

Note to www.karenfuxia.com edition (2006): this document was first written in 2000 and appeared on my personal website following my visit at the World Aerobatic Championship 2000 held in Muret, France



A questionnaire for aerobatic pilots

an experimental questionnaire approach to know more about aerobatic pilots guidelines

This questionnaire is issued with the purpose of making a broad scan of your training guidelines and beliefs that led to your participation to WAC2000 as a pilot.

The information you submit is treated as confidential and will be used by a neophyte aerobatic pilot to plan his competition training on a proven state-of-the-art basis. Feel free to blank as many personal queries (e.g. name, age, etc...) as you do not feel to give.

Should this questionnaire enlightens an interesting and worth analysis, the material will be submitted to free publication on a specialized press magazine, your authorization pending. In such circumstances data will be treated in an anonymous way anyhow.

The format of the questionnaire is experimental and reflects its sole author intentions. Answers can be submitted via e-mail to karenfuxia@libero.it stating the question numbers and your answers. A copy of the questionnaire can be found at <http://digilander.iol.it/karenfuxia/pilotquery.htm>

Wherever necessary, approximate figures are required. Suggestions and complementary notes are welcome.

Thank you for your time, effort and interest.

Muret, August 18th 2000 Marco Testi

Section 0 Personal data

0.1 Generalities

0.1.1 Name:

0.1.2 Age:

0.1.3 Citizenship:

0.2 Generalities concerning aerobatics

0.2.1 Years since into aerobatics:

0.2.2 Total time hours flown into aerobatics:

0.2.3 % of training scattering along your career (0= almost constant training along the year; 100= highly concentrated training in a few weeks along the year):

0.2.4 Average placing along the last two WAC's or AWAC's (A for 1st-5th; B for 6th-10th, etc)

0.2.5 Final placing in WAC2000 (A for 1st-5th; B for 6th-10th, etc):

Section 1 Facts and time-sharing in training

1.1 A/C's flown along your aerobatic career

1.1.1 Write down a list of A/C you flew along your career:

1.1.2 For each A/C, write down the corresponding total time flown:

1.1.3 For each A/C, write down a couple of main issues you learned about aerobatic you think were instilled by that precise A/C:

1.1.4 For each A/C, write down one main bad issue you mislearned about aerobatic you think was instilled by that precise A/C:

1.1.5 For each A/C, write down the % of training saturation you feel you got on it (= experience you mastered/total experience you think you could possibly achieve on that A/C):

1.2 Instruction received along your aerobatic career

1.2.1 From how many aerobatic flight instructors did you receive your education?:

1.2.2 For each F.I., write down the total time of dual received and % of ground school (briefing-debriefing) with respect to dual received time:

1.2.3 For each F.I., write down a couple of main issues you learned about aerobatic you think did outcome from her/his precise, unique and special mind set:

1.2.4 For each F.I., write down one main bad issue where you think she/he failed to accomplish in her/his mission at that point of your training:

1.2.5 For each F.I., write down the % of experience saturation you feel you received from her/him (= experience you mastered/ total experience you think you could possibly obtain from her/him):

1.2.6 (at your discretion) Write down the name of the two most valuable schools or instructors you found in your career:

1.2.7 Write down the % of aerobatic flight time training hours for which you received ground critique:

1.2.8 Write down the % of experience you gained (strictly connected to aerobatics) being away from the airfield (e.g. reading books, mailing lists, etc.):

1.2.9 Name the two most valuable source of information you have found with respect to 1.2.8

1.3 Physical conditioning

1.3.1 Write down a list of main physical conditioning facts you found useful (e.g. peculiar sport, diet, etc.):

1.3.2 For each fact, write down a couple of main issues you found specially useful (describe in your own words):

1.3.3 (if applicable) For each fact, write down the hours per week dedicated:

Section 2 Mental conditioning

Some not-so-straightforward and experimental questioning is taking place here, but this is the most interesting part of the questionnaire. Try to make some abstraction and some effort in order to make the meaning of each question: basically, it will be a matter of "visualizing" things that are running on in your mind at every time. It won't be that complicated: use your fantasy and power of imagination to reach what you are already doing. If you feel spaced within the relations you will be asked to trace, go back to some previous question and start over again.

