IPC- President’s Report to the 2017 Plenary Meeting of the IPC

ACTIVITIES

Being an „ON“-year for WPCs in 2016 there were First Category Events in all IPC competitions in open air disciplines (except Paraski), as well as a World-Cup in Wingsuit Acrobatic Flying (a world première). Also, there were quite successful PC INDOOR Skydiving Events 2016 in Formation Skydiving and in Artistic Events in all Indoor Skydiving disciplines.

To remain in line with IPC-Plenary wishes to show IPC-representation on a high level at every IPC First Category Event (FCE) the IPC-Bureau continued this philosophy, but put a different touch to it to the point, that each member of the IPC-Bureau served as an ambassador of the IPC-Plenary on equal terms.

To achieve this, IPC Bureau members were assigned to representative tasks in public whenever possible, while serving as Jury members or as judges, respectively. I am proud to report, that this system worked fine, as it is shown in the list of competitions in 2016 below. Needless to mention the positive effect on saving travel-expenses out of the IPC-resources.

| Competitions and other activities 2016 with IPC-Bureau representation: |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Event** | **Location** | **Date** | **IPC – Representation** |
| World Games Test Event 2016 | Wrocław, POL | 01-03-2016 | Alberto Martin Paracuellos Meet Director |
| 40th CISM World Military Parachuting Championship 2016 | Kubinka, Moscow, RUS | 17-19-2016 | Dr. Rainer EXI Hoenle Org. invited / Judge |
| 6th FAI World Canopy Piloting Championships | Farnham, CAN | 20-26-08-2016 | Ronald Overdijk Jury President Alberto Martin Paraguellos Jury member Dr. Rainer EXI Hoenle additional judge Susan Dixon Media Liaison Officer |
| FAI World Parachuting Championships /MONDIAL 2016 | Chicago, USA | 17-20-09-2016 | Dr. Rainer EXI Hoenle CF Judge Patrice Girardin, Del. Team Coach Susan Dixon Media Liaison Officer |
| 2nd FAI World Cup of Indoor Skydiving | Warsaw, POL | 11-16-10-2016 | Patrice Girardin Jury President Peter Pfalzgraf Jury member Susan Dixon FS-Judge |
| 1st FAI World Wingsuit Performance Flying Championships 1st FAI World Cup of Wingsuit Acrobatic Flying | Zephyrhills, USA | 03-09-11-2016 | Dr. Rainer EXI Hoenle Jury member Susan Dixon Media Liaison Officer |

I also attended the WAG workshop in May 2016 in Lausanne, to dissect and digest the outcome and perspectives of the concept of the WAG. The details out of this workshop will be contained in the report of the representatives of the FAI.
Quite interesting was the experience to be part of the prescom- or ASC Presidents meeting on the island of Crete. This meeting provided an excellent platform for the new IPC-President to meet the counterparts of other ASC within the FAI in a close working session set-up.

It was refreshing to feel the enthusiasm and the activeness of fellow ASC-Presidents, which obviously was nourished by the common involvement and experience gained at the WAG 2015 in Dubai.

**IPC-Internal:**

Internally, the Bureau reduced the amount of IPC-Bureau decision by accepting, that issues, which are based on regulations in our rule-books and have been accomplished as written, do not need to be decided if correctly applied. This led to a drastic reduction in Bureau decisions.

Moreover, the process of spending a lot of time in proof-reading and checking event bulletins led to the decision to produce a draft for a bulletin together with a bid document, where essential text is pre-written already and only needs to be ticked off. Changes to Bulletin-1 will be laid down in an annex to Bulletin-1, rather than issuing a completely rewritten Bulletin-2.

In this context, the procedure for the application time and fee has been modified in such a way, that the mid-year deadline was dropped in favour of an extended time frame during which a bid can be handed in. Moreover, the application amount has been split, and the deposit reduced and simplified to prevent, that a potential organiser has a lot of money tied down for a very long time. Also, the reimbursement procedure has been straightened out, providing more direct paths and quicker release of money, back to the organiser. The same applies to reimbursements for Judges and Jury work.

