

IGC 2021 Plenary Meeting Agenda Item 10.3.1



Steward Working Group, Report to IGC Plenary 2021

Frouwke Kuijpers

March, 2021

Report Steward Working Group 2021

Steward Working Group

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Last SWG meeting was in March 2020. Normally the SWG meets once or twice each year by phone/web and then face to face prior to the plenary meeting. At the annual meeting the SWG invite any Stewards who are available, to discuss issues and opportunities for improvement. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic the year 2020 was a strange year without any class 1 or 2 competitions. Therefore there is no feedback from the Chief Stewards which is normally spoken input for the agenda of the SWG.

Despite this there is still one major issue left to discuss:

The use of data and external help related to unsporting behaviour.

During the Plenary 2020 new rules were proposed to deal with this. The reason, well known by everyone, was the use of live data of the official tracking system during the last WWGC by one of the teams. Two appeals were submitted because some countries didn't agree with the applied penalties. Both appeals are still under investigation. The outcome of these two appeals is very important in the discussion of how to interpret these new rules. Stewards, organisers, TC,s and Jury need some guidelines of what is acceptable. Hopefully the coming plenary and the outcome of both appeals which will be published very soon, will give us more clarity. This provides the basis for further discussion of how to implement these new rules.

This will be the only item on the agenda for a combined digital Steward and Juror meeting probably at the end of March.

Virtual Steward meeting, our future.

One of the things the pandemic has taught us is how to meet digitally. Using a digital meeting platform for a Stewards meeting will enable the SWG to reach many more Stewards and officials than before. As a matter of fact, this is the way forward for our Stewards meeting. It can even be done more regularly than once a year. It also gives the possibility to organise a webinar..

Introduction of Technical experts

More and more data becomes available to analyze situations that take place in the air. In addition, we hope that using a digital safety box increases the reports. This will increase the workload of the Stewards on site significantly.

Online support by technical experts with the technical means we have available can help the Stewards to provide good analyses of a situation. These analyses can also be used during the safety briefings to show to the pilots. At the end video's are the best way to show this.

Another thing that can be done is to organize a webinar where Stewards are trained how to make use of all these technical possibilities.



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