

Report of the Women in FAI Working Group to the 2013 General Conference

Members:

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We also have a mail list thanks to the support of the FAI IT department.

At last year's General Conference we undertook to provide this year's conference with data concerning the participation of women in our various air sports and countries.

According to the incomplete FAI statistics available for last year, approximately 6.65% of the total Air Sport population are female, varying from a high of 20% in parachuting to the very low 0.63% for aeromodelling, which represents the largest air sports population. General statistics are summarized in the annex to this report.

We are all concerned with a decline in membership numbers, and if we do not encourage participation by women and girls, then we are missing a very important source of support. Given the structure of the FAI we have options of approaching the issue from an NAC perspective or from an ASC perspective. While the data in the annex is not complete, it is an indicator of which sports are doing better or worse.

Additional data (available upon request) gives the breakdown by country but it is not fully accurate since some countries only provide overall numbers. We hope that the numbers provided this year will be more detailed.

Also included in the annex is a table which summarizes how each air sport specifically recognizes women, through awards, a feminine category for records or in competition. This table also demonstrates the significant disparity between air sports.

This working group is committed to presenting preliminary recommendations to the 2014 General Conference on methods for increasing participation of women in air sports. In support of this commitment we are asking the General Conference to approve a budget of maximum €22,000 to cover one or two meetings of the working group, with additional meetings and communication done electronically, and networking activity with organizations dedicated to women in sport (such as the IWG World Conference on Women and Sport) and women in aviation (such as the Federation of European Women Pilots and Women in Aviation International). We strongly believe that this will be a worthwhile investment in the future of the FAI.

Over the next year we will be working on compiling a catalogue of the activities currently being undertaken by air sports and air sport organizations to increase the participation of women, and we plan to consider additional activities drawn from other areas of sport and aviation. We will compile a summary of international resolutions on the equality of women as a reference for the work of this working group and for consideration of adoption by the FAI (including the resolution of the International Olympic Committee, and the United Nations Berlin Declaration, etc.). We will also be working on the first iteration of a long term strategy for the FAI for the improvement of the participation of women, for consideration at next year's General Conference.

Annex

Male to Female Ratio in the Air Sports*

TOTAL NUMBER OF FEMALES			41001
TOTAL NUMBER OF MALES			616159

6.65%

MALE/FEMALE RATIO	Female	Male	
BALLOONING	734	6059	12.11%
GENERAL AVIATION	4293	53896	7.97%
GLIDING	2309	43873	5.26%
HELICOPTERS	68	809	8.41%
PARACHUTING	13807	68865	20.00%
AEROMODELLING	1666	263091	0.63%
AEROBATICS	786	7719	10.18%
HANG GLIDING	4212	42091	10.00%
PARAGLIDING	12131	98452	12.32%
MICROLIGHTS	995	31304	3.18%

*based on incomplete data provided to FAI in 2012

RECOGNITION OF FEMALES IN FAI AIR SPORT DISCIPLINES			
DISCIPLINE	SPECIFIC AWARDS	RECORDS	COMPETITIONS
PARACHUTING	NONE	COMPETITION RECORDS	FS 4-WAY FEMALE
	An award is currently being approved for the FS 4-way female	FS AND ACCURACY	STYLE FEMALE AND JUNIOR FEMALE
	World Champions which will be know as the Amazon Trophy	PERFORMANCE RECORDS	ACCURACY FEMALE AND JUNIOR FEMALE
		ALL CATEGORIES ALLOW FOR A FEMALE RECORD	COMBINED FEMALE AND JUNIOR FEMALE
			FEMALE ACCURACY TEAM
AEROBATICS	ROYAL AEROCLUB TROPHY (not in Internal Regulations however)	NONE	FEMALE RANKING IN BOTH TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL EVENTS
BALLOONING	NONE	ALL CATEGORIES ALLOW FOR A FEMALE RECORD WHEN ALL PERSONS ON BOARD ARE FEMALE	FEMALE RANKING POSSIBLE IN ALL EVENTS AND FIRST WOMEN'S WORLD HOT AIR BALLOON CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULED IN 2014
AEROMODELLING	NONE	NONE	NONE
GLIDING	PELAGIA MAJEWSKA GLIDING MEDAL	FEMALE PILOT CATEGORIES	FEMALE RANKING AND SPECIFIC WOMAN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS
MICROLIGHTS	NONE	NONE	POSSIBILITY TO ENTER AN EXTRA ALL FEMALE TEAM ABOVE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF TEAMS ALLOWED FOR AN EVENT

GENERAL AVIATION	NONE	NONE	NO FEMALE CLASSIFICATION BUT IN A PRECISION FLYING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP THERE IS A SPECIAL TROPHY FOR THE BEST WOMAN PILOT (ARGENTINA TROPHY)
CIVL	NONE	NONE	TWO FEMALE MEMBERS OF A TEAM MAY BE ADDED TO THE OFFICIAL NUMBER
			THERE IS AN OVERALL FEMALE RANKING IN THE RANKING LISTS
ROTOCRAFT	NONE	FEMININE RECORDS ARE POSSIBLE ON THE CONDITION ALL PERSONNEL ON BOARD ARE FEMALE	?