senne; 2. Anja Kohlrausch; 3. Anne Ducarouge.

points by Christine Grote who was probably thinking of 2003 Jihlava when she became world champion and Kathrin Woetzel vice-champion.

This is the day when dice are thrown. In 15 m class Ukrainian Valentina Toporova ended 9 days gliding operation with a victory AND a rejoicing speed of 91,1 kmh. Valentina's Ventus 2b was followed by two Lak 17 gliders of Lenka Kuthanova and of Marilyne Abadie Bérard fighting for the podium, alas in vain. Her compatriot Anne Ducarouge was only a bit slower than Anja Kohlrausch, however it costed her the little 4 points of difference between silver and bronze. Bad luck for Margot Acquaderni: after vomiting four times again (apparently the same virus as Lucy Whithall's yesterday, stopping Lucy from even taking off). Margot had no choice but to land out safely. She was still looking quite sick when later she nevertheless joined the farewell party.

**Standard class pilots** did not waste much time admiring the Blois castle on their way, certainly not the German team flying pair Sue Kussbach, repeating her victory of the 7<sup>th</sup> day, and Gundula Goeke who bitterly regretted her unfortunate landing out of yesterday. To day meteo was better than foreseen although on the last leg several pilots had to interrupt their final glide to catch a little more safety height. This did not bother Sarah Kelman who could not be threatened by anybody, not even by Jana Veprekova who now preceded Joanna Biedermann and became vice-champion.

Right after the prize giving ceremony Jana took off for the short voyage to Issoudun, where she was to participate in the 14<sup>th</sup> gender neutral European championships, exchanging her LS 8 for a Ventus 2 c in the 18 m class, together with CZ team captain Petr Krejcik.



Standard class Podium: 1.Sarah Kelman; 2. Jana Veprekova; 3. Joanna Biedermann.

In **club class** early starters Dana Novakova and Hana Vokrinkova upheld the Czech colours. Gill Spreckley and Liz Sparrow had a late start at 14h46...and everybody wondered what inspired the German pair Woetzel-Grote to wait till 15h10 to go on their pursuit. Some poker game? Anyway it was nerve racking for the waiting crowd on the ground – “even more so for us in the air” admitted Kathrin afterwards. Fortunately cumuli were still seen all around the airfield



Podium Club Class: 1. Gillian Spreckley; 2. Katrin Woetzel; 3. Christine Grote.

when more than an hour after most of the competitors had touched the runway of Romorantin, there came Kathrin with a big sigh of relief to become vice champion, not a minor feat when the champion's name is Gill Spreckley...

But what a sad end of the championships her landing out meant for Agnete Olesen. She had been so brilliant in the beginning – after day 5 she had been even on top of overall ranking before Gill Spreckley. In the morning Agnete could still cherish podium hope with only 35 points to catch up on Christine Grote. Now she got poor 103 points (879 for the winner) and slipped down to 8<sup>th</sup> place.

**Team ranking:** Gill Spreckley together with Rose Johnson and Elizabeth Sparrow in club class, plus of course Sarah Kelman in standard class gathered more than enough points to win the trophy for the best team ranking, much to the pleasure of team captain Brian Spreckley. The large French team did not play an important part in this ranking “Not YET” said French team captain Eric Napoleon, himself world champion 1995. Speaking to him I had the impression he really wants to work seriously at building up a good French girl's team for future world championships.

**Communication of results** .As always the result sheets were eagerly expected and studied but often one had to wait quite a while to have such occasion. Patience was indeed the key word to be informed about results, unofficial and final. In the beginning the official notice board had been put up in the briefing hangar which however was closed at night, therefore risking the 12 hours for protest times to have elapsed before team captains were informed. It took until the 6<sup>th</sup> day before the official notice board was finally moved to the pilots room and then even here it was **not kept up to date**, unofficial results stayed posted unofficial long after they had become final. The best thing to do was to look for any results in whatever chronological order – mostly before the official notice board, don't ask me why, at the entrance of the bar (here only beer and soft drinks were served, no wine – are we in France?). Wine or no wine, the bar was a well visited site, sometimes the only place to have the Internet access team members (and their lap top) needed for transmission of the news to their home front.