2.1 Your aerobatic idea

2.1.1 Write down a list of properties which characterize your own indeep idea of aerobatic (e.g. carefulness, gladness, "have-under-control"-ness, "be-part-of-a-machine"-ness, whatsoever-ness, etc.):

2.1.2 For each property give an evaluation about how easy you find to accomplish with it (0= very easy, 100= very difficult):

2.1.3 Write down the property that makes you suffer more about keeping your idea of aerobatic all in one piece (e.g. a property that you feel is necessary to keep all together but you find extremely difficult to accomplish with):

2.2 Your aerobatic locus

2.2.1 Write down a list of both physical or mental places where your aerobatic idea lives and takes place (= places where you feel aerobatic lives into, e.g. the air, the box, the airframe, the cockpit, your kinesthetic perceptions, your sense of rhythm, your "inner airplane", etc.): (Can't you figure out what is being talked in here? Skip to 2.3)

2.2.2 For each item listed in 2.2.1 give the % composition (ingredients) of the properties you listed in 2.1.1. (Need to swap back and forth between 2.1.1 and 2.2.1 in order to refine your correspondences? Please do):

2.3 Your sequence

2.3.1 Write down the steps you follow to approach, memorize and fly a sequence (your standard approach):

2.3.2 (if you completed 2.2) For each step write down a couple of places (from the list given in 2.2.1) where the step takes place (= where you can kind of say that the step is in "its environment"):

2.3.3 Write down the steps you follow to correct a wrong sequence or a part of it (your standard approach):

2.3.4 (if you completed 2.2) For each step write down a couple of places (from the list given in 2.2.1) where the step takes place (= where you can kind of say that the step finds "its environment"). If you cannot find any, say that:

2.4 Your airplane

2.4.1 Write down the % overall of technicalities you know about your airplane (e.g.: subsystems, structure, troubleshooting, etc.):

2.4.2 Do you like to know details about your airplane? Of what kind? Write down a list:

2.4.3 Where is your airplane? Describe in your own words where is your airplane in relation to your mind body, senses, etc. Try to describe the locus of your airplane as you did in 2.2.1 for your aerobatic locus by writing down a list of places (e.g. your fingertips, your back, the space between your ears, a mental room where the wings come out from the windows, really any kind of weird stuff):

2.4.4 For each place you listed above, give the % of acquisition (= familiarity, possession, etc.) you feel you have achieved within that:

2.5 Correlated disciplines

2.5.1 Write down a list of disciplines of any kind you feel correlated to aerobatic, which you have practiced:

2.5.2 For each discipline, write down a description in your own words of the correlation you feel:

2.5.3 (if you completed 2.2 and 2.4.3-4) give the locus composition of each discipline (= where the discipline finds "its environment") in % of the places you gave in 2.2.1 (write down one list) and in 2.4.3 (write down another list):

Section 3 Extras

3.1 Enter this subsection if you play a musical instrument

3.1.1 Write down the kind of instrument, years played, level achieved, music played

3.1.2 Do you feel an analogy between the musical score and the Aresti sequence card? Do you feel an analogy between your musical instrument and your airplane? If yes, describe the analogy both in your own words and in a way similar to question 2.5.3, where 2.2.1 has to be used for your “musical score locus” and 2.4.3 has to be used for your “musical instrument locus” instead than “your airplane locus” (you must use the same list of places in order to describe the analogy in this formalized way. If you cannot do that, it means that the analogy is not “grabbed” by this way, and the questionnaire is out of target somehow. In such circumstance, follow 2.5.2). (Actually, if you felt an analogy between music and aerobatic, you should have entered that in subsection 2.5; subsection 3.1 was introduced not to miss you just in case): Ok. Go on now with your answer:

3.1.3 If you answered no to 3.1.2, write down your reasons:

3.2 Your future aerobatic idea

3.2.1 Do you feel limited in your aerobatic idea expression by the state-of-the-art A/C and pilot-to-A/C interfaces? Give here your thoughts:

The questionnaire is over. Thank you very much again for your time, effort and interest.

Submit your answers to karenfuxia@libero.it

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