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<b>Author:</b>	<b>Graeme Windsor, President, IPC</b>	<b>Agenda ref. -</b>	<b>3.23 &amp; 4.1</b>
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## **IPC PRESIDENT'S REPORT** **63<sup>rd</sup> IPC ANNUAL PLENARY MEETING 2012** **BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA**

### **2011 ACTIVITIES**

A review of the Newsletters and the list of Bureau decisions since the last Plenary meeting in Lausanne indicates yet another hard working year by your Bureau.

As Delegates have been kept well up to date with Newsletters, this report will not be as expansive as it has in previous years. It will instead provide summary positions to consider in moving forward. This report also needs to be read in conjunction with my report to the 2011 FAI General Conference at which a number of challenging issues were addressed and settled.

### **Scoring System**

The last Plenary decided to adopt a recommendation to accept a proposal for exclusive use of the Cametrix scoring system, which was the only proposal, which could meet the specifications called for. The subsequent contract process included a termination clause. A Bureau decision was made to activate the termination clause following performance issues at 1<sup>st</sup> Category events in Canopy Piloting and Freefall Style & Accuracy Landing.

The decision was taken in the knowledge that the Cametrix system had a high degree of confidence with Formation Skydiving judges and contained a feature, which would allow automatic posting of results and video to the FAI web site. The Bureau will be seeking Plenary guidance at the coming meeting on how it should progress the future of scoring systems in line with its strategic plan.

### **CP TOUR Development**

I reported in the September newsletter that some development work has been initiated on a CP Tour World Series concept. An opportunity arose to outline the concept developed at a conference in Lausanne in November, entitled "City Events 2011". According to reports, the event attracted over 300 participants including representatives from host cities from all 5 continents and over 25 international sports organisations (including IPC).

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Some valuable experience and useful and promising contacts were gained from this opportunity, and will be outlined further at the Plenary session. IPC was represented very capably by volunteer Agnieszka Solomon, who, with the assistance of various competitors and officials, prepared a presentation DVD for the occasion.

I would repeat a comment I made in my report last year, in which I reminded all Delegates that they should feel comfortable in contacting relevant Committee Chairs or Bureau members should they have cause for concern on any relevant matter.

## COMPETITIONS

The following is a summary of the First Category Events held in 2011.

### LOCATION & DATE

### FAI FIRST CATEGORY EVENT

Gosau, Austria, 28 Feb to 5 Mar 2011

13<sup>th</sup> FAI World Para-ski Championships

Saarlouis, Germany, 1 to 7 Aug 2011

17<sup>th</sup> FAI World Cup and 10<sup>th</sup> FAI European Championships in FS  
8<sup>th</sup> FAI World Cup and 7<sup>th</sup> FAI European Championships in Artistic Events

Kikinda, Serbia, 18 to 28 Aug 2011

6<sup>th</sup> FAI European and 3<sup>rd</sup> FAI Junior European Freefall Style and Accuracy Championships in Freefall Style and Accuracy Landing

Klatovy, Czech Republic, 22 to 27 Aug 2011

6<sup>th</sup> FAI World Cup and 2<sup>nd</sup> FAI European Championships in Canopy Piloting

I attended events in Gosau (competitor) and Saarlouis (Jury President). Unfortunately, a medical condition (which has now been completely resolved) prevented me from attending the events in Kikinda and Klatovy.

From my experiences, it is pleasing to see that organisers of IPC's First Category Events have been working on presentation, with the appointment of commentators, and timely results facilitation. However, there is still work to be done in this area to fully achieve IPC Strategic Plan objectives.

## FAI

My report to the FAI General Conference appears separately in the agenda.

At the time of preparing this report, minutes of the ASC Presidents meeting with the Executive Board and the FAI General Conference itself which happened on October respectively, have not been distributed.

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### **ASC Presidents Meeting with the FAI Executive Board**

This meeting is held two days before the FAI General Conference commences. The meeting can be a useful forum at which the Air Sport Commission Presidents, and in this respect, FAI President John Grubbström worked hard to develop an atmosphere of teamwork.

