**21st NAVIGA World Ship Model Championship Section "C" in Jablonec nad Nisou with model exhibition for public on 24th - 28th September.**

In the north of the Czech Republic, in Jablonec nad Nisou, between 23rd and 28th September, the 21st World Championship of the world organization of ship modelers NAVIGA "C" took place. The model competition was combined with an exhibition for the public.

Since 22 September, representatives of 15 countries arrived, who finally brought 283 models, which was slightly less than the number of entries (306). Nevertheless, a very representative set of models, including 19 junior models, gathered in Jablonec. Juniors brought their models from 4 countries (CHN, CZ, PL, RO).

In the afternoon of 23.9. the models were installed and ready to start the competition. This was done during a ceremony attended by representatives of the City of Jablonec nad Nisou, Liberec Region, where the city is located. Representatives of NAVIGA and the Association of Modellers of the Czech Republic were also present. The organizer of the championship was the ADMIRAL Ship Modelers Club in Jablonec nad Nisou. After the opening ceremony there was a concert of the German brass band Musikervereinigung Neugablonz together with the Jablonec brass band Mladá dechovka. At the same time, an exhibition of ship models was opened to the public.

On Sunday the 24th three committees of judges started their work. The first one for categories C1, C3 and C7, the second one for C2, C4 and C5 and the third one for categories C6 and C8. The commissions finished their activities on Wednesday 27th September.

On Tuesday 26th September, in the evening, a meeting of the representatives of the national federations that sent their representatives to Jablonec took place. By the votes of those present, the new head of the NAVIGA "C" section, Mr. Maciej Poznański from Poland, was elected, who also acted as chief judge at the championship. The meeting was chaired and the NAVIGA flag was handed over to him by the Secretary of NAVIGA, the world organisation of ship modellers, Mr Daniel Ciosu from Romania. The new section leader then thanked in particular the long-time section leader and his predecessor Martin van Gelderen (NL). He has been the Section Leader since 2008.

On Wednesday 27.9. a banquet was held in the Petřín Hotel, where the judges were accommodated. It was accompanied by the country band BLUE APPLE. Thursday morning was marked by the awarding of medals and diplomas. In the afternoon, the championship was officially closed. During the closing ceremony, the representative of the town of Jablonec nad Nisou handed over the Mayor's Cup to the modeler with the best score. The winner was Yuexing Wu (CHN), who scored 100 points in the C5 category with his model of the Nippon Maru. The second trophy, the Liberec Region Governor's Cup, went to Josef Stránský from Jablonec for his model Sovereign of the Seas. In the poll of visitors of the championship he received 116 votes out of 962 votes cast. All the creators of the models with the best scores in each category were awarded with commemorative silver coins donated by the Czech Mint. The NAVIGA anthem and the Czech national anthem ended the championship.

The exhibition associated with our championship was visited by around 2000 visitors. According to the reactions, they left satisfied, which was also contributed by the competition for children with small prizes. The event was a successful promotion of modelling activities. We believe that it will attract new modelers to the organizing club ADMIRAL and we believe that it can arouse interest also among those modelers who do not know about NAVIGA activities.

ADMIRAL club has been operating in Jablonec for 55 years. It was founded in 1968 and its current chairman, Ing. Zdeněk Tomášek, has been with the club for the whole time of its existence. In Jablonec nad Nisou we organized the first NAVIGA "C" World Ship Model Championship in 1981. The next championship we organized in Jablonec nad Nisou was the 7th World Championship in 1993 and finally the third, 14th World Championship was held in 2008. Interestingly, at least two of this year's participants, Arnold Pfeifer (D) and Peter Sager (D), had already participated in the 1st World Championships in 1981.

We believe that this year's event had a good atmosphere. It was well prepared and it was held without major problems. The new Section leadership has the task of improving the flow of information between competitors, federations, judges and NAVIGA. The experience this year is, for example, that all too often and unnecessarily participants lose points due to poor quality documentation. We are already looking forward to another friendly meeting with modelers and their models!

On behalf of the championship organizer

Martin Tomášek