Record of discussions
2021 Plenary Open Meetings
FAI Hang Gliding and Paragliding Commission

Videoconference
February 1 to 3, 2021
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Joint Paragliding and Hang Gliding

Logged in and out at a different time
Bureau and Chairs: Stephane Malbos, Jamie Shelden, Goran Dimiskovski, Igor Erzen, Zeljko Ovuka
Administrator: Elena Filonova
FAI Acting Secretary General: Markus Haggeney
Argentina: Eduardo Sánchez Granel
Austria: Herbert Siess
Brazil: Thomas Milko
Chinese Taipei: Elsa L.C. Mai
Croatia: Darko Potocki
Czech Republic: Kamil Konecny
Denmark: Niels Jorgen Askirk
France: Marc Nossin, Julien Garcia, Didier Mathurin, Joel Amiable, Yves Goueslain
Germany: Harry Buntz, Robin Friess
Hungary: Adel Honti
India: Anisha Suresh
Iran (Islamic Republic of): Mohammad Razeghi
Italy: Barbara Sonzogni
Japan: Yoshiki Oka, Akira Mutazono
Latvia: Inese Subevica
Lithuania: Martynas Makelis, Saulicy Guobuzas
Mongolia: Bold Purevdelger, Tuul Cohgosomjav
Netherlands: Van Dijk Benjamin
Norway: Jon Erik Staurset
Philippines: Moonyeen Policarpio
Poland: Andy Jaxa - Rozen
Portugal: Antonio José Fernandes, Cristiano Pereira
Switzerland: Michael Sigel, Joerg Ewald
Thailand: Veerayuth Didyasarin
Turkey: Kamil Demirkan
United Kingdom: Brett Janaway, Phil Chettleburgh
USA: Bill Hughes
Vietnam: Quoc Tuan Dang

Proposals from the Software Working Group (Annexe 30)

Fix error in time-point reduction formula in stopped tasks with multiple start gates.
Clarification of order in which penalties are applied.
Start the Leading Coefficient graph used for leading points calculation at task start time.
The initial proposal has been amended and one questionable point withdrawn.
Joerg Ewald explained the need for these changes. They will not require additional budget for implementing them in FAS (it is not development but maintenance), and probably not in AirScore (already included).
No objection to the proposals.

Proposal from Portugal (Annexe 33c)
PG XC – Different records for different launches.
The proposal has been amended and now concerns only PG.
Cristiano Pereira sums up the proposal.
The discussion follows the same logic as in the Committees and Delegates Basecamp exchanges. Some believe that foot launched must be preserved for straight distance, some that we have enough categories already. Both side have the support of delegates, observer and record chasers. So it will come to a secret vote on Sunday 7.

Proposal from Poland (Annexe 33 d)
Tracklogs Archives
The cost and the technical side of the proposal are discussed.
It is easy and cheap to store and make available track logs. Anyone can then retrieve them for their own analysis.

It is not so easy and not so cheap to organise a proper database allowing analysis of tracklogs. The consensus is that we should only archive tracklogs for now and discuss the database in 2023.

**WPRS Freezing**
The time devaluation factor has been frozen to lessen the effects of the pandemic (few competitions, travel restrictions). Is it time to unfreeze it.
Most people believe it is not. The Bureau takes a good note of it.

**Paragliding Accuracy**

Logged in and out at a different time
Chair: Riikka Vilkuna (Finland)
Argentina: Hector Zoia
Brazil: Thomas Milko
Chinese Taipei: Elsa Mai
Czech Republic: Kamil Konecny
France: Joel Amiable
Great Britain: Brett Janaway, Liz Lawrence
Iran (Islamic Republic of): Mohammed Radzeghi
Japan: Yoshiki Oka
Latvia: Inese Subevica
Macedonia (N.): Martin Jovanoski
Mongolia: Tuul Chogsomjav, Bold Purevdelger
Russia: Alexandra Serebrennikova

Participants of the open meeting discussed the activity of flying season 2020 (annexe 15) and the issues that had come up. Some resulted in small modifications in Section 7C as the proposal to the Plenary 2021 (annexe 27). The proposal was discussed and approved of. The chairperson will correct the few spelling mistakes in the document before the Plenary session.

There is a wish from the open meeting that the Bureau will finalize a protest form template as this would be useful.

The bid from Bulgaria for World Championships 2023 (annexe 34b) was discussed and the participants are positive but would like to see further discussion with the organiser about the number of pilots, the championships duration and general flying day timetable and the target location.

Target definition as horizontal should be discussed during the year. There are flying sites where the target is located on a slight slope.

