FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

INTERNATIONAL PARACHUTING COMMISSION

SPEED SKYDIVING COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT – 2016

It has been a quiet year for the Committee, there was not many rule changes for this year and everyone was looking forward to the first World Championship.

The 1st World Championship in Speed Skydiving, Skydive Chicago, USA

23 competitors from nine Nations – Australia, Austria, United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Russia, Switzerland, Sweden and United States of America – participated in the 1st Speed Skydiving World Championship.

We had for the first time an FAI World Champion in Speed Skydiving, Henrik Raimer from Sweden who also set a new World Record with the amazing speed of 601.26 km/h. He is also the first person ever over 600 km/h.

There was also some new Male Continental Records by Henrik Raimer from Sweden (European) 601.26 km/h, Kyle Lobpries from the US (American) 430.76 km/h and by Corby Mason from Australia (Oceanic) 389.89 km/h.

The Tim Mace Trophy was handed out for the first time.

The competitors open meeting was held and items discussed were:

Number of rounds in a FCE: Several competitors proposed to have more than 8 rounds or that all competitors do all eight rounds.

GPS Measurement. All of us agreed that we don’t know exactly what the better system is until we do an outside measurement. And the plan is to take the opportunity to do a couple of test jump with outside measurement supported by the German Army.

Safety – Raise the course. There was a concern about safety having exit gates at 1.700 meters and terminal speeds over 550 km/h as shown by the top athletes. A competitor wishes to raise the gates to have more altitude and time for deceleration. Some of the competitors agreed, some not.

Exit Order. An opinion that a reverse Exit Order from slowest to fastest within a group of speeders would be safer as an order from fastest to slowest was raised. There are good physic reasons. A considerable number of competitors agreed.

Judging Equipment

The new download and analyzing software – Speedware from Intervision, developed last year was used at the World Championship and it worked well and stable. There was one computer with eight download devices for downloading the data from the Speed Measuring Devices’ (Larsen & Brusgaard Protrack). There was no technical problem and the SMDs worked very well.

Barometric versus GPS Measurement has been discussed and more testing is needed before the committee can make any decisions.

My appreciation goes to the current members of the SP Committee for their time and work: Deputy Aliya Ananina (Russia), members Arnold Hohenegger (Austria), Thomas Moritz Friess (Germany), Holger Enderlin (Germany), Kate Charters (UK) and Michael Lovemore (UK). I look forward to continue working with them.

The Committee is also working in close cooperation with ISSA – International Speed Skydiving Association.

November 18, 2016

Elisabet Mikaelsson
Chair IPC Speed Skydiving Committee
OPEN MEETING 2017 FARO, Portugal

- Proposals for changes to competition rules 2017
- Future competitions

PROPOSAL FOR CHANGES TO COMPETITION RULES

Discussions for rule changes to the competition rules 2017

- Safety – Raise the course.
  SP CR 2.1 defines the course where speed measurements are taken, starting at 2700 metres (8858 ft) above the ground and ending at 1700 metres (5577 ft) above the ground. From the competitors meeting came up a suggestion to raise the gates to have more altitude and time for deceleration.

- Exit Order
  SP CR 5.2.1 defines the exit order; the exit order in a jump run is personal best descending. A reverse exit order from slowest to fastest within a group of speeders would be safer than an order from fastest to slowest.

- Maximum Exit Altitude
  SP CR paragraph 5.3.1 defines an exit altitude of 13,000 ft (3962 metres). Paragraph 5.3.2 defines the minimum exit altitude of 12,000 ft (3658 metres). There is no definition for the Maximum Exit Altitude in the SP CR. Proposal definition Maximum Exit Altitude: Paragraph 5.3.3 The maximum Exit Altitude for a valid jump is 13,500ft (4115 metres). A competitor is not allowed to exit the aircraft on a higher altitude than the maximum exit altitude. Jumps from a higher exit altitude as the maximum exit altitude has to be considered as not valid.

- Number of rounds for all competitors
  SP CR paragraph 7.2, options to discuss;
  - No cuts = 8 rounds for all competitors, best 5 or 6 rounds are counting
  - 7 rounds for all competitors plus a final round for the top 50% competitors, or 5 competitors (whichever is the greater), best 4 or 5 rounds counting
  - 8 preliminary round plus Semifinal round for the top 25% competitors, or 10 competitors, (whichever is the greater) plus Final round for the top 50% competitors, or 5 competitors (whichever is the greater).

- Scoring Technical Director
  Sporting Code Section 5, (left from last year)
  4.1.4 Travel and Living Expenses

  (1) The Organiser of an FCE will be required to pay travel, food, living costs and expenses connected with their duties for the following officials: FAI Controller, CJ and the Assistant to the CJ, the CP Course Technical Director and the SP Scoring Technical Director.

- Approved Analysis software and Speed Measuring Devices.
  Barometric versus GPS Measurement has been discussed and more testing is needed before the committee can make any decisions.

FUTURE COMPETITIONS

European Championship and World Cup 2017, Saarlouis, Germany

Future bids:
World Championship 2018 Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia, 14-22.10 2018
World Championship 2018 DZ Voznesenka Krasnoyarsk Region, Russia, 10-19.08 2018