



FAI Gliding Commission (IGC)
Report to the 106th FAI General Conference
Antalya, 19-20 October 2012

Reported by : *Eric Mozer, IGC President*

1. Important activities, projects or events since last FAI General Conference:

I am pleased to submit my first report to the FAI General Conference as acting President of IGC. IGC President Bob Henderson decided in March to give up his position to give full attention to his various portfolios on the FAI Executive Board. I will serve as IGC President until we have full elections at our 2013 Plenary meeting in March. Also Vice-President Visa-Matti Leinikki left the Bureau during the year to join the FAI staff in Lausanne as their lead Information Technology person. Dick Bradley (South Africa) has filled Mr. Leinikkis' position on the Bureau.

IGC Plenary Meeting - 2012

The 2012 IGC Plenary meeting was held this past March in Potchefstroom, South Africa. The Soaring Society of South Africa was a very gracious host and put on a wonderful conference for the delegates. Delegates from 24 nations attended the meeting.

Championships awarded at the 2012 IGC Plenary

The IGC Plenary selected the sites for two of our World Championships:

- 7th FAI Women's World Gliding Championships – Arnborg, Denmark (2015)
- 8th FAI Junior World Gliding Championships – Narromine, Australia (2015)

Also selected were the sites for Continental Championships:

- 18th FAI European Gliding Championships (Open, 18 meter, 20 meter multi seat) – Ocseny, Hungary (2015)
- 18th FAI European Gliding Championships (15 meter, Standard, Club)) – Rieti, Italy (2015)

World Sailplane Grand Prix Series

The FAI World Sailplane Grand Prix series of 2012-2013 is underway. Currently we will have 5 Qualifying events that will select the competitors for the FAI World Grand Prix Final. The Final will be competed during May 2014 in Sisteron, France.

FAI/IGC Awards

At the 2012 Plenary the following awards were given:

- The **Pirat Gehriger Award**, for eminent services to international gliding, to **Mr. Andrea Tomasi**, Italy
- The **Pelagia Majewski Medal**. This award recognises eminent services to gliding over a long period of time by a female glider pilot. The recipient of this award is **Mrs. Gill Van den Broeck**, Belgium
- The **Lilienthal Medal**. The Medal recognizes eminent service to the sport of gliding over a significant period of time by a currently active glider pilot, The recipient of the Lilienthal Medal for 2012 is **Mr. Giorgio Galletto**, Italy

Safety Pays Working Group

In recent years the IGC has increased its' focus on Safety at our Category 1 and 2 events. During our Plenary sessions, we have had excellent speakers that have given very good reports on many aspects of safety in gliding. As a direct result of these reports the IGC formed a task force called the Safety Pays Working Group. This group is tasked with trying to find innovative ways to focus competition pilots on safety. The first initiative that they were able to enact this year is the OSTIV Safety Award. This award was established in time for the World

*Fédération
Aéronautique
Internationale*

*Maison du Sport International
Av. de Rhodanie 54
CH-1007 Lausanne
(Switzerland)
Tél. +41 (0)21 345 10 70
Fax +41 (0)21 645 10 77
E-mail: sec@fai.org
Web: www.fai.org*

Gliding Championships in Uvalde, Texas – USA. Pilots were given a list of safety features for the sailplane and their personal abilities. Points were awarded during the pre-competition examination period. The inaugural winner of the OSTIV award was Wolfgang **Janowitsch** of Austria.

2. Positive and negative results:

N/A

3. Main problem(s) encountered and solutions adopted :

N/A

4. Planned activities and projects for next year :

IGC Plenary Meeting - 2013

The 2013 Plenum meeting will be held in the Netherlands. The location is in the city of Arnhem, in the eastern part of Holland. The site is Papendal, the Dutch National Olympic Center. The website of the meeting place is: www.papendal.nl.

Championships to be awarded at the 2013 IGC Plenary

The IGC Plenary will select the sites for three of our Category 1 Championships at the 2013 Plenary. These include the following Championships:

- 34th FAI World Gliding Championships – 15 Meter, 18 Meter, Open (**2016**)
- 34th FAI World Gliding Championships – Standard, Club, 20 Meter (**2016**)
- 1st FAI 13.5 Meter World Gliding Championships (**2015**)

Sailplane Grand Prix Management Company

The IGC Plenary approved the following proposal in March.

