

# PROPOSAL TO IGC PLENARY 2018

## Proposed by IGC Bureau

### Other Proposal

#### Item 8.3.1 - E-Concept Gliding Competition

#### **FAI IGC Bureau proposal on the development of an FAI E-Concept Gliding Competition for consideration at the 2018 Plenum**

The IGC 13.5m working group was tasked with drafting rules for the 2019 FAI 13.5m WGC and for a test event in 2018. The rules are based on a concept with self-launching electric powered platforms and allowing some use of electrical energy during the race.

Agreed IGC objectives for the future of this concept include the creation of an event that will provide a competitive home for deregulated machines mostly constructed as microlights.

The discussion started as a development of the 13.5m class which in reality has little relevance to the development of E-Concept competitions.

After considerable discussion with all the relevant parties a number of conflicts have become evident which have a wider implication than the scope of the 13.5m groups work.

#### **Conflict of objectives.**

The 13.5m working group propose a competition concept that includes a 35kg wing loading limit to satisfy the objective for development of a microlight class.

During the WG's discussions however, it became evident that this wing loading limit may be subject to further proposals at the Plenum. These proposals may seek a change to accommodate higher wing loading gliders. This would create the following two dilemmas

- Scenario 1. If a proposal to increase the 35kg wing loading limit for the 13.5 m class is adopted at the plenary, Microlight gliders will not be competitive in these contests.
- Scenario 2. If a proposal to increase the 35kg wing loading limit for the 13.5 m class is unsuccessful we will not create an opportunity for the development of competition for e-power sailplanes which is potentially an important development for the future of gliding.

**It is the IGC bureau view that neither scenario would further our objectives or is in IGC's best interests.**

Additionally there are a number of different gliders currently being constructed with electric MOP which should not be excluded from the future development of this concept.

## **Bureau proposals for consideration by the IGC Plenum.**

1. The 13.5m class should no longer be included in the IGC calendar for WGC events.
2. The 2019 13.5 WGC currently on the calendar for Pavullo, ITA is proposed to be renamed to the **1<sup>st</sup> FAI E-Concept World Gliding Championships.**
3. Participation in this 2019 WGC will be in two groups.
  - a. E-Light Class (Electron)
    - i. a 35kg W/L limit,
    - ii. Electric Means of Propulsion (MOP)
    - iii. self launching capability required.
  - b. E-Racing Class with
    - i. Span of 15m or less,
    - ii. no wing loading limit,
    - iii. the current 15m class weight limit
    - iv. Electric Means of Propulsion (MOP).

It is not yet clear how gliders using electric MOP will develop so the 2019 contest should be open to all current machines with a span of 15m or less. To fairly accommodate current 13.5m gliders in competition with 15m span gliders the 2019 contest would have a span factor applied in the E-racing group.

Following the experience of the 2019 event the IGC will consider the future structure and rules of the event.

IGC Bureau  
28/11/2017