



*Fédération
Aéronautique
Internationale*



Minutes

of the
Autumn Bureau Meeting
of the
CIVL

held in Reykjavik, Iceland
on November 1st to 4th, 2012

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1. Introduction

The Bureau wants to thank all Officers who worked throughout the year, who sent their reports and contributed to CIVL life and projects.

All reports were reviewed. They are accessible to CIVL Officers on CIVL website (Log in / Document / CIVL Officers Private).

The Bureau asks all Officers to update them in the coming weeks. The deadline is December 14, 2012. The final versions will be published with the agenda of the CIVL Plenary, and made public at that time.

Note: These minutes include sections called "Comments" and "Actions and recommendations". These comments, actions and recommendations come from the Bureau and from the reports of stewards, jury, subcommittees, working groups and technical officers. Some of them will become, when ready, formal proposals to the 2013 Plenary. Until then, they will be acted upon, reviewed, adjusted by the Bureau and by the appropriate subcommittees, working groups and technical officers.

Deadline for final proposals for the CIVL Plenary is December 14, 2012. Proposals must be sent to the CIVL president Agust Gudmundsson (ag@teigar.net) no later than at the deadline date.

2. Roll-Call

Present: Hamish Barker, Goran Dimiskovski, Igor Erzen, Agust Gudmundsson, Stéphane Malbos, Jamie Shelden.

Apologies: Christopher Burns.

3. Jury and Stewards

3.1. The Jury and Steward Coordinator (Flip Koetsier) report was reviewed.

3.2. The jury and steward reports for 2012 championships were reviewed.

Hang Gliding European Championships – Kayseri, Turkey.
Jury: Flip Koetsier – Steward: Claudia Garcia-Mejia.

Paragliding European Championships – St-André, France.
Jury: Dennis Pagen – Steward: Ali Gali.

Paragliding Asian Championships – Linzhou, China.
Jury: Agust Gudmundsson – Steward: Dennis Pagen.

Paragliding- Accuracy European Championships – Ohrid, FYR Macedonia.
Jury: Andy Cowley – Steward: Nikki Bodill
Neither Jury or Steward report were received at the time of the Bureau meeting.

Paragliding Accuracy Asian Championships – Wai-ao, Chinese Taipei.
Jury: Roman Pogacar – Steward: Violeta Masteikiene.

3.3. The steward reports for 2012 pre-championships were reviewed.

Paragliding pre-World Championships– Sopot, Bulgaria.
Steward: Leonard Grigorescu.

Paragliding Accuracy pre-World Championships – Bjelasnica, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.
Steward: Nikki Bodill - Report not received at the time of the Bureau meeting.

Paragliding Accuracy pre-World Games – Cali, Colombia.
Steward: Louise Joselyn.

3.4 After reviewing the Coordinator proposals, jury and stewards for the 2013 championships and pre-championships were chosen.

Paragliding World Championships – Sopot, Bulgaria.
Steward: Leonard Grigorescu (ROM).
Trainee steward: Fabio Loro (ITA).
Jury President: Ugljesa Jondzic (SRB).
Jury member: Kari Castle (USA) and Peter Brandlehner (AUT).

Paragliding Accuracy World Championships – Bjelasnica, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.
Steward: Nikki Bodill (GBR).
Jury President: Andy Cowley (GBR).
Jury member: Uga Jondzic (SER) and Claudia Garcia-Garcia Mejia (COL).

Paragliding Accuracy World Games – Cali, Colombia.
Steward: Louise Joselyn (GBR).
No Jury.

Paragliding pre-European Championships – Kopaonik-Raska, Serbia.
Steward: Dennis Pagen (USA).
Trainee steward: Nikolay Yotov (BUL).

Paragliding pre-Pan-American Championships– Loma Bola, Tucuman, Argentina.
Steward: Dennis Pagen (USA).
Trainee steward: Kari Castle (USA).

Paragliding Accuracy pre-European Championships – Vrsac, Serbia.
Steward: Violeta Masteikiene (LIT).
Trainee steward: Local steward to be determined (from the region).

