

2024 FAI E-DRONE RACING WORLD CUP REPORT

by Bruno DELOR

A first FAI International E-drone racing event by considering the racing track designed for the 2023 WDRC. The final phase concerning 32 players, had been run by combining the players who were present in Namwon, Korea for the WDRC and the rest flying remotely from home. This final phase had been livestreamed in real time with two commentators present, in Namwon. One in Korean and one in English language.

After this successful event, CIAM decided to establish for 2024 the FAI e-Drone Racing World Cup based on a series of five events run on different racing tracks.

The events had been run by using the EreaDrone multiplayer drone racing simulator available on the Steam platform for PC and by considering the event management system (EMS) developed by EreaDrone.

For all events:

- Pilots flew remote.
- The drone to be used was the standard model implemented in the simulator with no possibility for the pilot to edit any characteristic.

Depending on the event, the circuit was:

- a racing track similar to those designed for drone racing competitions and with three laps to complete.
- or a "Start to Finish" (or "A to B") circuit to fly once with a start gate and a finish gate located in different positions.

The detailed rules are defined in the e-Drone Racing World Cup Rules FAI document dated 1st March 2024.

CALENDAR

	Event name	Registration period	Practice and Qualification period	Competition First round	Competition Final part
Event #1	e-Drone Racing World Cup Inaugural Event	18 May to 8 June	25 May to 8 June	Saturday 15 June	Sunday 16 June
Event #2	Alpine e-Drone Racing World Cup	Saturday 22 June to Sunday 28 July	Saturday 6 July to Sunday 28 July	Saturday 3 August	Sunday 4 August
Event #3	Harbour e-Drone Racing World Cup	Saturday 10 August to Sunday 1 September	Saturday 17 August to Sunday 1 September	Saturday 7 September	Sunday 8 September
Event #4	WDRC e-Drone Racing World Cup	Saturday 28 September to Tuesday 29 October	Saturday 5 October to Tuesday 29 October	Saturday 9 November	Sunday 10 November
Event #5	Saudi Arabia e-Drone Racing World Cup	Saturday 19 October to Sunday 17 November	Monday 11 November to Sunday 17 November	Sunday 17 November	Tuesday 19 November

RULES TO RUN AN EVENT

Qualification stage

The event begins with a qualification stage to select the pilots for the competition itself.

For the qualification stage, every pilot flies alone without being impacted by the other pilots flying at the same moment on the simulator. A period of time is defined for the qualification stage. During that period, each pilot is authorised 12 maximum attempts to register times to complete a predefined number of consecutive laps. The pilots may do their attempts whenever during the allocated period, on different days, and at any time of each day.

The ranking for the qualification stage is calculated by considering for each pilot their fastest attempt registered time.

The qualification current ranking is accessible as soon as the qualification stage period starts but a pilot may access the qualification times registered by the other pilots only after the pilot concerned proceeded 6 attempts.

Competition

The 64 best placed pilots from the qualification stage are selected for the first round of the competition. The first round included 8 races with 8 pilots per race. The 4 best placed pilots in each race had been qualified for the second part of the competition (32 pilots concerned in total), the other pilots being eliminated. In case the number of pilots ranked in the qualification is less than 64 pilots, the races are done with less than 8 pilots.

The second part of the competition concerns the 32 pilots qualified from the first round. All races are planned with 4 pilots per race. So, this part includes 1/8th finals, quarter finals, semi-finals and finals (16 races in total). The 2 best-placed pilots in each race are qualified for the next round, the other pilots being eliminated.

The second part of each competition had been livestreamed with an English language commentator with possibility to access in real time on the FAI YouTube channel, EreaDrone YouTube and Twitch channels.

Final classification in the event

The final classification is processed as follows:

- 1st to 4th places according to the final race results.
- 5th to 8th places according to the small final race results.
- After each round, the eliminated pilots are placed according to the qualifying stage ranking. Nevertheless, the pilots who managed to get a scoring time are placed in front of those who did not finish (DNF), those who did not start (DNS) being placed at the end.

