



Minutes – 2024 Plenary Meeting

FAI General Air Sport Commission (CASI)



19th November 2024 (Tuesday)
09:00 – 13:00 local time
Meeting Rooms area (ground floor)

Ver. 1. - 2024-10-15

1 WELCOME AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Commission Rules and Procedures are laid down in FAI By-Laws chapter 3. The CASI President, Antonis Papadopoulos welcomed all participants. He then introduced the FAI Secretary General, Markus Haggren and the FAI President, David Monks, to whom he gave the floor.

1.1 ATTENDANCE

1.1.1 Roll Call

Present:

Australia, Belgium, Brazil, France, Italy, Spain, Sweden, UK, USA

CIA, CIACA, CIAM, CIG, GAC, CIMA, CIVA, ICARE IGC, ISC, CIVL, EDUC.

Absent:

Czech Republic, Germany

1.1.2 Apologies - None

1.1.3 Proxies – None

1.1.4 Observers were present in the room with the permission of the CASI President.

1.2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Declaration of the conflicts of interest. - None

2 CASI PRESIDENT REPORT

The President referred to his report that has been uploaded to the FAI Cloud and will be presented during the General Conference. He thanked everyone for their contribution during the course of the year and highlighted the extensive use of both Basecamp and Zoom. He explained the reason for the CASI Webinar held in March which was a training tool for current and future Jurors. It was developed after several appeals highlighted that although Jurors usually knew their specific Specialised Section of the Sporting Code, the same was not true for the General Section. 412 registrations were received and finally over 300 people attended one of the two sessions. Evaluations and comments were received to help prepare for future such Webinars. All of them were positive and constructive.

3 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF CASI PLENARY MEETING 2023

Attendees were invited to approve the minutes as an accurate and correct reflection of the Plenary Meeting held on 25th and 26th October 2023 at Dayton. They were approved unanimously after a question from the Swedish delegate about the participation of Junior competitor in FAI competition. The matter is still under consideration of CIMP.

Minutes are published and can be accessed at:

https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/documents/2023_casi_plenary_meeting_minutes.pdf

4 GENERAL SECTION

- General Section -

Following the major update of 2023, only a few changes are proposed most of which are the clarifications and result of the recent Webinar. It is important to ensure that rules are clear enough not to require interpretation which may differ or lead to different interpretations.

2.2.1.1. - proposal from ICARE. The Specialised Section has also been modified and a statute change is proposed to the General Conference

3.1. Rights. The Secretary General raised an issue with the second paragraph indicated that it lacked the clarity of the previous version. It was agreed that the CASI Bureau is authorized to check the previous version and amend the existing text accordingly and that will be part of the 2025 edition. This was approved unanimously.

3.3. The wording was questioned but it was confirmed that it had been approved in 2023 and would remain as it is now.

3.3.2. France identified a problem but was asked to submit better wording for next year as this § was not on the agenda.

5.2.1. The General Section indicates that all officials must be registered in the database before they may officiate at FAI events. A database exists but it is not used by all Commissions, the current wording could cause problems and even lead to a protest. A discussion ensued. Several participants including the Secretary General felt that all Officials should hold a Sporting Licence. Other Commissions have different policies and ways of recognising their officials. The President proposed to give the authority to the CASI Bureau to come up with other wording for 2025. This was approved unanimously.

5.2.4.2. The Representative Jury option is no longer implemented at Category One events. The proposal to remove this option was approved unanimously.

- 5.3.4.3. A Nominated Jury can comprise either three people or five people. It appears that 5 member Juries are no longer used and the proposal to remove this option completely. As this proposal was approved unanimously, it requires that 5.2.4.6.4. Quorum be also changed. A discussion as to whether the quorum should be three or two ensued and it was finally decided and approved that the quorum should remain at two.

5.3.1.2. It was decided to remove the option of a Representative Jury from Category Two events as well.

The wording change to 5.5.1.2. was approved unanimously.

6.2.2. It was agreed unanimously to remove the last sentence of this section.

6.2.3. The Secretary General questioned the validity of Complaints after an Event. Following a discussion as to why this was added, the CASI President suggested tabling the motion until next year. This was approved.

6.3.2. The proposed change was approved.

6.4.3. Time Limit. This question was raised following an Appeal and was submitted to the FAI lawyer. He proposed alternative wording in order to comprise provisions from the Swiss Law. This will be implemented in 2025

6.4.4. The IAT judgement is communicated to the involved parties at the first reasonable opportunity, it was discussed whether this should be communicated to any third party that is referred to or concerned by the judgement.

The question of whether Appeal decisions should be public or not was discussed and it was felt new wording was required. It was suggested to authorize the CASI Bureau to contact the FAI Lawyer seeking for assistance that will be part of the 2025 edition. A question regarding the meaning of "the persons concerned" may not use the decision..." was raised and it was proposed to replace the expression as follows: "no-one" may use the decision....."

This was approved unanimously

Post meeting note: The lawyer proposed to introduce a summary report that would be published also on the FAI website as educational material.

7.1.7. Other Definitions - the proposals were adopted unanimously.

7.8.1. It was suggested to reduce the time for submitting supporting files for Record Certification from 120 days. and to allow electronic submission. The USA pleaded the case to retain the 120 days to enable the management of the process from their end. The CASI President proposed to completely review the Record Process during the coming year with a proposal at the 2025 CASI Plenary meeting.

