



EGC 2017 Lasham, UK



Covering Letter

Dear IGC,

The following document outlines the British Gliding Association / Royal Aero Club / Lasham Gliding Society bid to host the 2017 European Gliding Championships for the Open, 18m and 15m classes.

Lasham is the largest gliding club in the UK, possibly Europe, operating from a large, flat, unobstructed airfield with tarmac aerodrome in the south of England, with over 600 active gliding members and a full-time professional staff. The permanent on-site facilities provide a comprehensive infrastructure basis for safely operating substantial glider numbers with plentiful camping, parking, rigging, water, gridding and operational space. A 100+ glider grid is commonplace for normal summer club operation and the club are highly experienced in operating UK national competitions. Most years, the Lasham team will host multi-class competitions with 100+ competitors. The larger competitions are facilitated with extra facilities brought in for the duration to complement the existing infrastructure.

The Lasham facility boast excellent communications, plenty of nearby accommodation (including many on-site mobile homes and campsite) and the nearby towns of Alton and Basingstoke provide the best British welcome, from traditional village pubs to Heston Blumenthal's 'Fat Duck' Michelin restaurant. London is 45 minutes by train, with Heathrow airport just 35 miles away via the M3 motorway.

The UK is well connected for our international friends. There are multiple ferries from mainland Europe catering for car-trailer combinations. The nearby ports of Southampton and Portsmouth can accept containers, with modern links and logistics to bring containers to the field, or unload and bring gliders. There are also many gliding friends in our extended family and we will be able to smooth most logistical problems for our guests. We have excellent relationships with the UK aviation authorities to facilitate smooth transition of our guest's paperwork, glider airworthiness, airspace, etc.

The UK has plentiful car hire for intercontinental visitors, plus with our large established gliding base, there are be many options for hire of equipment in all classes.

Personally, I have taken part in many FAI competitions across the world (including 2012 WGC in Texas and the 2013 EGC in Vinon), and have participated in many National events at Lasham. The management and facilities at Lasham are world class. I am convinced that we can host an excellent, fair, safe and memorable EGC contest in the spirit of the recent 2012 Olympic Games. There is great support for sporting events in the UK currently and we remain hopeful of securing excellent support from the gliding community and wider public.

We look forward to the IGC decision and hope this bid provides sufficient data to underline our commitment to delivering a successful, safe and memorable EGC2017.

Peter Harvey
Chairman, British Gliding Association, December 2013.

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Applicant:

Name: Lasham Gliding Society

Date of Application: 30th December 2013

Organising Gliding Club or other organisation: Lasham Gliding society

Name and address of National Aero Club:

British Gliding Association/ Royal Aero Club
8 Merus Court
Meridien Business Park
Leicester
LE19 1RJ
+44 (0)116 289 2956
office@gliding.co.uk

Proposed Competition Director: Andrew Davis.

Andy is a very experienced competitor, world champion and organiser. He was lead organiser and chairman for the World Junior Gliding Championships 2005, Husbands Bosworth, so is knowledgeable about the metrics for operating a successful WGC. Andy has been a member of the British Gliding Team, flying in numerous worldwide FAI WGC since 1981. He is 2 x WGC champion (1993 and 2003), silver medal WGC 1989. Professionally, he is a British Airways captain on B767s.

Proposed Organisation of the event:

Lasham will organise several multi class competitions in the years immediately prior to the event with the express intention of training for the organising team. Lasham Gliding Society owns the airfield and has no financial constraints in the organisation of a EGC. The business plan will be enhanced to ensure a pragmatic and cost effective event is hosted.

Contact person (for the application):

Name: Werner Stroud
Address: Lasham Gliding Society, Lasham Airfield, The Avenue, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 5SS
Email address: manager@lasham.org.uk
Phone Number: 01256 384900
Fax Number: 01256 384901