**Quite a meeting.** I don't want to finish without mentioning a memorable meeting with Ghislaine Facon. Was it sheer chance or a nice intention of an unknown patron which made me sit next to her at one of the social events. She asked me to dedicate my book on the history of all the women's gliding championships “to whom?” – “Ghislaine...before she could give the rest of her name I knew it was Facon – sorry I did not recognize you from your photos. So I enjoyed quite a conversation with engineer Ghislaine,



famous for her first gliding tour of France (no assistance, no retrievers), but especially for her scientific aerologic studies. When she presented them at a conference one of the listeners was Klaus Ohlmann...with his expected invitation to come to South America, for flights in the Andes, to fly the Stemme with his wife Sidonie who got her gliding licence only recently. Summary of Ghislaine's exploits: seven world records and nine French records in six consecutive flights. More than enough to be the first French woman to be granted the FAI distinction "Pelagia Majewska Gliding Medal". My inevitable question to this eminent lady, at ease under cumuli as well as happily gliding between rotors and lenticulars: what about competitions, we miss you competing here. "I know I am not aggressive enough for that, I don't like gaggles so I go looking for lift further on".

What a pity!

*Ghislaine Falcon is President of the Meteo Commission of the French Federation.*

*Among its members: Denise Cruette whose thesis on wave flights had inspired Ghislaine and who is none else but European vice-champion 15 m class 1981 in Chérence.*

## STATISTICS: DAILY VICTORIES

15 M CLASS	TASK	SPEED	KILOMETRES	POINTS
1. Anja Kohlrausch, Germany	AAST 2h30	60,5 kmh	162,6 km	563
2. Jana Treslova CZ.	race 461,9 km	–	189,1 km	695
3. Anja Kohlrausch, Germany	AAST 2h	61,7 kmh	171,2 km	606
4. Marilyne Bérard Abadie, France	AAST 1h45	60,3 kmh	131,7 km	416
5. Kathrin Senne, Germany	race 378,9 km	<b>95,1 kmh</b>	<b>378,9 km</b>	<b>1000</b>
6. Anja Kohlrausch, Germany	AAST 3 h		255,5 km	<b>1000</b>
7. Kathrin Senne, Germany	race 193,6 km	81,3 kmh	193,6 km	718
8. Marilyne Bérard Abadie, France	race 198,5 km	87,0 kmh	198,5 km	743
9. Valentyna Toporova, Ukr	AAST 2h30	91,1 kmh	251,2 km	904

With 5645 daily victory points for 9 tasks average daily winning points = 627,11

STANDARD CLASS	TASK	SPEED	KILOMETRES	POINTS
1. Sarah Kelman, GB	AAST 2h30	59,8 kmh	149,6 km	567
2. Joanna Biedermnn, Pol	race 402 km	–	192,6 km	713
3. Gundula Goeke, Germany	AAST 2h	54,3 kmh	154,1 km	521
4. Joanna Biedermann, Pol	AAST 1h45	61,2 kmh	136,8 km	454
5. Sarah Kelman, GB	race 360,9 km	92,0 kmh	360,9 km	<b>1000</b>
6. Jana Veprekova, CZ	AAST 3h	–	281,2 km	<b>1000</b>
7. Sue Kussbach, Germany	race 190,6 km	87,0 kmh	190,6 km	676
8. Sarah Kelman, GB	race 197,6 km	93,0 kmh	197,6 km	650
9. Sue Kussbach, Germany	AAST 2h30	84,1 kmh	228 km	884

