
The Sporting Code committee has had a busy year again. It was inevitable that some correspondence and queries would arise from the publication of the 2015 edition of SC3 considering the scale of changes made. The committee, when carrying out its duties for the proposals (along with some sharp-eyed readers of the new Code whom we thank), found some text in the new Chapters 2 and 3 needed editing if it was to be unambiguous. There were many communications to and from the Bureau, asking for approval.

The most contentious issue related to the Silver Distance flight. Some discussion on IGC Discuss website was quite acrimonious leading to a member of the committee, Howard Mills, to state his decision to resign, as he didn’t work voluntarily to receive such nasty comments. Happily, members of the committee were able to persuade him to withdraw his resignation. The paragraph, as discussed in the Plenary, was to make the Silver distance a flight which would take the pilot out of gliding distance from his start point. The original wording was capable of differing interpretations. We eventually fixed on the wording somewhat after the publication for which we apologise. However, we believe the corrected wording now achieves the original intention.

Since publication, we have continued looking for places where some clarification would remove possible misinterpreted areas before they become problems. These are generally editorial in nature, we have sent the Bureau a list for their approval. The 2016 edition will incorporate these minor changes, if approved.

I wish to thank all members of the committee, especially Tony Burton who led the SC3 discussion. He was responsible for very significant simplification and rewording. He is willing to remain on the committee. The other members of the committee, Tor Johannessen, Judy Ruprecht, Wojciech Scigala, and myself have all contributed and are also willing to remain on the committee for another, somewhat less demanding, year, preferably without the objectionable personal comments from the internet.

Ross Macintyre
Chairman IGC Sporting Code Committee.