1. Event and Year

1.1 Name of Competition. FAI European Gliding Championship (Open Class, 18m Class & 15m Class).

1.2 Year of event: 2017.

2. Site

2.1 Name of the airfield: Lasham Airfield

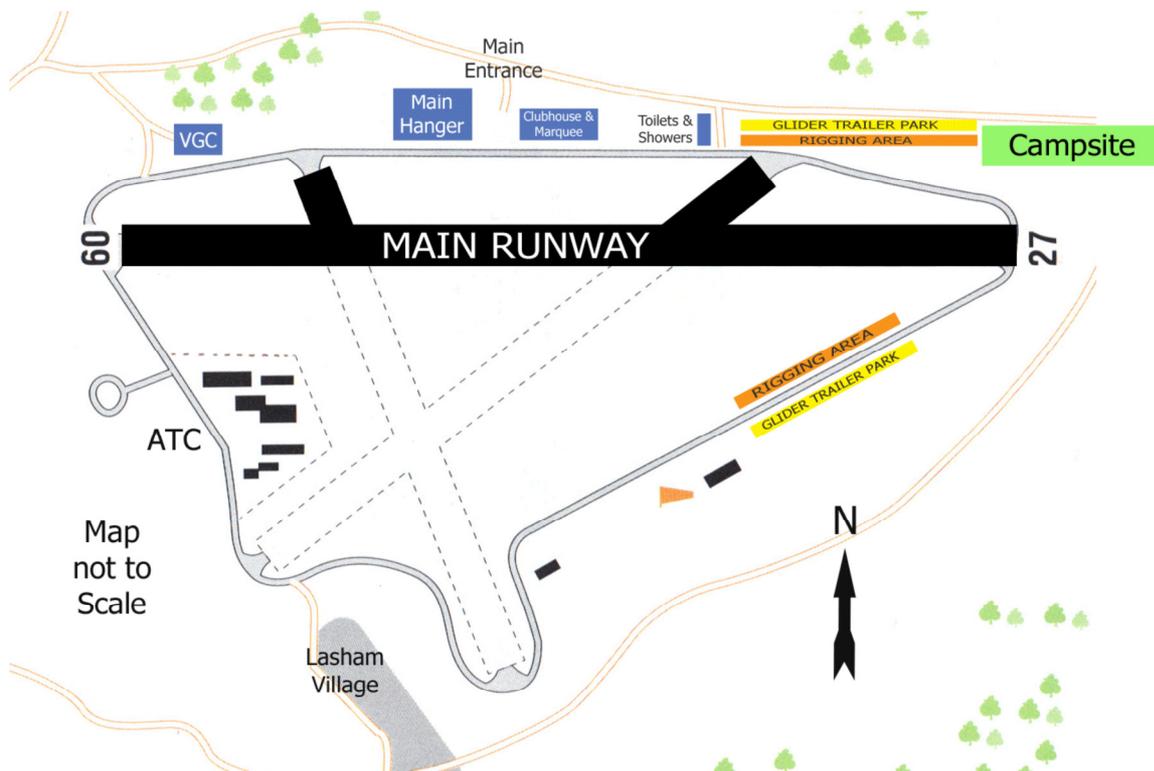
2.1.1 Co-ordinates 51 11.359N 001 06.899W.

2.1.2 Basingstoke NNW 9km. Population 105,000, Alton SE 5km. Population 16,000.

London is 50 minutes by train from the nearby town of Basingstoke.

The historic city of Winchester is 30 minutes by car.

2.1.3 Experience of airfield staff in organising championships: Multiple National and Regional contests over many years, many of which involved over 100 competitors. At least one National Championship organised each year typically with a separate regionals competition alongside.



2.2 Proposed period for the event:

2.2.1 Training Dates 15th to 22nd July 2017

2.2.2 Competition Dates Sunday 23rd July – Sun 6th August 2017.

2.2.3 Alternate dates for training (preferably greater than 3 weeks from primary bid dates in 2.2.1) 30th July - 5th August 2017.

2.2.4 Alternate dates for competition (preferably greater than 3 weeks from primary bid dates in 2.2.2) 6th August – 20th August 2017.

2.3. Airfield operating data: Open every day except Christmas Day.

2.3.1 There is an active gliding club operating at the airfield with over 600 members, providing substantial gliding and aviation infrastructure. Airfield elevation AMSL is 618ft (188m). Grass with 1 main tarmac runway 090°- 270° that is 1.7km long. All grassed areas within the perimeter track are suitable for take-off and landing.

2.3.2 A minimum of 12 tug aircraft will be available with more if necessary depending on total entry numbers.

2.3.3 Full daily Met briefings by experienced professional or former professional met men with full access to data and analysis from the Met Office.

2.3.4 Ample parking facilities for gliders.

2.3.5 There is a repair facility based at the airfield and several major repair workshops in the local area.

2.3.6 Approved radio and instrument repair facilities are available at Fair Oaks Airfield approx. 25km from Lasham.

2.3.7 The FAI environmental code of conduct will be observed during and in all preparatory events. Recycling is already in place at the venue and the club are in the process of evaluating a Solar Power PV and Hot Water system for the Club House and Bunk House. The airfield already has an active tree and hedgerow management scheme in conjunction with the Forestry Commission.

2.4 Airfield Infrastructure

2.4.1 Briefing Room - Large purpose built briefing facility.

2.4.2 Full clubhouse facilities including a large restaurant, bar and TV room, bunkhouse, shower and toilet facilities. All easily augmented by portable units hired in. Large touring caravan facilities and 120 static caravans on site.

