Following the first E Concept contest in Pavullo Italy in 2019 the second E Concept competition was organised in Germany by the Fliegerclub Grobruckerswalde. The organisers were in co-operation with the FAI/IGC E Concept working group and used a modified version of the FAI/IGC draft rules.

There has been considerable interest from clubs wishing to organise future E Concept competitions with the club at Varese in Italy confirming they will organise an E concept contest in 2021.

From the experience of the E2 contest the working group are considering options to modify the way we currently score outlanding and the compression factor in our draft scoring formula. The contest organisers in Varese will use the FAI draft scoring and co-operate with further development of this concept.

Since the organisation of the 1st E Concept contest in there has been a significant increase in the number of FES equipped sailplanes from around 120 to 260 by January 2021. There are also a number of developments of other electric power units for sailplanes such as the RES system by Solo as offered as an option to the JS3. The majority of new single seaters bought for club and recreational use are fitted with electric MOP (around 90%). A much lower proportion of new high performance competition gliders are fitted with electric MOP.

We are clearly seeing growth in both the number of gliders and increasing interest in the competitive potential for E powered sailplanes.

Brian Spreckley. For the IGC E-concept working group.