With 6465 daily victory points for 9 tasks average daily winning points = 718,33

CLUB CLASS	TASK	SPEED	KILOMETRES	POINTS
1. Vera Shishlakova, Rus	AAST 2h	93,1 kmh	126,3 km	269
2. Vera Shishlakova, Rus	race 366,5 km	–	263,2 km	<b>1000</b>
3. Gill Spreckley, GB	AAST 2h	50,8 kmh	149,6 km	476
4. Dana Novakova, CZ	AAST 1h45	56,9 kmh	108,6 km	232
5. Agnete Olesen, DK	race 300 km	79,1 kmh	300,0 km	<b>1000</b>
6. Gill Spreckley, GB	race 305,3 km	–	249,8 km	962
7. Kathrin Woetzel, Germany	race 132,5 km	89,9 kmh	132,5 km	390
8. Christine Grote, Germany	race 142,6 km	70,1 kmh	142,6 km	463
9. Dana Novakova, CZ	AAST 2h30	68,2 kmh	218,1 km	879

With 5671 points for 9 tasks average daily winning points = 630,11

Smallest victory harvest was 232 points on 4th task.

### LANDING OUT

Romorantin was the site of a hard to beat record of outlandings – some days all pilots came home, other days nobody did. Compliment for the safety conscious ladies who finished without gliders damaged. One trailer on the way back turned over on the way back from landing out. Unlike the trailer the rented glider EH of Russian Larissa Khomativa was hardly damaged. The rest was insurance negotiations.

15 m class (11 pilots)	standard class (13 pilots)	club class (20 pilots)
9	4	8
11	13	20
6	12	19
0	0	8
2	2	1
11	13	20
0	0	0
0	2	0
1	0	1
40	44	77

**TOTAL: 161 “vaches”**

### NOT AS USUAL...

In 2005 in Klix the average age of the women pilots was 40,4 . I would have liked to make my *usual* calculation but I did not succeed in getting these data from the administration office (too polite to give ladies ages?- but friendly enough to wish “happy birthday” to the pilots on the right day at briefing). Participating pilots did not get the *usual* list of competitor’s addresses – e-mails (so they can keep in touch after the championships), nor the *also usual* summary of the daily rankings, nor the – *also usual* – group photo of the 45 pilots from 11 countries at the end of the championships.

### CLOSING CEREMONY

All pilots and team members attended the closing ceremony under a white and grey cumulus sky, also many local, regional and political VIPs. A few short speeches, presentation of a giant kite of 30 meters long, showing “vent de folie”, precise parachute jumps, an elegant presentation of glider aerobatics with an AS 21– sheer poetry! And then the highlight: happy champions and medal winners mounting on the podium and getting the well deserved medals around their necks. They listened respectfully to their national anthems, we heard the God save the Queen twice: for Sarah Kelman and for Gill Spreckley but waited in














vain for the German anthem for Kathrin Senne technical problems! Then the German team members decidedly and convincingly *sang their anthem themselves*, no micro needed. In spite of some organizational shortcomings these were good competitions with an unexpected number of 9 tasks all in a friendly atmosphere. Jury President Bruno Romeyer solemnly declared these world championships for closed. Which ones of the present ladies will compete again in two years time in Hungarian Szeged? Wait and see...

## 4<sup>th</sup> FAI Women's World Gliding Championships 15 M Class

Romorantin, 05.07.2007 • 19.07.2007

15 M Class • Overall results after Journée 9

Place	N°C	Photo	Pilots	Club-Pays	Glider	Hcap	Total
1.	SF		<b>Kathrin Senne</b>	Germany	Ventus 2a	114	6085
2.	HP		<b>Anja Kohlrausch</b>	Germany	Ventus 2a	114	5837
3.	CC		<b>Anne Ducarouge</b>	France	ASW 27	114	5833
4.	2L		<b>Marilyne Abadie Bérard</b>	France	LAK 17/15m	114	5785
5.	73		<b>Valentina Toporova</b>	Ukraine	Ventus 2b	114	5622
6.	AX		<b>Jana Treslova</b>	Czech Républic	Ventus 2ax	114	5278
7.	LK		<b>Lenka Kuthanova</b>	Czech Republic	LAK 17/15m	114	5257
8.	68		<b>Lucy Withall</b>	Great Britain	ASW 27	114	4706
9.	57		<b>Margherita Acquaderni</b>	Italy	Ventus 2ax	114	4702
10.	Z22		<b>Nina Shalneva</b>	Russia	LS 6	112	4125
11.	VP		<b>Anna Michalak</b>	Poland	ASW 27	114	4042

