



Plenary Meeting 10th March 2023

Report of the President

The evolution of helicopter sport and its future

In recent years the number of competitions and the interest in the sport and helicopter competitions have strongly decreased, until there are no more competitions in the last 4 years.

Several reasons are at the origin of this situation, including the Covid period and International problems but also the evolution of the types of participants since the beginning of the competitions in the 1970s.

In the archives of the FAI that I consulted in 2022 I was able to trace the evolution of the competitions and the participants.

The origin of helicopter competitions is due to professional pilots of SAR, military... who used competition to improve their skills. These competitions brought together large number of professionals.

The participation of this type of participant was possible until around 2011, when for economic reasons these professional pilots no longer participated in competitions and where only private pilots participated in helicopter competitions.

Together we have to contribute to rethink and update our visions, objectives, perspectives and priorities of the Rotorcraft Air Sport Commission.

Make known the advantages of preparing and participating in competitions whose main argument is, the opportunity to improve the level of competence and the safety of helicopter flights of private as well as professional pilots.

We have to improve communication strategies, making Rotorcraft Air Sport better known by the athletes, NAC's, Public and all stakeholders, using new communication technologies.

Stimulating to share the experiences between pilots and co-pilots from different countries.

Always improving the safety in competitions and promoting clean sport and the Olympic values.

Together we have to contribute to future of the Rotorcraft Air Sport Commission and Helicopter Sport

Jacques Berlo

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10th March 2023

FAI President Rotorcraft Air Sport Commission