



## CIVL 2019 PLENARY – ANNEXE 6A CIVL PRESIDENT REPORT

*Stephane Malbos, January 9, 2019*

It's been a busy year again at CIVL. I will not go through everything we did. It is detailed here and there in the 50+ annexes to the Agenda, and in particular:

- The CIVL report to the FAI 2018 General Conference (see under).
- The Bureau activity report and decisions (annexe 7).
- Reports on our championships and test events (annexe 11).
- Reports from our Committees and Officers (annexes 13 to 22).

Our actions to move CIVL forward can be evaluated in the Bureau's, Committees' and Officers' proposals (annexes 23 to 32). You are asked to validate some of them.

There are also proposals from NACs, bids from championships and nominations for awards. We will be busy!

So please take the time to go carefully through everything before the Plenary, do your homework, come prepared and we will be productive.

But first...

### **'Hats Off' ...**

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... to the 67 volunteers taking part in our discussion in Basecamp. They have worked all year-long and they work hard. I can count in the last 10 months, more than 3250 exchanges in 230 different discussions! It required this achievement to get an effective ASC. Not so long ago, the CIVL would work just six days a year: three days for the mid-year Bureau meeting and three days at the Plenary. Working year-long was wishful thinking; it is now our reality.

... to the hundreds of competition organisers and thousands of volunteers that are running our events. In 2018, they registered almost 13,000 or so pilots in 300 or so competitions!

This makes us strong, this is CIVL!

### **Bureaucracy**

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#### **The 'Extended' Bureau**

We've decided to invite into the Bureau discussions and meetings a few 'outsiders': currently the Committee Chairs (Riikka, Adrian, Claudio), our newly appointed Officer for Asian Matters (Jun), and our Administrator and Competition Coordinator (Elena). This was because we believe that the invitees' input is very valuable for the Bureau's understanding of specific issues. It helps a lot when we take short and long-term decisions. We also believe that being part of the Bureau will help the invitees to have a better global and political understanding of the issues we face.

#### **Our 'collaborator'**

Elena Filanova has been very valuable, saving us money on the Competition Coordinator part of her job, making us more visible on the web and social media, helping us on a daily basis on this and that, and playing a central role in the building of a new IT environment for us all.

#### **Stability**

Our Bureau, Committees, Working Group's members and other Officers are devoted, reliable and loyal. It helps us deal with short-term matters swiftly and to move efficiently on long-term projects.

## Equipment

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We invested significantly to make our competitions better.

In XC, we bought a fleet of live-trackers that Cat 1 organisers can use free of charge (but they have to support travel, food, lodging for CIVL Live Tracking Manager, who helps them run the system).

In Accuracy, we bought an Electronic Target System that Cat 1 organisers can presently use free of charge.

In Aerobatics, we will finance landing raft modules, free of charge except for the shipping cost.

## Software

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We continue to update our 'old' programmes: GAP, FS, WPRS.

A Working Group redefined the requirements for CIVL to accept flight instruments (GPS) in Cat 1. The list of instruments is regularly updated and published on our website.

We are working on two ambitious projects:

- The Application Management System, in collaboration with FAI and the Aeromodelling Commission (CIAM). It should be available soon. The process to apply, validate and publish competitions on the FAI calendar will be automated.
- The Event Management System, from registration to publication of results and ranking, including website and communication. We are financing this one by ourselves, so it can be adjusted to our needs. We want it simple enough so it can be used by any organiser.

## Multisport Events

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We went through difficult issues:

- The Asian Games – an Olympic event – ended up being neither safe, nor fair, nor satisfying, with the organisers disregarding and disrespecting CIVL from start to finish.
- The International Olympic Committee requested a 'zero-tolerance policy' against countries not accepting Kosovan pilots, which should have forced us to cancel the coming Accuracy World and Hang-Gliding Euro competitions in Serbia.
- The World Air Games were ill-conceived and fortunately postponed, which will give us the opportunity to discuss with the FAI beforehand what we can deliver.
- The FAI Air Games Series went through 4 different versions, mostly poorly adapted to what we can deliver.

Multisport events have brought CIVL little benefit but a lot of disruption, requiring refocus and extra unnecessary work. It is time to discuss what they are for and how we should deal with them.

## FAI

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The FAI is probably at a turning point in regards to its decision-making process and its relation with its Air Sports Commissions (ASC). The FAI statutes define the current Executive Board (EB) as all powerful and ASC as at its orders. Recently, sporting decisions have been taken by the EB without the ASC being involved and the result was not very good. The EB, ASCs and Head Office (HO) realised that this type of organisation was not sustainable and an ambitious project called 'One FAI' was kicked off last summer in Lausanne during a two-day seminar that redefined FAI goals and suggested how to fulfil them. Two main working groups were tasked to work on the decision making processes and sporting licences.

