IPC MEETING 2018 – The contribution to the Agenda

IPC Freefall Style and Accuracy Landing Committee

Proposal for including a rule in the Competition Rules - Accuracy Landing and Freefall Style allowing the official use of a camera – video recording – in order to help judges.

Since 2002, I have been asking for a video camera to be included as a help for judges in assessing the correctness of the result of a sports performance in the accuracy landing. I will do so today as well and ask for further discussion at the Style and Accuracy meeting.

The reason is that in 2017 I was the chief judge at four competitions where there were accuracy landing jumps: International Para-ski event, Czech national, Danish national and next accuracy competition in Denmark. I always required independent assessments from the three judges at the target, the simple majority was always counted and a camera was used for all jumps. The canopies never fell on the judges the way they would not be able to do their jobs. The camera served as a helper to the satisfaction of the judges and helped several times a lot. Only at one of the four competitions (Czech national) we had to, but also wanted to correct the result in favor of a competitor based on the video, but many times the camera helped the judges in their decision making and they consequently felt much safer. I did not have any objections from the competitors.

I am willing to show everything on a selected accuracy landing event and re-explain my philosophy. The competitions will be more fair play and there will be much smaller number of conjectures or dissatisfied competitors, we will have a recording of each jump and we will be able to eliminate the possible human error even more and better (errare humanum est).

At the same time, let me point out that we have no rule for the speed and character of the wind at the altitude higher than 6 meters above the ground, and the subjective decisions to offer a re-jump or continue with the competition, where the canopy is almost unmanageable for a good result, generates negative emotions.

Jiri Blaska

Czech Republic delegate in FAI Parachuting Commission 01.12.2017