Paragliding Accuracy pre-Asian Championships – Ranau, Sabah, Malaysia.
Steward: Violeta Mastikeine (LIT).
Trainee steward: Local steward to be determined (from the region).
It is not known yet if the event will take place, as there has been a change of organiser and the NAC is as yet unresponsive.

3.5. Comments

The general policy regarding jury and stewards was discussed.
It was felt that the current policy of encouraging volunteers for jury and steward duties is no longer the best solution.
The Jury and Steward Coordinator role also needs to be reassessed.

Stewards have to be more involved in all stages of the competition, from the award of the event to completion. CIVL needs jury and stewards on which it can rely completely.

The possible extension of a partial remote jury to all Cat 1 competitions was discussed. It has been used successfully in PG Accuracy competitions for 2 years. Forbes HG World championship will be a further trial of the remote system. The Bureau will review how well it works. The Bureau will also take in consideration the need to train jurors.

3.6. Actions and recommendations

Reports.
Open access to jury and steward reports should be given to all Officers.
Access for delegates and competition organizers should be available only upon request to the Bureau.

Templates.

The Jury Report Template should be revised because there is too much information that is duplicative and outside the scope of the jury's duties. The template should be limited to rules, protests, etc.

Roles.

The Jury and Steward roles should be revised in line with a new policy on Cat 1 events (see under *Category 1 Events* chapter). Hence the following documents should be amended accordingly:

- the Jury and Steward Handbook; the role of the Jury and Steward coordinator,
- the process for recruiting, selecting and remunerating the officials.

Payment.

Payment of daily fee should be withheld until reports are received.

4. Bureau activity

Stéphane Malbos summarised all actions taken by the Bureau since its election.

This summary will be updated every month and will be a basis for web communication.

5. Paragliding – Christopher Burns

5.1. Comments

Due to health problems recently, Christopher has been unable to fulfil his subcommittee duties. Christopher has resigned from his Chair position but remains a subcommittee member. The Bureau appointed Stéphane Malbos to Chair the subcommittee until the next Plenary.

Pressing issues were reviewed, including competition class gliders, reserve parachutes, proposals from PMA and the Software Working Group.

5.2. Actions and recommendations

Second reserve parachute.

Following recommendations from PMA, the Bureau decided to make the use of a second reserve parachute mandatory in PG Cat 1 events from May 1st 2014.

Pilots are highly recommended to equip their harness with a second reserve as soon as possible.

This Bureau decision will have to be ratified by the Plenary in February 2013.

Team scoring.

Change Section 7b 5.2.4. so that 3 pilots should score for the team in European or Continental championships, not just 2 as is the case for a World championship.

Photo/signature requirement.

The photo/signature requirement (S7b 12.1.1.4., considered as unnecessary and impossible to truly verify, should be removed.

Pilot Experience Declaration form.

A revision (S7b 12.1.1.5. and annex) is needed.

Requirement regarding minimum hours on glider prior to competition should be added.

Additional requirements should be studied in light of the Task Force report and the PMA recent proposals.

Allocation.

For allocation purposes, the registration web page should say something along the lines of "we expect to have up to x pilots per nation"... rather than saying only that the 1+1 method applies, which may lead to confusion in communication and in NACs estimations of the number of pilots they can send (Section 7 does not need to be changed).

Pilot in danger.

The rule regarding assisting another pilot should be consistent with HG rule.

(Change the phrase “land to assist” to “assist” another pilot. Landing isn’t required to give assistance – S7b 5.4.1. and S7a 5.5.1.).

6. Hang gliding – Oyvind Ellefsen

6.1. Comments

No pressing issues except for the sprog measurement and the lack of Cat 1 bidders. More Stewards are needed who are capable of measuring sprog angles. Only stewards that are able and willing to help measure sprogs will be sent to Cat 1 events. Jamie Shelden will seek potential bidders for planned Cat 1 events in coordination with the HG Subcommittee.. Immediate new issue: the late bid from France for World Class 2 – 5 – Sport - 1 Women. If awarded, the Sport Class event will be watched closely to determine whether it should continue as a class in further Cat 1 events. Despite some constructive discussions during the year, the subcommittee is not working as effectively as it could be. Issues will be handled with the help of Dennis Pagen, Koos de Keijzer and Jamie Shelden.