This is only a short look into what has been started in the first year of this IPC-Bureau and most is pending to IPC Plenary approval, as always.

**RECORDS I:**

With the Mondial 2016 in Chicago we started applying the FCE Competition Record Automation process. The train gained slower speed than expected, but the learning curve went constantly up in the automatic recognition of records set at First Category Events.

Thanks to the support of the Secretary General, Susanne Schödel and the IPC Record Officer Randy Connell more than a handful of World and Continental Records could be ratified for athletes at no additional costs for the applicants. The fee is covered through the IPC-Sanction Fees out of the competitions.

Towards the end of the year it was agreed to include Continental-Records into the automated approval process also for the benefit of the competitors.

**RECORDS II:**

It is my pleasure to report, that the Bureau was successful in leading more than a handful of pending competition records, which had been left over to be dealt with from the previous Bureau to a happy ratification landing before the end of 2016. Thanks to Christine Rousson (FAI) and Randy Connell (IPC Record Officer).

**FAI & IPC:**

Cooperation between FAI and IPC is standing on a firm mutual platform of appreciation and respect, both professionally and personally. At the FAI General Conference in Bali FAI President Dr John Grubbstrom’s term as FAI-President ended leaving a well positioned and orchestrated structure of experts in the FAI Office directly under the wings of the newly elected FAI-President from the Netherlands, Frits Brink.

During the Bali FAI meeting in October 2016 surprisingly IPC received the information, that CASI President and IPC President of Honor, Graeme Windsor, had resigned from CASI in the beginning of July 2016.

**Other IPC- Bureau-Activities**

The IPC Bureau simplified the financial payments for an application to host a FCE. The application date
was set for the 1st of December of each year for future years to be decided at the IPC Meeting in the following January. The application fee was split to a lower down payment, followed by the rest-payment of the fee at the Plenary Meeting in the year when the FCE is being held.

The Deposit payment was lowered and simplified depending on the number of disciplines, but will never be higher than € 15.000,00 per a complete event.

IPC loan from IPC to IPETA recalled. Following a meeting with members of the Board of Directors from IPETA, the company which is fully owned by FAI, it became clear, that all plans for the year 2016 to achieve the goal of IPETA to earn money did not materialize. Of the initial loan of € 50.000.00, within less than 5 years after its foundation in 2012 € 20.000,00 had been spent and not one cent has been earned. With the prospect, that almost € 1.000,00 in administrative fees must be paid each year, just to keep the company alive, the IPC-Bureau decided to call back the loan from FAI, the shareholders of IPETA and to leave it up to FAI to deal with the company, convinced, that it makes more sense to give life to a new company if there is a need arising.

You may miss the involvement of the IPC-Bureau in the upcoming World Games 2017 in Wroclaw, Poland. By the time you may read this, I am sure, that either Elisabet Mikaelsson(IPC WG-Liaison Officer) or CP-Chair Alberto Martin Paracuellos (WG Meet Director) who were part of the WG-test events in 2016 have reported that all is ready to go.

Instead of taking your time by repeating, what has been on the minds of the IPC-Bureau members, in addition I would like to direct you to the letter, which I had sent on behalf of IPC to the FAI-General Conference 2016 in Bali, Indonesia.

I close with my sincere appreciation of being surrounded by such a wonderful team of individuals who form an outstanding unit, the IPC Bureau 2016, with Patrice Girardin, 1st IPC-Vice-President, Ronald Overdijk IPC-Bureau-member, Alberto Martin Paracuellos, IPC-Bureau member, Peter Pfalzgraf, IPC-Finance Secretary and IPC-First Lady Recording Secretary Susan Dixon. Mon Chapaeu!

Dr. Rainer EXI Hoenle
IPC President

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