New Technology Subcommittee - Meeting Minutes 2022

New Technology Subcommittee members 2021:
Claude Weber, Luxembourg (chairman) - present
Steve Ireland, Australia (member) - excused
Erwin Pellegrom, The Netherlands (member) - present
Marc Andre, Switzerland (member) - present
Bengt Stener, Sweden (member) - present

Observers present:
Hiromi Furakawa (JPN), Lynn Sullivan (USA), Peter Takacs (HUN), Zoltan Palhegyi (HUN), Bengt Stener (SWE), Sandor Takacs (HUN), Peter Willard (HUN), Luc Van Geyte (BEL), Branko Ambrozic (SLO), Mike Meinl (GER), Arkadiusz Iwanski (POL), Zydrunas Kazlauskas (LTU), David Strasmann (GER), Christoph Fraisl (AUT)

The chair gave an update on the latest Balloon Live project developments:

- After a first successful sale of the new Balloon Live sensors in 2020/21, with 517 devices sold, the second sale saw another 265 devices being ordered. The problematic situation on the electronics market makes it impossible to get all the necessary components to produce the devices until now. We expect to have them being built later this year, hopefully in summer for an on-time delivery for the World Championship. If this is not possible, there should still be enough devices available to comportably run the World Championship with the new system. Some countries have already a larger pool of devices and might be willing to rent them to participating pilots not having one yet. NTSC has a few devices that it could make available. It was also mentioned that the manufacturing and shipping handling of the sensors will be done by a new partner company, Flymaster. In 2021 they acquired Flytec Balloon.
- A demo of the updated version of the Balloon Live app was made. The UI of the app was redesigned and most of the code rewritten to make it even more stable and efficient. The new and unreleased payment features for a pilot to register to an
event were presented using some screenshots and a video from the development team.

- A budget was voted at the 2021 plenary to allow for some major new scoring modules to be developed within Watchmefly.net. Phase 1-3 of the scheduled feature development plan has been achieved and all features are now available. Most of them have already been tested successfully in many events in 2021. Phase 4 is in full progress and some features are already available. A more detailed overview of the new WMF Scoring module has been given to everybody in the meeting. The screenshots and descriptions are in the attached presentation document.

- A special Scoring certification and learning center offers a great opportunity for all scorers to learn about the new features and how to use the system in competitions. A recommendation was made that the certification for WMF Scoring should become mandatory for Jury members.

Another project started at the 2021 plenary was the redevelopment of the World Ranking list. This development has been completed and a demo of the implementation was given. Screenshots of most features are joined in the presentation.

No further topics were discussed and the meeting finished on time.

Proposed members for 2022:
Claude Weber, Luxembourg (chairman)
Steve Ireland, Australia (member)
Erwin Pellegrom, The Netherlands (member)
Marc Andre, Switzerland (member)
Bengt Stener, Sweden (member)

Rome, March 17, 2022
Claude Weber, New Technology Subcommittee Chairman