6.2. Actions and recommendations

Sprog measuring.
It should be stated clearly that Forbes will be the last time that CIVL sends a person to a Cat 1 event dedicated to managing sprog measuring. After Forbes, the responsibility should be on the pilots and team leaders, with the requirement that the organisers perform daily checks with the assistance of the steward.

Qualification requirements
There are issues with the current qualification requirements (S7a 3.4.1.) specially the 20 WPRS points requirement. Alternative solutions have to be found.

Wire thickness rule.
It should be removed from Section 7 (S7a 12.3.1.) in consultation with certification organizations. Work has stalled since last Plenary and needs to be restarted and coordinated with DHV.

Class 2.
S7a should be revised to allow only Class 2 gliders in Class 2 World competitions.

World Air Games.
CIVL should decide whether FAI should remove HG altogether in WAG as there is little activity in the two potential events included: speed gliding and HG aerobatics.

7. Hang gliding and paragliding

7.1. Actions and recommendations

Continents.
Areas for continental championships could be redefined: “Asians” championships would change to “Asian and Oceania” so as to include Australia, New Zealand and Pacific islands.

Minimum age to compete.
Minimum age for competitors could be set. Special Class for youths could be created. FAI will be consulted.

Screening of bids.
In S7b 2.4.5 and S7a 2.3.5: “safety” in the title and “with regard to safety” in the text should be removed so the appropriate subcommittee can assess all aspects of Cat 1 bids.

8. Aerobatics – Dennis Pagen and Claudio Cattaneo

The subcommittee produced no report. Claudio has had health problems and has been in regular contact with the Bureau, and the subcommittee is usually ready with proposals in time for the Plenary.

9. Paragliding Accuracy – Nikki Bodill

8.1. Comments

The subcommittee is not working as it should. Nevertheless, it is usually ready with proposals in time for the Plenary. Current issues are: judging in Cat 2 competition, promotion and media, integration with other sports (paramotors...), gliders affidavit, footwear rules...

8.2. Actions and recommendations

Height differential rule.

Rewrite the minimum height differential rule (S7c 4.2.7.) to reflect that there may be sites that are suitable that do not meet this rule.

Certified Glider statement.

Certified Glider statement needs amending to reflect changes in harness and helmet rules. (S7c Annex B to sample Local regulations).

Registering equipment.

Pilots need to pre register their equipment to make it easier for organizers to check. If all equipment was pre registered on the website beforehand then it can be checked prior to the competition to identify any potential problems. At that point, the safety check would simply consist of ticking a list to say that the equipment matched that which was registered. The organizers in FYR Macedonia said that this would have simplified matters.

Footwear rule.

Action: Footwear rule is being applied consistently across the board at accuracy competitions. Does it need to be clearly defined which modifications if any are allowed?

Definition of target.

There is no actual 'definition' of the target per se in the regulations. It is inferred, but not defined (S7c 1.6.6.2., 5.2.1. and 5.5.3.). The term 'dead centre' is also used elsewhere instead of 'target'. It is therefore suggested for clarity that 'the target' is defined "as comprising a disc of 3 cm in diameter", or something similar.

10. Safety – Raymond Caux

10.1. Comments

The subcommittee is not working as it should despite its Chair's efforts.

The primary issue is to change the pilot and CIVL culture so that safety is always at the heart of things. We have to deal with pilots psychology and fallibility. We must create / participate in a network of experts.

Current specific issues are: reserve parachutes, mandatory live-tracking, reports on incidents / accidents in Cat 1 competition and what to do with them.

10.2. Actions and recommendations

The subcommittee should be restructured and its Chair become the Safety Technical Officer.

Role.

The Safety Officer would be a de facto member of the Hang gliding, Paragliding, Paragliding accuracy and Aerobatic subcommittees.

He would be there as consultant in connection with specific focus on safety. His task will be to monitor and advise committees on safety issues (similar to a safety director in competitions), to be proactive and report findings of accident reports/analysis to the appropriate subcommittees.
He would still liaise with other safety-oriented bodies (including, but not limited to FAI).

