PROPOSAL TO IGC PLENARY 2017

Year 1

Proposed by IGC Sporting Code committee

Move of FR technical requirements from SC3 to GFAC

It is proposed:

To give GFAC the sole responsibility and authority for technical specification and requirements for the use of FRs as it is the qualified party to be making such determinations.

Existing SC3 rules will be moved to a document managed by GFAC.

This proposal is limited to the technical standards and requirements that need to be satisfied by the devices, their installation and technical interpretation. Pilot and official observer procedures, as they apply to the flight preparation, flight and documentation procedures will remain a part of SC3.

This proposal affects:

- Remove reference to data sampling rate from 2.5.3a and 3.5.5a
- Remove reference to calibration time period from 2.5.2 and 3.4.1 (retaining rule on the conditions for barograph data validity).
- Possibly other minor references

Discussion:

When documenting a flight was a simple matter of smoking a barograph and taking photographs, having the requirements for flight documentation a part of SC3 was logical. These procedures had to be followed by the pilot and there was rarely a need to change them.

Nowadays, with the use of FRs for this purpose, specifying in SC3 the interval between FR calibrations (and other such technical requirements) is beyond the scope of SC3. Not only does the Sporting Code Committee not have the knowledge to evaluate such rules, but rapid evolution (or discovery of deficiencies) in hardware and software often require prompt review of such rules, which conflicts with the two-year cycle of rulemaking for SC3.

Requirements which are crucial for pilot and common for all FR types (like data sampling rate and calibration validity time) will be referenced in Annex C.