As I have previously reported, the single most pressing issue at the forefront of most Air Sport Commissions appeared to be the threat to ASC reserves. This threat had first appeared as a suggestion two years previously as a "levy" to help fund office costs and was later changed to a "bilateral resource sharing mechanism" to be used by the FAI EB as it saw fit.

An agreement was reached that no "resource sharing" arrangements would be implemented without agreement of the Air Sport Commission(s) concerned. This result satisfactorily addresses all the concerns raised by IPC. I should mention that this single issue has absorbed a considerable amount of time and resources, not only for myself but also for the IPC Treasurer and the rest of the IPC Bureau.

Other details discussed at the meeting will be found in the minutes once they are received and distributed.

### **Air Sport General Commission (CASI)**

The main reason for including a reference to CASI in my report is that at the last FAI General Conference, the FAI President had proposed that the CASI be abolished and most of the functions, except handling of appeals, were to be handed over to the ASC Presidents' group. The CASI annual meeting is normally held the day before the General Conference begins. CASI comprises all ASC Presidents (10 then, but now 11) and 10 elected NAC representatives, comprising Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and USA. The CASI's duties include taking care of the General Section of the Sporting Code and those sections not covered by an Air Sport Commission, and the forming of an FAI Board of Appeal as required.

The proposal to abolish CASI was rejected unanimously by the CASI because there are Sections of the Sporting Code which none of the ASC's have an interest in, thereby creating "orphan" air sport activities. The matter was not put to a vote at the General Conference.

There is a secondary reason for including this reference to CASI. The past President of CASI resigned due to health reasons just prior to the FAI GC. As its 1<sup>st</sup> VP, I was designated as CASI chair for the last meeting and was subsequently elected to the post. The 1<sup>st</sup> VP of CASI is now Richard 'Buzz' Bennett, and its Secretary is Gillian Rayner.

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### **FAI Sports Strategy**

The EB have recognised that the current structure of FAI is not well suited to the establishment of innovative and entrepreneurial forms of air sport events.

EB Director Bob Henderson has been charged with developing a new FAI Sports Strategy arm that can operate outside the FAI structure, as we know it. How this will develop is a "work in progress", suffice to say that a number of air sports, including IPC and IGC are currently working on projects that would be better placed within such an arm. For IPC, this is the World Series tour concept.

The development of an independent Sports Strategy arm fits well with both IPC and FAI's strategic plan. IPC development in this regard is proceeding in consultation with EB Director Bob Henderson.

### **FAI office**

I wish to record my thanks to the new Secretary-General, Jean-Marc Badan and FAI office staff for their continued support for the work of the IPC during the year. It has been a difficult time in the office, with the departure of the previous Secretary-General after being in the job for less than two years, a new FAI website being required, installation of a new accounting system, as well as other staff changes.

### **BUREAU WORK**

I commenced this report by referring to the workload of the Bureau. I wish to thank all the Bureau members for their continued and untiring efforts, through the IPC, to make the world a better place for skydiving. During the year, Vice-President Marylou Laughlan resigned after being replaced as Delegate for USA. The remaining Bureau members have participated keenly throughout the year with enthusiasm and often robust debate.

IPC Committees and their Chairs continue to have plenty to do and I wish to thank them also for their diligent efforts looking after the interests of their various disciplines, and keeping on eye on the strategic objectives of the IPC as we move forward.

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## **CONCLUSION**

The contribution of all Delegates is important to the work of the IPC, and on behalf of the Bureau, I wish to thank all Delegates, Advisors and other volunteers who have contributed to the work of the IPC during the year. I would also like to send a special message of thanks to all those volunteers that support the work of IPC, through participation as Judges, Officials, etc. in competitions. Without these valuable people, IPC would not be able to achieve its objectives and our competitors would not have the valuable arenas they now have to perform in at the world level. In particular I wish to publically thank Agnieszka Solomon, who has assisted IPC with Newsletter production and World Series Tour development work.

Graeme Windsor