Proposal

- *It is proposed that the IGC/FAI create a commercial organisation that has the authority and flexibility to seek partners to facilitate the development and promotion of the SGP.*
- *To be effective, this organisation must be given the rights to develop, promote and organise SGP events, potentially in conjunction with municipal authorities.*
- *The company would have a relevant and appropriate name such as Sailplane Racing Ltd or Sailplane Grand Prix Ltd. IGC/FAI requirements for the SGP Management Company*
- *It will be controlled and owned by IGC/FAI*
- *It will have limited liability status*
- *It will have the capability to include stakeholders who become part of the SGP management and organising team.*
- *It will have financial autonomy and the authority to enter into contracts and agreements.*
Objective of The Company The primary objective of the Company is to raise sufficient financial support to ensure that the Sailplane Grand Prix race is properly funded and provides a platform for the further growth of the event. *Roles of The Company*
- *To operate the SGP series, including, if appropriate, the creation of an Operational Management Team*
- *To recruit motivated and appropriately experienced persons, preferably from within the Gliding community, to further develop the commercial profile of the SGP.*
- *To seek sponsors and patronage for the SGP series.*
- *To create media interest in the SGP series.*
- *To involve the organisers of qualifying SGP events in the promotion and financing of the series* *Strategies of The Company: The SGP Company will work closely with local organisers of SGP events to maximise income from the event or peripheral activities.*
The sources of finance targeted by the company will be:
- *Direct requests for sponsorship or patronage within the gliding movement.*
- *Involvement of the municipal authorities in financing SGP events.*
- *Raising sponsorship for each event locally and internationally.*
- *Improving the attractiveness to spectators of the SGP events by seeking to build relationships with other compatible airport events.*

- [*Advertising on the web portal*](#)

Mr. Brian Spreckley, IGC Vice-President and Bureau member, has accepted the role of forming the SGP Company. He has been working diligently and in close collaboration with Mr. Roland Stuck, also an IGC Vice-President and Bureau member.

I had hoped to report, as I write this in mid-September, that the SGP Company was established and running. The recent formation of FAME, the new FAI company, has temporarily slowed the establishment of the SGP Company. Mr. Spreckley is working closely with FAME management to see how FAME and IGC can work in a collaborative way to achieve the goals established by the IGC Plenary. If any progress is achieved in the next month, I will report it at the General Conference.

5. Proposals (if any) to FAI Executive Board, FAI Head Office or for the next General Conference :

N/A

6. Free reporting:

32nd FAI World Gliding Championships – Uvalde, USA

The 32nd World Gliding Championships in the 15 Meter, 18 Meter, and Open Classes concluded a few weeks ago in Uvalde, Texas (USA). The Competition featured extraordinary soaring conditions that enabled 13 contest days. Task lengths were set daily with long distances flown, sometimes exceeding 700 kms. The speeds achieved were very high, with the fastest speed on one day at 161 kph. The top three finishers in each class;

I am happy to provide some interesting statistics from the World Championships in Uvalde that had some of the strongest and most consistent weather ever witnessed at one of our events.

- 99 pilots from 24 nations
- Pilots flew 7 training days and 13 days of competition. No competition days were lost to weather.
- Total distance flown during the official training period and the competition was 799,900 km (distance from earth to moon is 384,400 km, so the pilots, in total, flew to the moon and back).
- Typical total distance flown each day was 40,000+ km, (99 pilots, 400+ km each). The circumference of the earth is 40,000 km. Each day the pilots flew around the world.
- 18 meter class champion Zbigniew Nieradka won with 12170 pts. This was more points than earned at any previous WGC.
- Fastest speed 161.0 km/h (100 mph) Peter Harvey, Open class.
- Slowest winning speed 130.7 km/h.
- Average daily distances: 493 km in 15 meter, 504 km in 18 meter, 559 km in Open
- Total hours flown on task 4773 hr. (199 days at 24 hr/day)
- Shortest distance flown by a winner was 310 km, 15 meter on Day 8, Assigned Area Task
- Longest distance flown by a winner was 715 km in the Open Class on Day 3, Racing Task

Congratulations and thanks to all of the hard-working volunteers comprising the organization of Team Uvalde for making the 32nd FAI World Gliding Championships a tremendous success! Also, thanks to Chief Steward Dick Bradley and International Jury President Peter Ryder for their efforts on behalf of IGC.

32nd FAI World Gliding Championships – Gonzales Chaves, Argentina

The 32nd FAI World Gliding Championships (Standard, Club and World Classes) in Argentina has 95 preliminary entrants for the WGC to be held in January 2013.