Live tracking.

Proposal to recommend live tracking for cross-country Cat 1 events for safety purposes and to make live tracking mandatory by 2014.

Live tracking at 2013 Cat 1 events will be strongly encouraged.

11. Software – Jörg Ewald

11.1. Comments

The Bureau discussed and rejected a proposal from the Software working group Chair to pay the working group volunteers for their work. The Bureau prefers assigning each specific software project with parameters and a budget.

The Bureau considered the suggestion for re-naming changes, but does not believe changing “GAP” to “CIVL” is necessary or desirable at this point. Year changes should be specified though.

The Bureau doesn't feel it is best to unify HG and PG scoring differences – each sport has different issues that are handled differently.

11.2. Actions and recommendations

Any modifications to software should be done in time to be tested in Cat 2 events, prior to their use in a relevant Cat 1 event.

Parameters to be set by an organizer.

Besides the nominal “GAP parameters”, there are a number of “technical” parameters. It has become apparent that organisers and/or the team leaders, while setting the competition's nominal parameters, also discuss and change some of the technical parameters. It would be helpful if the sporting code defined exactly what parameters are at an organizer's discretion and which should not be changed.

Jump the Gun.

No other sport is known where jumping the gun does not lead to disqualification or at least a turn-around to cross the start line again, after the start time. This oddity should be removed from our scoring rules.

Speed rank used to calculate time validity.

There is an option in FS such that when determining a task's time validity, to use a pilot other than the fastest pilot. This has never been used and should be removed.

Nominal launch.

Add a fifth formula parameter, “Nominal Launch”. This defines the minimum number of pilots that must launch in order for a task to count fully.

Leading points.

Leading Points calculation is rewarding disproportionately leading towards the end of task, thus counteracting their purpose. The adjustment is relatively simple to implement.

Distance points.

Currently, distance points consist of two parts: A linear part (x points per km flown) and a non-linear part where points are awarded based on a calculated difficulty of the sections of a task a pilot managed to fly. Nowadays, with increasing cylinder sizes and the idea of offering several route options for a task, this no longer has much relevance. CIVL should remove the non-linear difficulty portion and double the existing linear portion.

Stopped tasks.

A stopped task with the whole field still flying in close proximity could have an overriding impact on the overall competition results. It is proposed that a fourth validity component be added, stop validity, to the existing elements (time, launch and distance), and the day validity becomes the product of those four.

No pilot in goal.

Remove the "tasks with no pilots in goal score only 80%" rule introduced in 2011. A better solution is to properly set scoring parameters to ensure that such a task will not be decisive for a competition.

GPS tolerance.

Currently, Section 7B, 15.3.2 "Accuracy of GPS sectors" states: "An error margin of 0.5% will be allowed to compensate for any error in position recording by the GPS instrument." Section 7A, 17.3.2 "Accuracy of GPS sectors" does not define such an error margin (nor is such an error margin mentioned anywhere else in 7A).

With bigger cylinders becoming increasingly popular, we suggest:

- to rephrase the above sentence to say "To compensate for any error in position recording by the GPS instrument, an error margin of 0.5% of the turn point radius, but never more than 5m, and never less than 2m, will be used."

- to be applied to all HG and PG cross-country competitions.

Team scoring.

For the situation where a non-team pilot scores high and effectively takes points from other team pilots. The Bureau suggest to do a simulation where the team pilots are scored separately to see what the differences will be. Simulation with other solutions will also be made (average score of pilots).

12. Records and badges – Scott Torkelsen

12.1. Comments

The subcommittee has been inactive. The Bureau has accepted the suggestion of the Chair to step down. The Bureau has appointed Igor Erzen to chair the subcommittee until the next Plenary.

12.2. Actions and recommendations

The subcommittee should be restructured and its Chair become the Records and Badges Technical Officer.

Possible S7d changes should be reviewed.

Paragliding Accuracy badges.

Definition for proficiency badges for Paragliding Accuracy as agreed at the last Plenary needs to be promoted.

