

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release | 12 October 2026**



### **Surrey Flying Instructor Secures Britain's First FAI Paragliding Accuracy Medal in a Decade**

**Green Dragons Chief Flying Instructor Andy Shaw wins Masters bronze at European Championships in Romania.**

Woldingham-based flying instructor Andy Shaw has secured a bronze medal in the Masters category at the 9th FAI European Paragliding Accuracy Championships in Romania, bringing home Great Britain's first FAI medal in paragliding accuracy for 10 years.

Andy, Chief Flying Instructor at Green Dragons Airports in Woldingham, Surrey, has dedicated more than four decades to teaching people to fly, having first become a Chief Flying Instructor at just 18 years old.

Having started flying in 1978, Andy has built an extensive career in airports and is also the British Paragliding Accuracy Team Head Coach.

At this year's European Championships, held in Uroi, Romania, Andy led a British team made up entirely of Green Dragons Airports pilots while also competing himself.

The championships brought together some of Europe's leading accuracy pilots, competing in a discipline where exceptional precision and control are essential.

Unlike traditional cross-country paragliding, where pilots aim to cover long distances, paragliding accuracy challenges competitors to land as close as possible to the centre of a small electronic target. Results are measured in centimetres, with the smallest distances determining the winners.

Andy's bronze medal marks a significant milestone for British paragliding accuracy, ending a decade-long wait for an FAI medal.

#### **Andy Shaw said:**

"I'm incredibly proud of this achievement. I've been flying since 1978 and, alongside my role as British Team Head Coach, I'm proud to have fielded an entire British team made up of Green Dragons pilots.

"Through hard work and dedication, I've managed to secure a European podium finish at 60, and it's given me a whole new lease of life. I reckon I'll still be flying into my 90s!

"To top it all off, my World Pilot Ranking points from this competition have put me in an incredibly strong position for selection to the British team for next year's World Championships in Thailand. Official selection will be confirmed on 2 December, so I've got plenty to look forward to!"

## **Looking Ahead to the World Championships**

Andy's strong position in the World Pilot Ranking System (WPRS) puts him firmly in contention for selection to represent Great Britain at the 2027 World Championships in Thailand, with official team selection expected to be confirmed on 2 December 2026.

## **About Green Dragons Airsports**

Green Dragons Airsports is an established flying school based in Woldingham, Surrey, offering paragliding, hang gliding, paramotoring and parascending training.

The school is actively involved in developing competitive paragliding accuracy pilots and supporting British participation in international competitions.

## **Media Enquiries**

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## **Photographs and Video Footage:**

High-resolution photographs and competition footage are available via our [Google Drive media folder](#).

## **Interviews:**

Andy Shaw is available for media interviews and further comment. Please contact Green Dragons Airsports using the details above to arrange.

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