

EHS Bleriot 2025

The long-awaited **World Cup**, or in heli terms the **Euro Heli Series (EHS)**, was getting closer and closer. Everything was prepared to make this event run as smoothly as possible. My new club **Bleriot in Lichtervelde** wanted to organize the third EHS of this year with me. With spacious accommodation and a large field, we had the ideal location.

This event is an official **World Cup according to FAI standard**, an open class in which foreign pilots meet and in which everyone can participate.

Friday – Start with excitement

The weather forecast was anything but favorable, and we were looking forward to the weekend with a scared heart. Friday morning it initially seemed not too bad, but the wind picked up strongly. By noon all pilots had arrived and we could start after a short **briefing** with practical information and a warm welcome.

During the first lap with 11 pilots, we had to deal with heavy rain showers and had to take regular breaks. Nevertheless, we managed to complete the full round – the first points were in!

In the evening we enjoyed a delicious paella together under the tent on the field and we could talk about the day in a cozy atmosphere.

Saturday – Rain, storm and sun

Heavy rain and even storms were predicted for Saturday in the afternoon. Still, we were able to fly two rounds easily in the morning. After the lunch break the weather changed and the day seemed lost... But at 3:45 p.m., the sun suddenly broke through and continued to shine until the evening.

With a lot of luck we were able to continue the game. I gave a **demo with my Alouette III**, which made for a nice intermezzo. The day ended with an extensive and tasty **BBQ**, where the atmosphere among the pilots and spectators was optimal.

Sunday – Finals and friendship

Sunday started radiantly with a sun-drenched morning. The wind picked up a bit towards noon, but that didn't stop us from finishing the two finals smoothly. Finalist of this EHS was **Steve Roberts**, in second place Mark **Christy triumphed** and third place was **Thomas Brisset**.

Because some pilots still had a long return journey ahead of them, the finals were completed. Meanwhile, Ian (UK) showed an innovative system with camera and PC to

objectively assess **hovering figures**. This aroused a lot of interest, as it can help improve precision.

Memories and encounters

By sharing the event on **Facebook**, I received numerous reactions from former friends. That's how I heard again from **David Dutrieux**, with whom I flew national and international F3C races more than 20 years ago.

Former jury member **Giovanni Lo Furno** also visited together with his son Alexander (former F3C pilot) and joined us for the paella on Friday. It was a pleasant reunion full of anecdotes and nostalgia, all with a broad smile.

Apparently, this event has rekindled interest in heli-flying, both recreational and competitive.

Gratitude

I look back on this championship with a satisfied feeling and a big smile. This is not only thanks to my club **Bleriot Lichtervelde**, but also to the many **volunteers of the club**, to Christophe and Jos (scoring and trophies), to the three jury members **Cor, Andre** and **Johan** and to all the enthusiasts who have a warm heart for F3C – especially **Johan and Damian**. That there is room for improvement, that's for sure. I look forward to your feedback. You can email me at guy.vds@skynet.be

The togetherness, friendship, connection and passion of the pilots make these kinds of events really worth organizing.

With sporting regards,
Guy Vanderschelden