13. Sporting Code – John Aldridge

John Aldridge had difficulty communicating with subcommittee chairs during the year, in order to finalise some of the changes agreed at the last Plenary, so some amendments have not yet been implemented.

13.1. Comments

The Bureau agreed that outstanding amendments can be added after the next Plenary, together with any new modifications, as no Cat 1 competitions are implicated.

13.2. Actions and recommendations

The subcommittee could be restructured and its Chair become the Section 7 Technical Officer.

Cat 2 events.

The change voted at the last Plenary concerning PG Cat 2 events (S7b 4.1.1.) was somehow not included in the current S7. This modification should be extended to all disciplines.

"The rules for 2nd Category events shall be based, as far as appropriate, on those of 1st Category events and must not conflict with them in principle.

It is underlined that NACs are responsible for managing the sport in their own territories and have the local knowledge to do so. Therefore NACs are best placed to make judgements on which rules are appropriate for their events. Category 2 competition organisers should make their own decisions within this framework. 2nd Category events that are also test competitions for 1st Category events shall be run according to 1st Category event rules and sample Local Regulations except for the requirement for entry requirements and those for additional FAI officials.”

14. Competition structure – Stéphane Malbos

All issues that the 2012 Plenary asked the working group to study were discussed and turned into recommendations.

14.1. Recommendations

Individual and Team Championships.

The CSWG recommends:

- That Individual and Team events stay combined as they are now.
- That the pilot selection criteria and other measures enhancing paraglider safety is to be studied by the Paragliding subcommittee. Some of these new safety measures concerning both gliders and pilots are expected to be proposed by PMA.

Separate championships for different types of gliders.

The CSWG proposes that no specific events shall be run for different types of paragliders.

Separate WPRS and Championships for XC Open Distance.

The CSWG recommends:

- That the Paragliding Subcommittee observe the development of XC Open competitions, full-scale events included (100+ pilots) to judge the viability of the format.
- That a specific WPRS be implemented.
- If this type of competition develop successfully, both in terms of pilot interest and safety, that the Paragliding Subcommittee will consider how specific FAI championships could be implemented.

How to involve PWCA expertise in CIVL championships?

The CSWG recommends:

- CIVL has to improve the way it supports its high-level competitions.
- CIVL has to review its method of selecting bidders and bids. The CIVL Bureau should be given the power to look for potential bidders.
- Within the existing rules, the subcommittees already has strong powers to advise on bids. These powers should be put to use.
- CIVL should review its policy concerning Stewards and Jury. Both should come from a restricted group of specialized people. Jury and Steward job descriptions should be revised.
- In other words, CIVL has to professionalize the way it runs its high-level competitions.

Appropriateness of the new Cat 1 HG “Sport” Championship

The CSWG recommends that the Hang gliding subcommittee reviews the position and determine if and how Sports Class Category 2 events should be encouraged, and whether the financial viability of Category 1 events is the primary incentive to create new World and Continental titles. The Bureau and Hang gliding subcommittee need to study the issues carefully as they have to deal with a bid including Sports Class gliders.

15. Competition coordination – Brian Harris

The Bureau discussed extensively the ideas put forward regarding improving Cat 1 competition organiser support.

15.1. Actions and recommendations

CIVL should develop a general online registration page that would be available to every organiser of Cat 1 (and possibly Cat 2) competitions. It would include everything necessary to register pilots, using pilot data available on the CIVL database. The information would be used for scoring purposes as needed. It was noted that FAI plans to develop general registration pages, in line with this suggestion. But CIVL might need to act now to give organisers an appropriate tool as soon as possible.

Agust Gudmundsson will contact Jörg Ewald to define what could be included and what the estimated cost would be.

16. Website content – Stéphane Malbos

No comment, actions or proposals.

17. Environmental affairs – Thomas Sénac

The report included a proposal to co-finance a study to assess the possibility to collect old gliders and recycle the material (5000€).

There was no enthusiasm on the part of the Bureau for financially supporting this project.

18. Budget – Hamish Barker

The Bureau:

Reviewed the financial report from Hamish Barker and the preliminary budget for next year.

