

Technical Secretary Report to Bureau Meeting – December 2019 at Lausanne, Switzerland

The work of the Technical Secretary has proceeded normally following the Plenary Meeting in April 2019.

Minutes: Even though they were not scheduled until June 1 2019, early implementation rules were published by the middle of May. There were not as many as in past years, with Subcommittee Chairmen taking advantage of the availability of Local Rules. I hope this practice continues. A Technical Notice was issued for the early implementation of a safety rule contained in the F5 Electric Volume. Revised versions of the 2019 Volumes were produced for F3 Aerobatics, F4 Scale and Space because of the number, scope or importance of their 'early implementation' rules. The F9 Volume continued to be updated when necessary by the Subcommittee Chairman.

'Urgent safety' proposals must always be noted for early implementation. This is primarily the responsibility of the Subcommittee Chairmen and the Technical Meeting, however at Plenary in 2020, we must all be on the lookout for any such safety proposals.

The Minutes of the Sporting Code section were produced well within the 60-day time frame. They were available on 2nd July.

2020 Editions of Sporting Code Volumes: The process of producing the 2020 Volumes went smoothly. This year, all Draft 1 Volumes were prepared by the Technical Secretary from the minutes and dispatched to Subcommittee Chairmen in good time for checking. However, there are several issues remaining from the 2020 Draft Volumes to be discussed at the December Bureau Meeting.

1. The CGR paragraph regarding permitted and not permitted radio equipment.
2. The naming of F5D when it moves to F3 Pylon Racing (at this stage it is F3E); and the naming of the new Soaring class (Multi Task Gliders with Electric Motors) which was tentatively named E F3B in the minutes (and at this stage is F3G).

All Volumes will be finalised, ready for upload to the website by the middle of December. The F3N Helicopter manoeuvres that change every year were emailed to me in early November. Thank you to the Helicopter Subcommittee Chairman. These manoeuvres are traditionally agreed by Bureau.

Forms and Documents: Last year I remarked on the need to amend the Record forms, particularly the Space forms which are not used very often, but are out of date with the new technology. There is at last, a proposal from Serbia to update the Space Record forms, which is good news.

The Model Specification Certificate was updated in 2018, as was the Registration of Competitions, CIAM Award and Scholarship forms and the Protest form. I am always pleased to be alerted to any outdated forms and documents that require changes. Any forms or website documents which list CIAM classes will need to be updated from 1st January.

Records: As there were many records retired in 2017, new World Records became available in many areas for those interested in setting records. However, 2019 has been a relatively quiet year, so perhaps the interest in this aspect of the sport is waning. While twenty records were homologated in 2018, just ten were homologated in 2019. There were no UAV records this year.

Proposals for Plenary 2019: Subcommittee and NAC proposals were received by the Technical Secretary in the week leading up to the 15th November deadline. As usual, most left it to the last minute to submit.

A total of 179 proposals were received and these proposals were checked (many had to be renamed in order to make a coherent list), and then they were grouped and forwarded to Subcommittee Chairmen, together with the CGR proposals. I am aware that a number of these proposals have been submitted in the wrong year and will need to be returned to the NACs concerned but this will be done following discussion at Bureau. Two proposals that were rejected in 2019 have been resubmitted this year and they will be sent back.

General Work: On several occasions, I have been pleased to be able to offer editorial advice regarding correct English translation for documents that have been written or amended this year.