8.1.1. Proposal approved.

8.2.2. Earth Model This question only concerns the Commissions that use this. It was suggested to remove the definition of the FAI Sphere completely. CIVL and IGC accepted to look at the matter and discuss with their experts taking into consideration the impact of any change on current records, a proposal will (or will not) be made in 2025.

- FAI EB considerations about GS Article 3

5 APPEALS

5.1 The CASI President reported on the Appeals received.

5.2 Motion from Poland - The CASI Bureau checked whether a motion could be accepted from a country that is not member of CASI. CASI Plenary is not like the FAI GC. Therefore, only members of CASI may move a motion. Our rules state that a decision of an International Appeal Tribunal is final unless the appellant or any involved party appeals to CAS. Accepting the motion would be in violation of our existing rules. It was agreed that the CASI Bureau interpretation was correct.

After this, Dr John Grubbstrom was allowed to briefly speak in the name of the Polish NAC, absent from the meeting. The question of timing, was raised and discussed. CASI President brought up to the attention of the Plenary the clarification provided by the FAI Lawyer which was read. Also, it was mentioned that nobody appealed in front of CAS, according to the rules. The Plenary unanimously agreed that CASI Bureau acted correctly for this appeal. CASI President reminded also that earlier during this meeting the GS 6.4.3 wording for this matter was amended in order to remove any kind of doubts in the future.

6 RECORDS HANDLING

This subject was covered in point 4 of the Agenda.

7 JURY GUIDELINES

Annex 7 – FAI Jury Guidelines 2025

The proposed Guidelines were presented and approved although they need to be reviewed to ensure all references to the original document from ISC were removed and the English language verified. Rob Hughes of the UK agreed to assist with this. The finalised Guidelines will be published by as soon as they are ready. The document may be updated even during the year if necessary.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 FAI STATUTES – GENERAL SECTION.

Review and harmonization of the definition for Air Sports and Commissions. This subject was discussed with ICARE and proposals are on the table for the General Conference. The need to better define the role of CIACA was also discussed and the definition of "home built experimental" better defined. The scope and future of CIACA will be discussed prior to the next CASI Plenary in 2025.

8.2 E- AIRSPORTS FUTURE.

The CASI President explained the opportunity for FAI to be present at the upcoming E-Sport Olympic Games to be held in Saudi Arabia. Both CIAM and IGC have submitted proposals. A long discussion ensued regarding the advantage or not of FAI to be involved in such events. Can E Gaming be considered an Air Sport. Opinions differ. The IGC President explained that Virtual Gliding will evolve anyway with or without FAI. Currently the participants are composed of about 50% pilots and 50% gamers. IGC envisages both World Championships and Second Category Events. The CIAM President invited everyone to the final round of a World Cup Series that was to take place that evening in the

hotel. The need for a FAI Sporting Licence or Permission to Participate was also discussed. Many points were raised and one of the participants referred to look what the well-known organization NASCAR did for the same matter. The question of whether CASI should continue to explore the opportunity presented by E-Airports was put to the assembly and it was determined that the question should be put to the General Conference as it is a strategic decision. The question is already on the General Conference Agenda and will be discussed and decided upon there.

8.3 WEBINARS FOR 2025

The 2024 edition was very well attended and received positive comments. Amongst these was the need for more specialised training specifically looking at how to treat complaints and protests. As the workload to prepare such a Webinar is heavy, the CASI President sort Plenary approval to continue and this was unanimously approved. Other subjects would be training Event Directors although this is probably impossible to do as EDs are selected by Organisers and are not FAI Officials.

9 DISCIPLINARY CODE / CODE OF ETHICS

Comments from FAI Legal Advisor. The FAI Secretary General highlighted the fact that the way the Disciplinary Code is currently written makes it difficult to apply and the FAI lawyer also expressed some concern. The Code of Ethics are clear but following on from there is too complex. The whistle-blowing mechanism in place is working but has so far not required disciplinary action. As the Disciplinary Code is a CASI responsibility, the work should be done under CASI control.

The first part of the Plenary was concluded and will resume after the FAI General Conference and the CASI elections of the replaced members.

10 ELECTIONS FOR CASI BUREAU

The participating delegates will be asked to elect the CASI Bureau according to the provisions of the FAI Statutes and By Laws.

The roll call was carried out and the following were present:

Roll Call

Present:

Australia, Belgium, Brazil, France, Germany Italy, Spain, Sweden, UK, USA
CIA, CIACA, CIAM, CIG, GAC, CIMA, CIVA, ICARE IGC, ISC, CIVL.

Absent:

Czech Republic

Nominations were called for.

For the position of President, the only nominee was Antonis Papadopoulos and following acceptance by him, he was elected by acclamation.

For the position of First Vice President, there were three nominations: Peter Ericsson of IGC, Alberto Martin Paracuellos of ISC, both declined, and Carlos Aymat from Spain, who accepted and was elected by acclamation.

For the three posts of Vice President, three candidates were nominated, all accepted and Art Greenfield, Rob Hughes, and Bruno Delor were elected by acclamation.

For the post of Secretary, Elisabet Mikaelsson, although absent had confirmed her willingness to continue in the role. No other nomination was received and Elisabet was elected by acclamation.

The CASI Plenary was concluded at 6:45 p.m. on November 21st, 2024.