

NORDIC HOT AIR BALLOON CHAMPIONSHIP 2003

Information 2002-12-05

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Airsport Sweden - Svenska Flygsportförbundet, FSF

John Grubbström, Chairman, **Kurt Lundblad**, hard working member.
Katrineholms Ballongsällskap KBS - Organising club

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Suomen Ilmailuliitto, SIL - Finska Flygförbundet, FFF

Esa Parkinen, Chairman,
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Suomen Ilmailuliitto, Ilmapallotoimikunta, SIL-IT - Finska Flygförbundet, Luftballongkommittén

Henning Sörensen, Chairman
Dansk Ballon Union, DBU - Kongelig Dansk Aeroklubb, DAK/Danmarks Luftsportsforbund, Balloon section

Mikael Klingberg, Chairman
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Lars Ekstedt, Chairman
Henrik Andersson, Yvonne Ekblom, Christer Friborg, Jonas Mattsson, Peter Olsson
Svenska Ballongfederationen, SBF - Swedish Balloon Federation

Henrik Ödman, Chairman
Jan Balkedal, Tobias Kärrsten, Bengt Stener, Hans Åkerstedt, Monique Örne
SBF Tävlings- och rekordutskott, SBF-TRU – SBF competition committee

This was a presentation of all recipients of this "Newsletter". I hope I got the spelling correct. If not please let me know.

The history of Nordic balloon events goes back to the beginning of the 20th century. Nordic competitions were held already 1909 at the Nordic Games. The first international balloon in Sweden came from Denmark 1809. The Norwegian Frants Forsberg (Francesco Cetti) made many flights in Sweden and also gave S. A. Andrée his first flight 1892. The first balloon document in Swedish is from Finland (Turku 1763), and the second oldest aviation trophy still existing is the Norsk Luftseiladsforenings minnepokal from 1910.

Unofficial Nordic Championship were organised by Chalmers Ballong Corps in Göteborg 1980 to 1983. Nordic team events were flown 1992, 1999 and 2002.

More details about Nordic balloon history can be found at:

www.ballong.org/ballongfakta/kronika.php

Additions and comments are most welcome.

Background

At the recent World Hot Air Balloon championship in France, Jan Fröjdman strongly suggested that we should increase Nordic competition activity and he has since then worked hard in Finland to get support. In Sweden we have an enthusiastic club with very good support from the town where we have had 6 Swedish Nationals and also the European Championships 1998. Here is a summary of where we stand so far.

Where we are now

The formal decision to proceed will be taken at the SBF board meeting 8th December.

A proposal has been worked out by the SBF competition committee in cooperation with SIL ballooning section. All details are subject to confirmation with the organising club, KBS and subject to approval by participating Aero Clubs.

Four Nordic ballooning organisations have answered our initial "invitation" and are interested in participating. We regard Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden as entered with 3 pilots each. As far as we know there is no ballooning activity on Iceland.

Sanction from ANA (Association of Nordic Aero clubs) has been sought through Airsport Sweden. We have been advised to create a Ballooning section of ANA. I suggest we select a candidate from each nation and discuss this in Katrineholm.

Location

The event location will be Katrineholm, Sweden 30 April to 4 May. The event will be held at the same time as the Swedish Championships with the same organisation and the same flights. The results in the two events will be presented in separate lists. We hope to have some surprises for you regarding presentation of results.

Provisional program

Wednesday 30 April	11.00-15.00	Check in
	15.00-16.30	General Briefing
	17.30	First task briefing
Thursday 1 May	04.00	Task briefing
Friday 2 May	17.30	Task briefing
Saturday 3 May		
Sunday 4 May	04.00	Task briefing - Spare
	11.00	Awards and farewell party

Entries

12-15 Swedish pilots are expected for the national event. The top ranking of those will also compete in the Nordic Championships.

12 pilots will be invited from the Nordic countries, three from each country. In case any country does not take up all invitations, additional places may be offered to the other nations up to a total of 12.

All nations will select their competing pilots according to their own policy. Sweden will enter the 3 top ranking pilots based on the 2002 Swedish ranking list.

Entry forms will be sent before December 31st. Deadline for entry is March 31st, 2003.

Rules

The rules for the event will be the English version of the Swedish Championship rules with minor adjustments for local conditions and for the intention of the Nordic Championship. The rules will be based on the 2003 version of the CIA AX MER.

Officials

Event Director: Jan Balkedal
Event Organiser: Kurt Lundblad
Safety Officer: Hans Åkerstedt
Chief Scorer: Bengt Stener
Event Secretary: Gun Ekdahl

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The jury chairman will be a suitable aeronaut and not from Sweden. One jury member will be Swedish and all will be of different nationalities. Your proposals are welcome.

Other officials will be invited from participating nations. All pilots will be responsible for entering one observer with suitable qualifications and experience. Observers will use GPS for measuring distances over 200 meters and are requested to bring their own if they have. If necessary a brief instruction will be provided.

Entry Fee

For the Swedish Championship we request a small registration fee from all pilots (400 SEK, about 45 EUR). We suggest the same for the Nordic Championship. The Swedish Balloon Federation usually supports the organising committee with 5000SEK. Together with the registration fee this is to cover initial costs. We also have much support from the city. Deadline for payment will be March 31st, same as deadline for entry.

Accommodation

Lodging and breakfast plus lunch will be at or close to the competition centre and will be at a much reduced cost. The exact amount will be available soon. Breakfast and lunch will be served at the competition centre.

Contact

Please send names and addresses of your selected pilots to:

Katrineholms Ballongsällskap
C/o Kurt Lundblad
Läroverksgatan 8A
SE-641 36 KATRINEHOLM
Kurt.lundblad@swipnet.se

Very welcome to the 2003 Nordic Hot Air Balloon Championship in Katrineholm, Sweden.

*Kurt Lundblad
Event organiser*

*Hans Åkerstedt
CIA delegate, Sweden*

Curious coincidence.

NM means Nordiska Mästerskapen or Norska Mesterskapen.

We hope we can show Mikael Klingberg the difference

SM means Suomen mestaruuskilpailut or Svenska Mästerskapen.

Same thing but different nations.

DM is Danmarksmesterskap but we had it once in Sweden also.

Participating Balloon Federations

Dansk Ballon Union, DBU:

www.dansk.ballonunion.dk/

Suomen Ilmailuliitto, Ilmapallotoimikunta (SIL, IT)

Finlands Flygförbund, Luftballongkommittén (FFF, IT)

www.ilmailuliitto.fi/kuumailmapallo/index.html

Norsk Aero Klubb/Norges Luftsportförbund, Ballongseksjonen:

www.nak.no/ballong/index.htm

Svenska Ballongfederationen, SBF

www.ballong.org