

## Sporting Code Committee Report for 2020

THE COMMITTEE continues to address discrepancies that arise and to close logical holes in the Code as they become evident. The focus of our effort in 2020 was to simplify or clarify the existing body of rules, editorially where possible, or by presenting proposals to the Plenary where rule changes are considered advantageous. Most of the topics discussed this year had that theme. The committee members are either current or past Claims Officers for their respective NACs (except Tor Johannesson) and are thus familiar with the day-to-day problems with badge and record attempts and claims.

We recognize that FR technology and sailplane design improvements evolve in advance of the Code's related rules, and its text has not fully moved from the past analog world to the digital, with the Code becoming more open to interpretation as a result. The written declaration is a case in point, and the proposal to move away from it is before the Plenary. In further examples, the exact duties of the Official Observer have been changing in light of this digital shift, and the glider type in a declaration can inadvertently vary between the FRs used. There was also a discussion on problems with the structure of the .igc data file, which was passed to the GFAC.

In 2017 we identified a flaw in the logic of concurrent record claims in the situation where both claims differ by less than the required margin for a new record performance. On returning to this case, we now have a proposal to the Plenary to address same-day claims.

The Code should not prevent pilots from planning and flying the same record attempt together. In fairness, and to not have the Code dissuade such flights, the committee proposed to the IGC Bureau that the Code be immediately updated to reflect the wording in the General section thus allowing declared distance records to be held jointly. The Bureau agreed with us, and the January update to the 2020 Code (SC3-3.1.9) reflects this.

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The members of the committee are pleased to continue their duties in 2021. They are: Tony Burton (Canada), Beryl Hartley (Australia), Tor Johannesson (Norway), Ross Macintyre (UK), Howard Mills (Germany), Judy Ruprecht (USA), and Wojciech Scigala (Poland).

Regards,

Tony Burton, committee member