2.4.3 Stewards meeting room is next to the briefing room.

2.4.4 Jury room next to the briefing room.

2.4.5 Press Centre facilities will be in place with communication lines. An experienced person will be available to support journalists and TV teams.

2.4.6 Computers and Wi-Fi on site, all free of charge. The GSM coverage in Lasham is excellent for the main mobile operators licensed in UK.

2.4.7 Post and banking are available in Alton which is 5 km south of the airfield.

2.4.8 Insurance can be arranged for gliders.

2.4.9 On-site emergency fire response is available.

2.4.10 Medical and First Aid First aid is available in the clubhouse. Main hospital is 15k from the airfield.

2.4.11 OSTIV conference and meeting facilities can be provided, but we require more information on requirements. There are several schools and colleges nearby with plentiful facilities which should be available, since this event falls within the school holiday period.

3. Accommodation and food for competitors

3.1 Accommodations is available in the local area Hotels in both close towns, many close local guest houses.

3.2 Ample camping facilities at or near the airfield along with touring and static caravan parking on site.

3.3 Catering for competitors at the airfield are available in our Restaurant which seats up to 120 people. Refreshments are available from our award winning bar. Supplementary covered seating will be made available on the patio adjacent to the restaurant for a further 80 people.



4. Competition area

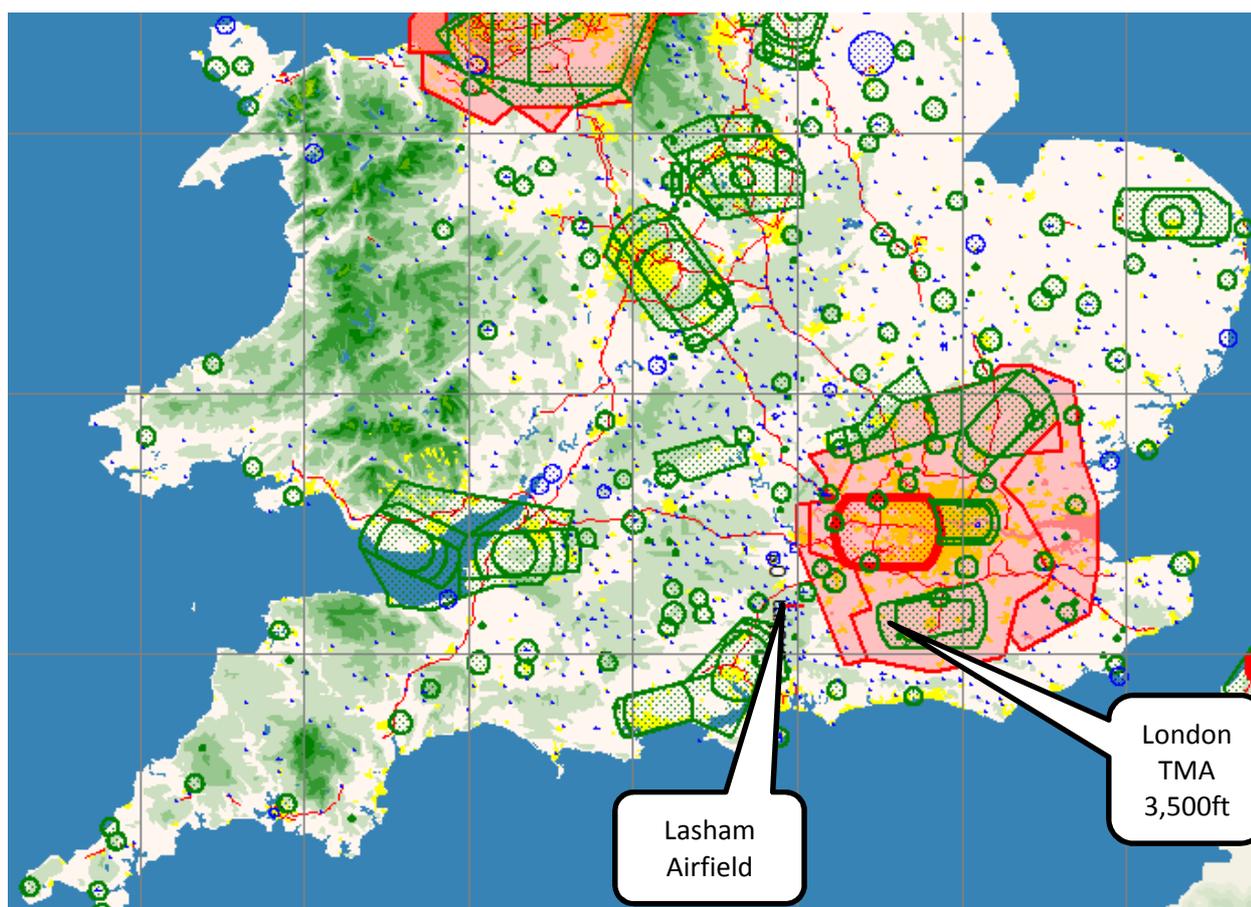
4.1 Topography in the contest area is gently undulating farm land and towns and villages, small hills and ridges.

