

## FAI Sailplane Grand Prix®

World Series - VIII

### Item 7.4 - FAI Sailplane Grand Prix report for IGC Plenary Meeting 2018.

#### Summary

2017 was another very busy year for the SGP management team (SGPT), in 2017 there were 9 National SGP events from which pilots could qualify for the SGP world final.

The SGP team continued to update the guidance and media support provided to the contest organisers.

The development of the SGP has reached a level which requires a more professional media output to reach a greater audience. The future of the project needs reviewing and this will be undertaken by the SGP management team and discussed at the 2018 IGC Plenum.

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Series

121 pilots participated in nine FAI/SGP national events during 2017 with no significant accidents or incident.

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Series final.

The SGP world final for the 8<sup>th</sup> series was held at Vitacura in Chile in January 2018. The event was marred by an unfortunate fatal accident which occurred on the last day. The SGP rules and procedures will be reviewed to assess any changes that could be made after consideration of the accident report.

The media output from the event was very successful resulting in an increased audience and great feedback from many of those following the event. A number of improvements to the tracking system and presentation package worked well and will be refined for the 2019 final.

#### SGP media audience.

The following of the FAI/SGP events continues to grow with the outreach of the World final event on social media growing significantly to 140,000 people reached during the period of the Chile SGP final. (Varese final 98,000) (SA final 83,000). In addition to around 4/6,000 people watching the live 3d races daily there were more than 2,000 connected daily to the 2d tracking.

The video and live coverage attracted a significant increase in audience:-











	Views	Minutes	FB out reach
Chile 2018	175,000	1,527,200	140,000
South Africa 2016	42,000	291,200	83,000
Italy 2015	24,000	151,400	93,000

#### FAI/SGP 9<sup>th</sup> series.

The call for bids for the 9th series was very well supported with 9 bids for national SGP events and two bids for the final. The SGPT allocated the events according to the schedule below.

The 9<sup>th</sup> FAI/SGP world final will take place at the Airfield of Alp in the Pyrenees mountain region of Spain in June 2019

## Series IX - 2018 ( Next SGP Series )

 Australia	Horsham	22 Jan-28 Jan, 2018
 USA	Orlando	25 Mar-1 Apr, 2018
 Poland	Kielce	27 Apr-6 May, 2018
 Russia	Usman	19 May-26 May, 2018
 Sweden	Borås	27 May-2 Jun, 2018
 France	Rennes Saint-Sulpice	3 Jun-9 Jun, 2018
 Italy	Varese	16 Jun-23 Jun, 2018
 Hungary	Szatymaz	24 Jun-30 Jun, 2018
 Germany	Musbach	14 Jul-21 Jul, 2018
 World Final	Cerdanya	1 Jun-8 Jun, 2019

### 10<sup>th</sup> series FAI/SGP.

The programme for a 10<sup>th</sup> series of SGP events will be announced following a decision by the SGP management team during the IGC plenum 2018.

### Tracker and presentation system.

During the 8<sup>th</sup> series considerable work has been undertaken to integrate the Flam data as the main source of tracking data for FAI/SGP events. This has proved very successful and the experience gained from the FAI/SGP events will enable improved tracking for all IGC competitions. Silent wings studio will still be used for the FAI/SGP final and for events providing live commentary.

The 7<sup>th</sup> series final witnessed a real breakthrough in the development of OGN/IGC trackers which have the following advantages over conventional Flarm units:

1. They are more powerful (for the transmission of the data) than the conventional Flarm
2. They are able to relay the data of other trackers (including of conventional Flarm units...)
- 3; hey are able to send IGC files which can be used for real time scoring
4. They are not expensive (one less than 100 Euros)

In combination with the OGN ground network, these trackers will provide a cheap and reliable tracker system and Thus solve a recurrent problem we have at all gliding competitions.

### Scoring system.

The dedicated SGP scoring system developed by Cross Country soaring has now been used for two full series and proved to be accurate, reliable and easy to use. This system will be developed further for the next series with the intention of providing real time scoring for the final in 2018.

### FAI/SGP branded clothing.

2017 was the first year of official SGP branded clothing, the scheme was overall successful and there were lessons learnt which will be reflected in the procedures for 2018.

### **Changes in the rules.**

The rules valid for the 9<sup>th</sup> Series were further refined:-

Qualification rules:

The following rules have been adopted to allow the qualified pilots to make their decision whether participate in the final in good time:

*-The qualified pilots will get an official invitation within two weeks after the last day of the event in which they qualified. If they do not accept the invitation within one month after reception of the invitation or do not answer before this deadline, the reserve pilot of the same event shall be invited.*

*-If the reserve pilots do not accept the invitation within two weeks after reception of the invitation or do not answer before this deadline, the SGP management shall nominate his replacement.*

The SGP management team is.

Brian Spreckley

Roland Stuck

Alexander Georgas

Terry Cubley

Rene Vidal

**We request plenum approval to include Angel Casado in the SGP management team.**

They are assisted with the development of some of the FAI/SGP projects by:-

Iain Baker.

Angel Casado.

Ann Lapworth

Benjamin Naeglis

Claire

Shaun Lapworth