



2013 CIVL PLENARY – ANNEX 36

FAI AIR GOLD MEDAL FOR BILL MOYES

Last year, on proposal by CIVL and the Australian and French NACs, FAI awarded its highest award to the Australian John Dickenson, inventor of the Modern Hang Glider. This year, on the 50th birthday of the Modern Hang Glider, CIVL Bureau would like the 2013 Plenary to nominate another great Australian for the FAI Gold Air Medal: Bill Moyes.

As John Dickenson declared: "Bill Moyes developed the sport from a local phenomena to a worldwide thing of staggering proportion, and thousands and thousands of people are now flying because of what he's been doing."

Bill learned to fly in 1967 and stretched the Dickinson wing limits, breaking successive altitude and endurance records, being the first to be dropped from a balloon, to fly off a mountain, to soar on a ridge. In 1969, he started selling his own gliders and went around the USA, Europe and the Pacific – the highest paid thrill show performer –, giving demonstrations, showing his trade, raising awareness, making followers, spreading the Dickinson wing, proving that it could soar, glide and go up like no others.

As soon as CIVL was created, Bill became involved in running the new Commission as a Delegate or a Vice-President for 9 years. He played a vital part in changing hang gliding from a recreational activity into an internationally recognized sport.

In 1969, Bill Moyes founded Delta Wing Kites and Gliders, that became Moyes Gliders and grew to be the most successful hang glider manufacturer, still active today, having sold thousands of gliders around the world, all having a reputation of combining safeness, sturdiness and performance.

In 1990, Bill developed the powered Dragonfly, an ultralight aircraft designed as a special-purpose tug for hang-gliders and ultralight sail-planes. His new company, LiteFlite, has built more than one hundred Dragonfly, still used today in hang-gliding competitions or for livestock management in rural Australia.

Today, Bill Moyes still play an active role both in Moyes Gliders and LiteFlite and in the hang gliding competition scene (he is part of the organization in the 2013 FAI World championship).

Proposal:

Nominate Bill Moyes for the FAI Air Gold Medal.

The Bureau will:

- Insure the support of the Australian NAC.
- Write the final nomination text.