

Report from the Sporting Code Committee for IGC Meeting, 2013

The Committee has had a busy year with the implementation of the Year 2 proposals which were approved by IGC in March 2012. The opportunity was taken to include some SC3 changes which were basically editorial in nature. One such was the expansion of a "written" declaration to allow sending to the OO by email. As a result of correspondence asking about foreign pilots using a foreign OO for badge and record claims, the rules from the General Section were included in SC3. Annex C was also amended to give guidance to the changes in SC3 and some clarifications

Later in the year an IGC Discuss stream raised many questions about the year 2 proposal which the committee is to put forward for this meeting, regarding the proposed requirement for a free distance record to exceed a declared record claim from the same flight by 10%. It was noticeable that several correspondents had not really appreciated the intention of the proposal. The committee had already determined that the 10% figure was probably greater than desirable. Records should be "*a significant and highly praiseworthy accomplishment requiring unusual effort and skill from the pilot*". The proposal is intended to ensure that in the case of free distance records, this is achieved.

The committee has fielded more queries than usual on interpretation and explanation which partly originated from the number of possible tasks and the many methods of verifying. This led to discussion in the committee from which we have given consideration to a major, radical, simplification of the Code by deletion of:

- Rules based on photographic evidence such as sector OZ.

- Removal of rules involving mechanical barographs and removing a number of alternative ways of verifying.

- Delete declared distance records, and possibly the need for waypoint declaration in other record types and badges too.

- Consider if closed course flights should have the height at the finish the same or higher than the height at the start.

- Perhaps the time is right for elimination of World Class International records, with the possible institution of 13.5m class International records in their place or to determine a future date to do this.

These ideas may result in several Year one proposals next year, but an indication from the delegates if they consider a radical revue is needed, would be welcomed.

Ross Macintyre
Chairman, Sporting Code Committee.