

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AOPA Announced as Lead Sponsor for the 33rd FAI World Aerobatic Championships

Aerobatic Championship Foundation and AOPA partner to bring world's premier aerobatic event to Mason City, Iowa.

MASON CITY, Iowa – The Aerobatic Championship Foundation is proud to announce the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) as the Lead and Presenting Sponsor for the 33rd FAI World Aerobatic Championships.

As the Presenting Sponsor, AOPA brings its powerful legacy as the primary advocate for general aviation. Operating out of Frederick, Maryland, and Washington, D.C., AOPA is dedicated to protecting and growing general aviation. This partnership highlights a shared love of flight and a commitment to creating a positive community impact through aviation excellence.

“A world championship at a municipal airport in Iowa is a reminder of what general aviation makes possible. AOPA is proud to help bring the best in the world to Mason City and to a general aviation airport in the middle of the country,” said AOPA Chairman of the Board, Luke Wippler. “Competitions like this show people what's possible when you learn to fly, and they make the case for protecting the airports that let events like this happen.”

“We are thrilled to welcome AOPA as our lead sponsor for the Championship,” said Wayne Forbes, Contest Director. “We are deeply grateful for everything AOPA has done over the decades to champion aviators and safeguard the freedom of flight. AOPA's support will help ensure the 2026 WAC is one of the most successful aerobatic competitions ever held.”

More than 35 of the world's top aerobatic pilots are expected to compete in this prestigious event, highlighting the pinnacle of aviation skill and precision. The premier international competition in precision aerobatic flight will take place at the Mason City Municipal Airport (KMCW) in Mason City, Iowa, from August 24 – September 2, 2026.

About the Aerobatic Championship Foundation

The Aerobatic Championship Foundation is an organization dedicated to promoting the sport of precision aerobatic flight and supporting world-class aviation competitions.

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