**Hang-Gliding**

Logged in and out at a different time
Bureau and Chair: Stephane Malbos, Jamie Shelden
Administrator: Elena Filonova
CIMP (FAI Medical Commission): Marja Osinga
Austria: Herbert Siessand Wolfgang Siess
Brazil: Thomas Milko
Denmark: Niels Jorgen Askirk
Finland: Juha Herrala
Italy: Barbara Sonzogni
Japan: Akira Mutazono
Lithuania: Saulius Guobuzas
The committee chair briefly reported on the cancelled and postponed events from 2020. The bid from Spain for the 2023 hang gliding world championships was discussed. There was consensus that the site, organisation and Meet Director are appropriate and highly experienced given previous Category 1 events in the same location with the same organisational team.

The 2021 hang gliding world championships in Krushevo were discussed. Committee members objected to the Bureau decision to allow 140 pilot, 10 more than allowed under Section 7 rules. The committee will recommend to the Plenary that the Bureau decision to allow 10 additional pilots should not be ratified and the organisers should be notified that only the maximum number of pilots under Section 7 will be allowed (130).

The committee also discussed the effect of COVID and whether Category 1 events should be cancelled by CIVL for 2021. No consensus. However, because of hang-gliding pilots’ unique travel challenges, the committee recommends that a go/no-go decision be made by the organisers by May 1, 2021 to allow pilots sufficient time to make travel and glider shipping arrangements in time. Registration and allocation should proceed as normal, but no payments of registration fees will be made until May 1.

Paragliding XC

Logged in and out at a different time
CIVL Bureau: Andrew Cowley, Stephane Malbos, Goran Dimiskovski, Igor Erzen, Zeljko Ovuka, Jamie Shelden
CIVL Administrator: Elena Filonova
CIMP (Medical commission): Juergen K. Knueppel
FAI Executive Board: Pankul Mathur
FAI Secretary General: Markus Haggeney
Bulgaria: Daniel Dimov
Chinese Taipei: Elsa L.C. Mai
Finland: Esa Alarauanjanoki
France: Marc Nossin, Julien Garcia, Yves Goueslain
Germany: Harry Buntz, Marc Weinsauer
Hungary: Adel Honti
India: Anisha Suresh
Italy: Gianbasilio Profiti
Japan: Yoshiki Oka
Latvia: Inese Subevica
Lithuania: Danius Lukosevicius
Malaysia: Ismail Nurhaqimy
Mongolia: Bold Purevdelger
Netherlands: Van Dijk Benjamin
N. Macedonia: Martin Jovanoski, Alexandar Gacevski
Norway: Jon Erik Staurset
Philippines: Moonyeen Policarpio, Michael Vincent Plotade
Poland: Andy Jaxa - Rozen
Portugal: Antonio José Pires Fernandes, Cristiano Pereira
Spain: Larry Pino
Switzerland Michael Sigel, Joerg Ewald
USA: Bill Hughes
Proposals from Bulgaria: Leading Points – Time Points (Annexe 33a)
There has been a long discussion about this possible problem that has not yet occurred, but there is a chance that this will come out sooner or later. At today’s open meeting, we discussed this proposal and we all agreed that we need more discussion, ideas and solutions for the problems in the proposal. We will continue the work in Basecamp and hopefully at the next Plenary we will come up with something better and good for everybody!

For now, Bulgaria withdraws the proposal.

Proposals from Bulgaria: Lower Limits of Turnpoints in the task (Annexe 33 b)
Lower limit turnpoint in the task or at ESS, seems to be a good idea. Gliding competitions have a similar solution for their tasks. The majority of the attendants support the idea as it might give MDs more possible solutions for task setting. Major problem we see at the moment is the ability to record precise altitude with a smallest acceptable margin, so that errors would be as minimal as possible. It has been shown that accuracy is getting better, but we are still lacking that final touch to be comfortable in accepting this proposal.

Decision is to push this proposal back to Basecamp, to form a WG that will determine how to properly test this in Cat2 competitions, to determine the criteria and evaluate it. If the WG sees that improvements are OK for this to be implemented for Cat1, it would then recommend 2022 plenary to implement this option for cat1 events as well.

Bid from Brazil: 18th Paragliding World Championships 2023 (Annexe 34)
Brazil bid has been discussed. It has been noted that organiser is well known, team and place has been tested several times in the past hosting major events and PWC competitions. Committee supports the bid.

Proposal from Portugal (Annexe 33c): Different records for different launches.
Proposal to introduce a new type of record based on launch type for Free distance and declared distance. Cristiano Pereira sums up the proposal. The idea is winch type records should be separate from hill launch as it may give a pilot much better starting point, launching can be in much stronger wind and that it is much safer to do so.