WORLD CUP RULES

For each event, points are allocated to the pilots participating by considering their placing in the event concerned. The points allocated depend of the number of pilots having participated to the qualification stage.

The total World Cup score of each pilot is the sum of their best three event results (numbers of points).

The winner of the World Cup is the pilot with the greatest total score, and so on for the ranking.

PARTICIPATION

208 pilots from 40 different countries, including 8 women from 6 countries, intended to participate in at least one event. Finally, only 140 pilots from 35 countries registered times in the qualification stages.

Nationality	Number of athletes registered	Number of athletes participating
ARG	1	
AUS	8	7
AUT	2	1
BEL	4	3
CAN	3	1
CHN	16	8
CZE	2	
ESP	10	5
EST	2	2
FIN	2	2
FRA	34	27
GBR	2	2
GER	8	4
GRE	4	2
INA	1	1
IND	1	1
ISR	1	1
ITA	8	6
JPN	11	8
KAZ	1	
KOR	23	18
KSA	2	
LAT	4	4
LTU	4	2
MAR	1	1
MAS	8	6
NOR	5	4
PHI	8	5
POL	4	1
POR	1	1
PUR	1	1
RSA	1	1
SGP	2	2
SRB	1	1
SUI	2	1
SWE	3	1
TPE	7	4
TUR	2	1
UKR	1	
USA	7	5
Total number of athletes	208	140
Number countries	40	35

WORLD CUP CLASSIFICATION

The podium is as follows:

- 1- Swan VERSMISSEN (France) - 260 points
- 2- Kirill LOBAN (serbia) - 241 points
- 3- Krutharth Mohan CHICKMAGALUR (India) - 235 points

Note: The winner, Swan VERSMISSEN had been already the winner of the 2023 FAI e-Drone Racing Cup in Namwon, Korea.

The 10 best placed pilots are from 9 different countries.

The best female is Yiran SHENG from China, 13 years old, placed 9th in the World Cup ranking.

1	Swan VERSMISSEN	18 years	FRA	260 points	Event 1	1/75	105 points	Event 4	1/60	84 points	Event 2	3/57	71 points
2	Kirill LOBAN	15 years	SRB	241 points	Event 1	3/75	94 points	Event 2	2/57	75 points	Event 4	4/60	72 points
3	Krutharth Mohan CHICKMAGALUR	20 years	IND	235 points	Event 1	2/75	99 points	Event 2	1/57	80 points	Event 4	8/60	56 points
4	Yuki MATSUYAMA	26 years	JPN	187 points	Event 2	5/57	64 points	Event 5	5/57	64 points	Event 1	17/75	59 points
5	Max HEILIGMAN	38 years	USA	183 points	Event 5	3/57	71 points	Event 4	6/60	64 points	Event 1	28/75	48 points
6	Tristan TWINE	19 years	RSA	180 points	Event 1	4/75	91 points	Event 2	13/57	45 points	Event 4	17/60	44 points
7	DongHyun KIM	13 years	KOR	178 points	Event 5	4/57	68 points	Event 1	14/75	62 points	Event 3	4/40	48 points
8	Feby KRISTANTO	35 years	INA	173 points	Event 1	8/75	72 points	Event 4	7/60	60 points	Event 5	17/57	41 points
9	Yiran SHENG <i>Fem</i>	13 years	CHN	171 points	Event 5	1/57	80 points	Event 4	2/60	79 points	Event 2	46/57	12 points
10	Guillaume BAILLEAU	15 years	FRA	167 points	Event 2	4/57	68 points	Event 3	2/40	54 points	Event 4	16/60	45 points

Note: In the above sheet, the second column of each event mentions the placing of the pilot concerned and the number of pilots participating in the event. As an illustration, 1/75 means that the pilot is first placed with 75 pilots having participated in the event concerned.

The complete results of the World Cup can be downloaded on the FAI website with the following link:
<https://www.fai.org/edroneracingworldcup2024-calendar>