Why did the GAC develop the Air Navigation Race?

Times change. What fascinated everybody 50 years ago, now attracts very few people to sporting events.

These days, sport has to go out to the people.
What the ski circuit offers - dual slaloms, with ultra-short runs, in city-centers and shopping malls - attracts tens of thousands of fans and media. TV and web broadcasts both get high ratings from audiences.

The Red Bull Air Race shows us how to do it. Right from the start, this race created hundreds of thousands of fans. Red Bull goes out to the people, and gives them what they want: EXCITEMENT, TENSION!

Precision and Rally flying can no longer create this tension. Even for pilots, interest fades rapidly. Rules are too many and too complex, so only understood by “hot shots”. Expensive preparations… and expensive championships. Little enthusiasm among the passengers.

The Air Navigation Race solves these problems. The rules are simple to understand - for pilots and for spectators. Thanks to ANRlive, everyone (crews and spectators alike) can participate in the race. With several aircraft all departing at the same time, flying parallel slaloms, and with real-time display of penalty points, everything completed in no more than about 11 minutes, even innocent bystanders quickly catch the racing fever. Especially when ANRlive is also brought to life by a good commentator.

The organization and implementation of the competition requires only a few people. In this way, money can be saved.

Each team (pilot and navigator) can train for such flights at their home base. A training course can be installed by anybody, using the software made freely available by the GAC. This allows even newly licensed pilots to practise this form of air racing in their own aircraft. In this way we can help bring young pilots quickly to a higher level of competence, and thus make them better and safer pilots. A training flight from start to landing takes about 45 minutes! It is like anything else in life – only those who have the will-power to further develop their skills will “reach for the sky”.

A big extra advantage: friends, wives, girlfriends and children will participate enthusiastically when the flights are transferred to ANRlive. And television is more likely to provide coverage. Semifinals and finals, when only the best pilots fly, can also be a highlight for TV stations!

It is now up to the individual GAC delegates to introduce this modern form of competition, designed specially for safety and media-appeal, to pilots in their own countries.