The discussion follows the same logics in the Committees and Delegates Basecamp exchanges. It was also discussed in the joint HG & PG meeting. Some are for it, some are against. Arguments on both sides are many. They refer to safety, sportive, media issues. Here foot-launched must be preserved for straight distance, there we have enough categories already. Both sides have the support of delegates, observers and record chasers. The outcome was expected that even here we could not come to a consensus.

So it will come to a secret vote on Sunday 7.

Paragliding Aerobatic
The Paragliding Aerobatic Committee did not request an Open meeting. There is no change to S7B to be discussed, with the exception of a set of new synchro manoeuvres, whose execution and judgment criteria still need to be refined and validated. This process will be completed soon. The project for the judge training seminar in Latin America presented during the last autumn meeting is making its way, we are waiting to see the evolution of the Covid situation to decide whether to confirm December 2021.
**Presentation of AirScore**

Antonio Golfary has briefly demonstrated AirScore, a few basics on the backend and frontend side. Most of the work has been done already.

First Cat 1 competition will still be scored with FS and parallelly scored with AirScore as well to compare and ensure they work okay together producing the same results. Documentation still has to be produced, but scorers should be able to understand the logic even without the documentation.

Output from AirScore can be downloaded to compare with FS. Phil de Joux stated he has a comparison tool and has been looking to check the differences. Phil has checked but hasn’t had opportunity to look at in detail. We expect small differences will always occur. We know FS is not bulletproof. AirScore may be scoring more accurately. We are not always looking to compare one with the other. He is prepared to do other competitions. Comparison charts will have to go to the Formula and Software WG for comparison purpose and discussion.

Antonio is still testing on a local server. The plan is to move it on the FAI server by the end of February. Publicly should also be available to all at the end of February and May 1st should be fully operational albeit there may be some bugs.
Questions can also be asked directly: antoniogolfari@gmail.com

Proposals from Software WG (Annexe 30)
All proposals from the software WG have been discussed. After some discussion and clarification, there was no negative feedback on the changes.

The Open meeting supports the proposals.

Covid-19 and Cat 1s

The issue was addressed in the various meetings. Comments are reassembled here.
It is explained what the CIVL Bureau philosophy in 2020 has been: trust the organisers to take the best decision possible.
Doing the same in 2021 is an option.
The other option is that the CIVL defines the conditions in which a championship is considered as fair, safe and satisfying, in regard to the number of nations and pilots given the possibility to attend without too many restrictions.

The discussion underlines two opposite approaches.
The show must go on. A somehow diminished championship is better than no championship. The organisers are doing all they can so the championship can be held, pilots should be ready to do the same.
The uncertainty of the championship makes it difficult for pilots to get ready (take time off, get in shape, upgrade their equipment, organise transportation). Travel restrictions concerns not only open or closed borders but quarantine before and after the event. Too many countries not participating would make a championship meaningless.

The FAI Secretary General points to the Sporting Code rules (a championship is valid with 4 nations and 8 pilots) and to the Organiser Agreement (that does not include limits on the number of nations and pilots).
The CIVL President underlines that an Organiser Agreement is signed by four entities: organisers and NAC, FAI central and CIVL. A consensus must be found among all parties to maintain, cancel or postpone.

All approaches have their own logic and supporters.

The PG XC Worlds in France is the first Cat 1 on the 2021 calendar. It starts on May 19 with training days. The deadline for the PG XC World to go ‘on’ or ‘off’ has been set by the organisers at the latest on March 15, a bit more than 2 months before the event. If it takes part, the organisers will be ready to deliver as expected, with the French government support, including all Covid-related requirements.
It is impossible to anticipate what the situation will be in early March, hence it is difficult for the CIVL to set theoretical rules that could satisfy everyone. The organisers and the CIVL Bureau will have to be trusted to agree on the best decision when the time comes, very much like how they did in 2020.

The HG World will start in mid-July. We have more time to assess the situation. The HG open meeting participants state that they need more time than in PG to get ready because of the equipment issue, harder to travel with. They hope for a May 1st deadline for a decision to be taken. It was agreed that the situation should be reassessed in April.

In both these championships, committees, delegates and team leaders will be involved in the decision process.
The PG Aerobatic World will start on July 6 and was not discussed.
The PG Accuracy World will start in mid-October and was not discussed.

The issue will be discussed in point 11 of the agenda: Championships Review.

**2021 Cat 1 and Bids for 2023 Championships**

The Bureau took the following decision…

Bids are open in all disciplines. If any 2021 World Championship is cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the organiser will be offered to organise the 2023 championship. The organiser will have to commit at the same time as the 2021 cancellation will be decided. Such postponed championships will have the priority over the bids approved by 2021 plenary. In other words, bidders for 2023 World championships should be aware that if the 2021 championships are postponed to 2023, their successful bids will be cancelled.

Discussed in the HG and PG meetings. No objection to the Bureau decision.