Discussed the fact that CIVL does not receive interest on its positive balance, even though CIVL is now paying bank charges (this is a recent change).

Need to find out why FAI is not using SEPA for payments within Europe. By changing the payment mode CIVL should save bank fees (€800 last year).

Need to have income and expenses stated, and also assets and liabilities to include deposits (entry fees that are deposited to CIVL account but are later refunded).

Need to prepare provisional 2014 budget for the coming Plenary (extra Bureau expenses; possible extra steward expenses; possible extra expenses for the Competition coordinator's job; possible purchase of live tracking equipment and of sprog measuring devices...).

2013 budget analysis and 2014 provisional budget should be ready as soon as possible in January.

Considered making a study of using a less expensive venues for Plenary meeting "in the vicinity" of Lausanne rather than in Lausanne.

Agreed on budgeting fixed fee to support organisers of Plenary meeting outside Lausanne, as CIVL has to pay the cost of the meeting in Lausanne.

Agreed that CIVL should cover all Bureau members expenses (travel, accommodation, food) of the mid year Bureau meeting. Internal regulations will be revised to reflect this if needed. Some other FAI commissions do this already.

19. Category 1 events

The Bureau discussed improving the quality of the organisation of Cat 1 events, from bids to completion. The idea is to work toward a system where we have a full service professional staff to be used by organizers for a fixed fee or portion of entry fee. This "Cat 1 Kit" would restructure the way Cat 1 events are run, including steward's duties.

This proposal would require proactivity in getting bids and having CIVL services to Cat 1 clearly defined so planning and budgeting for organizers would be simpler.

The Bureau underlined the need to start immediately, to seek actively organizers and to encourage bidders for future Continental and World championships.

A late bid has been received from France for a 2014 World HG Class 2/5/Sport and Class 1 Women's Bid in Annecy. The bid will be reviewed by the HG subcommittee as soon as possible.

For Cat 1 – Internal Regulations 3.6.6 – A signed FAI Organizer Agreement should be included with the bids documents, so bids are not complete without a signed Organizer Agreement (currently it is 9 months after the bid is accepted). This will not be in place until the Organizer Agreement has been updated by FAI, which is expected to be early 2013.

Proposal to remove bid deposit/fee (640€) because it discourages bidding.

20. Internal regulations

They will be simplified, adapted to the reality of the way we work, modified to encourage the Bureau, Subcommittees and Plenary to work better. A first draft was reviewed, some key points discussed and agreed upon. The new Internal regulations need further work and are not yet ready for distribution. The deadline for this project is December 14, in time for the next Plenary.

21. ParaPro, SafePro

They need reviewing.
Igor Erzen agreed to take a look at the ParaPro and Raymond Caux at SafePro.

22. Plenary meeting

The Bureau:

Reviewed schedule of meetings and reorganized subcommittees and working groups meetings times.

Discussed Plenary minutes. Louise Joselyn and Brian Harris will assist in taking minutes at the meetings. They will also help the Bureau wherever needed.

Discussed changing the Plenary and/or Bureau meeting dates to the autumn, for example. For now, we will keep them as they are.

23. Bureau

The Bureau:

Discussed the possibility of electing Bureau members, SC and WG chairs for two year terms.

Confirmed its intention of using Basecamp as much as possible rather than email for communications and to-do lists, but underlined the need to be more disciplined using it.

24. Competition coordinator, Secretary and PR's jobs

Secretary/PR coordinator positions : the Bureau has the approval of the Plenary to hire a secretary and/or public relation person, but we don't need them at the moment.

Brian Harris has resigned from his Competition coordinator position. A process to replace him was discussed.

Action: Agust Gudmundsson will review and update the current job description with the help of Brian, taking into consideration whether we want to expand the role, and include the jury and steward coordinator role. Draft job description will then be circulated to the Bureau for comment.

Timetable: job description ready and approval from FAI by mid-November. Advertised on CIVL website and other places as needed. Final decision in time for the new year.

25. Other matters

All Honorary Presidents should always be invited to attend the Plenary meetings.