## 4<sup>th</sup> FAI Women's World Gliding Championships

Romorantin, 06.07.2007 • 19.07.2007

Standard Class • Overall results after Journée 9

Place	N°C	Photo	Pilots	Club-Pays	Glider	Hcap	Total
1.	S1		<b>Sarah Kelman</b>	Great Britain	ASW 28	108	6046
2.	JB		<b>Jana Veprekova</b>	Czech Republic	LS 8b	108	5519
3.	LOT		<b>Joanna Biedermann</b>	Poland	LS 8	108	5431
4.	301		<b>Kay Draper</b>	Great Britain	LS 8	108	5195
5.	GX		<b>Eva Cerna</b>	Czech Republic	Discus 2a	108	5129
6.	PW		<b>Gundula Goeke</b>	Germany	LS 8	108	5059
7.	KS		<b>Sue Kussbach</b>	Germany	LS 8a	108	4978
8.	FJ		<b>Susanne Schoedel</b>	Germany	LS 8	108	4948
9.	55		<b>Eva Poujardieu</b>	France	LS 8	108	4643
10.	9C		<b>Christine Burki</b>	Switzerland	LS 8	108	4518
11.	PV		<b>Magali De Cachard</b>	France	LAK 19/15m	108	4165
12.	EH		<b>Larisa Khamitova</b>	Russia	Discus	108	4060
13.	SK		<b>Krystyna Marszalek</b>	Poland	LS 8	108	3890

## 4<sup>th</sup> FAI women's world gliding championships

Romorantin, 06.07.2007 • 19.07.2007

Club Class • Overall results after Journée 9

Place	N°C	Photo	Pilots	Club-Pays	Glider	Hcap	Total
1.	1T		<b>Gill Spreckley</b>	Great Britain	LS 1 f	101	5310
2.	BW3		<b>Kathrin Woetzel</b>	Germany	Std. Libelle WL	99	5121
3.	1M		<b>Christine Grote</b>	Germany	Std. Libelle WL	99	5027
4.	RZ		<b>Rose Johnson</b>	Great Britain	ASW 19 Club WL	102	4871
5.	FRX		<b>Elizabeth Sparrow</b>	Great Britain	Pegase	104	4788
6.	CN		<b>Edita Skalskiene</b>	Lithuania	Std. Jantar3	101	4693
7.	DI		<b>Dana Novakova</b>	Czech Republic	Std. Cirrus	99	4642
8.	BC		<b>Agnete Olesen</b>	Denmark	Std. Libelle WL	99	4456
9.	SU		<b>Pavlina Horackova</b>	Czech Republic	Std. Jantar2	101	4328
10.	F05		<b>Céline Montorio</b>	France	ASW 19 Club a	101	4323
11.	V9		<b>Vera Shishlakova</b>	Russia	LS 1-d	98	4316
12.	F07		<b>Monique Morin-Raynaud</b>	France	ASW 19 Club a	101	4062

Place	N°C	Photo	Pilots	Club-Pays	Glider	Hcap	Total
13.	XC		<b>Hana Vokrinkova</b>	Czech Republic	Std. Cirrus	99	4006
14.	VS		<b>Swaantje Geyer</b>	Germany	LS 1 f	101	3936
15.	B		<b>Dalia Vainiene</b>	Lithuania	Std. Jantar3	101	3747
16.	X1		<b>Halina Rynkiewicz</b>	Poland	Std. Jantar3	101	3732
17.	AA		<b>Agnieszka Lenartowicz</b>	Poland	Std. Jantar3	101	3484
18.	GA		<b>Tamara Sviridova</b>	Russia	Std. Cirrus	99	3395
19.	2ND		<b>Marina Kalaeva</b>	Russia	Std. Jantar3 WL	102	3378
20.	CX		<b>Veronika Mullerova</b>	Czech Republic	Std. Cirrus	99	2798