- Decision process: the ASCs have to be closely involved. Their representatives should be part of the Executive Board.
- Sporting Licence: a centralised system should be implemented, FAI issuing all licences at a unified price.

## **In conclusion**

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I have stated this before and I will state it again...

We usually fail when we don't work enough. CIVL is in good shape; we are investing heavily in equipment, software and personnel that will serve our community. However, let's not feel too happy about ourselves or get complacent. There is still a lot to be done.

## **Overall state of CIVL as reported to the 2018 FAI General Conference**

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*August 13, 2018*

### **1. Important activities, projects or events since last FAI General Conference:**

Statistics for 2018 Second Category Events are too partial to be significant.

In 2017, we had 291 Second Category events (289 in 2016, 298 in 2015, 305 in 2014).

*(Our statistics differ slightly from the FAI's. When a single event includes 2 or 3 different classes of gliders, it is counted as 2 or 3 competitions, not 1.)*

In 2018, we had 6 championships:

- 8<sup>th</sup> World Hang Gliding Class 5 Cross Country in FYR Macedonia.
- 20<sup>th</sup> European Hang Gliding Class 1 Cross Country in FYR Macedonia.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Pan American Paragliding Cross Country in Brazil.
- 15<sup>th</sup> European Paragliding Cross Country in Portugal.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Asian-Oceania Paragliding Accuracy in Thailand.
- 6<sup>th</sup> European Paragliding Accuracy in Slovenia (not yet ran at the time this report was written).

We also ran 3 test events:

- 22<sup>nd</sup> World Hang gliding Cross Country (Class 1) in Italy.
- 16<sup>th</sup> World Paragliding Cross Country in FYR Macedonia.
- 10<sup>th</sup> World Paragliding Accuracy in Serbia.

To be noticed:

- In Cross-Country, CIVL bought a fleet of live-trackers. These devices are lent to the organisers for free. A CIVL Manager travels with them and ensure that they are used properly.
- In Accuracy, CIVL bought an Automatic Measuring Device along with a live-scoring system. It was used for the first time in September for the European Championship.

We had our Plenary in Portugal, also successful (35 countries were present or represented; 40+ delegates and assistants).

CIVL created its own certification programme for paragliders, CIVL Competition Class (CCC) in 2015. CCC requirements are adjusted every other year. This very ambitious project is a true success.

CIVL hired an Administrator in 2017. The aim was and is to build a sustainable CIVL where the administrative tasks and communication work are ran on a day-to-day basis by a paid person, because depending on volunteers only for these tasks has proven to be not always efficient. We are very happy with the outcome.

The joint FAI/Noosphere/CIAM/CIVL IT project on competition applications for Cat 2 status and publication on the FAI calendar is promising.

CIVL is now working on a Cat 2 competition management system project: this will provide registration, publication and ranking of results.

## **2. Positive and negative results:**

### Positive

- Cat 1 and Cat 2 events still going strong.
- First Category Events quality.
- Very strong world ranking system in all disciplines.
- Paraglider CCC certification program successful.
- Acquisition of live-trackers for Cross-country and an Automatic Measuring Device for Accuracy.
- Development of software (change initiated).
- Stability in Bureau and Committees.

### Negative

- Development of software (a long way to go).

## **3. Main problem(s) encountered and solutions adopted:**

We need to be able to control the management of our events, from registration of pilots to publication and ranking of results. A new software has to be created.

Our World Ranking System is very successful (11,000+ pilots), but the software we use is poorly adapted. A new software system has to be created.

Contradictory politics led by NACs concerning the FAI Sporting Licences, what they are for, how they are delivered. Solutions need to be found at the highest FAI level. The 'One FAI' project could be it.

New software (FAI licence checks, registration, ranking...) will help build a reliable environment so solutions can be implemented...

## **4. Planned activities and projects for next year:**

- Business as usual.
- Work closely with FAI on the World Air Games.
- Work closely with FAI on the 'One FAI' project.

## **5. Proposals (if any) to FAI Executive Board, FAI Head Office or for the next General Conference:**

None others than current issues being discussed.

## **6. Free reporting:**

CIVL works hard to build up safe, fair and satisfying competitions of all levels.

The 'One FAI' project should address most of the issues that CIVL has raised in recent times: the objectives and aims of the FAI; fairness in the Sporting Licence scheme; inclusion in the decision process where ASC actions and projects are concerned. We are ready to work hard on this project and find long-term solutions to help build a better FAI.

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