4.2 Average temperatures for July and August are around 20°C. Cloud base ranges from 3000ft to 6000ft. typical thermal strengths from 2kt - 6kt. Typical UK tasks for National are 250km to 600km. There is a mixture of thermal, convergence and occasional wave. Sunset occurs around 10.00pm in these summer latitudes, so the soaring days can be long.

4.3 Airspace restrictions in the contest area.

London TMA Base 5500'QNH. Airspace in the southern UK can look complex, but we shall seek alleviations from the UK airspace authorities during the competition and will provide comprehensive briefing, explanation and support to all overseas competitors. Task setting will endeavour to balance simple navigation, avoid complex airspace whilst taking advantage of weather opportunities.

Air map showing the extent of the London TMA at 3,500ft



4.4 Typical tasks to be expected to be 120k- 500k+.

5. Rules

5.1 Indicate the options intended to be used from Annex A for:

5.1.1 Starting procedures - Start Line.

5.1.2 Tasks Racing and Speed tasks.

5.1.3 Finish procedures - Finish ring with height limit.

5.1.4 Scoring - 1000 point scoring.

5.2 Indicate any particular conditions or possible restrictions that may be applied that would make it difficult for an individual or a team to attend the proposed venue:

5.2.1 No restrictions for pilots and crews.

5.2.2 No restrictions for sailplanes and equipment.

5.2.3 Number of competitors:

5.2.3.1 Maximum number of competitors that may be entered in the competition is 150.

5.2.3.2 A maximum of 50 gliders per class, with separate start zones.

5.2.3.3 Tasks will be separated as much as is possible.

5.2.3.4 Finishing and Landing: In general, not an issue due to the size of the airfield and available landing areas. (500 acres 202 hectares)

6. Costs

6.1 Entry fee

6.1.1 Entry fee € 845 .

6.1.2 Cost of aero tows € 55.

6.2 Cost of car fuel per litre is currently approximately €1.60/ltr.

6.3 Rental cars and availability with tow hitch from approximately € 60 per day.

6.4 Accommodation.

6.4.1 Plenty of hotels in both the towns close to the airfield. Approx. € 65 to € 100 per night.

6.4.2 Plenty of bed and breakfast accommodation in both the local towns and in local villages. Approximately € 45 to € 75 per night.

6.4.4 Plenty of camping space on the airfield at € 10 per tent per night. Touring Caravan parking € 25 per night including electricity. A limited number of static caravans that sleep between 2 to 6 people will be available from € 250 to € 350 per week.

6.5 Example for the expected total costs for a pilot plus 2 crew members:

Entry fee	€ 845
10 x Aero tow	€550
Camping	€ 210
Food on airfield (3 x pers)	€ 945
Total	€ 2550

6.6 Travel to the UK for many of the European competitors will be by road and ferry from France. The cost of the ferry is estimated at € 120 for return car, trailer and passengers if booked in advance. The organisers are already talking to the respective ferry companies to help subsidise this cost and also discussing special rates for competitors traveling from the Scandinavian countries who may wish to take advantage of the other North Sea ferry routes.

7. Glider Hiring

7.1 Lasham would endeavour to source gliders available for rent to overseas competitors by the glider owner. It is most likely that a number of gliders will be available for exchange / hire with overseas pilots.

7.2 Hire costs by arrangement.

7.3 No restrictions on hire.

8. Training

Provide details of any proposed training opportunities for teams and individuals prior to the Championships:

The airfield is open 7 days a week all year and so there is ample opportunity for individual training. Aero tows and winch launches are also available all year round. There is a National gliding competition every year and there will be an enhanced competition / Pre-Europeans during the year preceding the Europeans which pilots are very welcome to enter as a practice.

9. Safety

9.1 There are several safety initiatives operational within the UK under BGA, CAA and EASA jurisdiction. Appropriate risk management will be undertaken at all stages to ensure appropriate actions are taken to mitigate unnecessary risk. Our objective is to deliver an exciting, fun, memorable, but above all safe championship.