

## Sporting Code Committee Report - 2017

The Committee has been kept busy throughout the year with various queries pertaining to record performances and associated issues. A number of minor problems have been identified with the present Sporting Code as a result of some of these queries, which has resulted in some year 1 proposals being put forward by the Committee for consideration by the Plenary.

Another issue which has been identified is a flaw in the logic of concurrent record claims in the unlikely situation where both claims differ with each other by less than the required margin for a new record performance. This has resulted in a recommendation by the Committee to the Bureau that a proposal be put forward on behalf of the IGC to CASI, which is the body responsible for these rules, to address this.

In September, the first High Altitude Flight Recorders were approved by GFAC and a discussion was held as to how the use of these recorders can fit in with the existing Sporting Code procedures. While the opinion of the Committee is that claims using HAFR can be considered using the existing rules, it is clear from the feedback received from GFAC that there will have to be some additional details specified on how these flight recorders need to be used in record claims. While GFAC is in the position of recommending what these rules should be at present, it has also indicated that these procedures may need to change in the next few years as we gain experience with the new hardware and their condition of operation. In view of this and of the Committee's conviction to decouple technical requirements for hardware and software from the Sporting Code rules, we have put forward a proposal recommending that any such rules, present and future, be specified by GFAC directly, under the supervision of the Bureau, rather than be included in the body of SC3.

The Committee has also had a vigorous debate concerning the rules and procedures for multiple flight recorders used in a claim, in recognition of the present reality of multiple such devices in the cockpit. While there were some minor revisions to the language of SC3 last year, we feel that the problem has not been fully addressed and we have put forward a year one proposal to the Plenary to allow us to look at the problem in a more comprehensive way.

Most of the topics discussed this year in committee share a common theme of seeking to simplify and clarify the existing rules and procedures as much as possible, two objectives which in some instances can be at odds with each other. We recognize that while there has been a significant effort to improve the Sporting Code over the past few years, partial adoption of new concepts has resulted in certain inconsistencies or incomplete changes, which we feel need to be addressed. Thus, our main focus for next year will be to continue our effort of simplification and clarification of the existing body of rules, where possible editorially, where not, by putting forward new proposals to the Plenary.

Alexander Georgas

Chairman – IGC Sporting Code Committee