

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Past events briefly

2019 FAI World Precision Flying Championship Spain

2019 FAI World Air Navigation Race , Portugal

You will hear the officials reports at Item 6A and 6B

Future

China trip few words about Datong ANR

GAC events scheduled for future are listed in Item 9

With final and preliminary bids or statements of intention

2020 SA

2021 Prec France

2022 Rally France

2023 Prec Czech Republic

China:

Immediately after this conference I go on Wednesday to China to be present at the

2019 Air Navigation Race China Open Championship.

China is holding this in Datong Shanxi Province some way North West of Beijing.

Also as Officials are Pedro and Jesus here and two Chinese

And Filippa as competitor

From Poland Champions Radomski and Lechowski

And crews from Cyprus and Lithuania

I think that this is an important event in China as up till now getting competition aircraft well outside the airfield ATZ has been a major stumbling block with the Military controlling all airspace. So much aerial competitions, parachuting, micro lighting, aero modelling, para motors and parasenders all competing within the boundary. Let us hope that this support from China helps to open up airspace for GA.

China is intending to send a team to WRFC Stellenbosch next year.

I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU SOME OF THE MULTITUDE OF STUFF THAT Has been going on behind the scenes and also in full view about FAI

FAI Finances. You might have seen the Presidents musing and proposals? In a nut shell FAI have been badly managed financially . The withdrawal of Breitling and Red Bull ,coupled with some

extravagant expenditure, usually disguised as Investment, has produced unsustainable losses with the result is that there is proposed to be an increase in income and decrease in expenditure. This raises the question of our Reserves The treasurer here will tell you in his financial report that we have reserves of Euros 63,707. The origins exactly of this go back many years and I expect by gradual prudent management of our finances by several previous Treasurers . However this paper figure is wrapped up with FAI finances as a liability and as such may well not be covered by fully liquid assets. In other words that amount is not held in a deposit account in cash for our exclusive use. So we must be watchful and maybe use some of those reserves, which have been built up for a rainy day, to some purpose while available. This might be by subsidising entry fees or perhaps by software development or any other purpose to support GAC and our 3 sports.

Software As many of us know and feel that the FAI website; sorry Visa Matti for saying this; is not very user friendly and to my mind aims to do too much; being aimed at the whole world, outsiders to FAI and insiders like us. As you know GAC no longer has a webmaster. Michel Frere from France was our last webmaster but we decided not to continue with that position with the advent of the New Upgraded FAI main website. I don't find it very useful to us and nor have we ever used, or tried to use, the offering of FAI official Partner Noosphere who supposedly have a full event management offering.

So if we have funds to use we might think of adding to the Martin suite of programs, a competition organisers site for management of entry fees, hotel, and all the other stuff local organisers are in need of?

But what is far more problematical is that, due to the financial crisis, FAI are intending to introduce a tax on us by levying a fee on top of Championship Official Entry fees. Such sum to go direct into FAI Secretariat accounts. We must try to ensure that if this does come to pass we, as GAC, do not get the blame from the NACS and competitors for increasing the fees. It must be made clear that it is an FAI levy and hopefully invoiced directly by FAI

Also alas a change to raise more revenue by scrapping the SL: and replacing it with a Sporting ID and in addition a supporters ID and an Officials ID all to become mandatory for all officials judges , local judges to have one To be paid for of course.

We have with us I am pleased to see Visa-Matti from the Lausanne Secretariat who will no doubt provide us with the FAI news shortly.

It has not been too good for FAI this year with the General conference fully scheduled for Morocco and the official invitations sent out , when it had to be cancelled as it seems the Moroccans were not really up for running such an event. To save GAC money I booked and paid for an early bird Easy jet flight. Needless to say I have not been repaid for that cost as yet.

GC 2019 will now be in Lausanne in early December and I expect to see some of you there.

At Gen. Conference ..there amongst others two motions to be put forward about which I and other Commission Presidents have reservations

The First is to state that WAG is the FAI Premier Event

The second is that it has to be World Championship status

Premier event?? I think not from our perspective. We have a long established and happy arrangement for our World Rally and Precision and ANR Championships. WAG comes at irregular intervals at venues where we have no local support and is a fun distraction from our true business of holding GAC World Championships. It has no value in getting new pilots whether locally at venue in Dubai or from watching TV in Europe or South Africa saying 'gosh I saw that in Dubai and can I please join you as new competitor'!

Also not forgetting as Premier Statutes for FAI is the huge importance of the maintenance of World Records and associated medals and awards

The World Championship status? Holding a World Rally Flying Championship in a faraway country with no local aero club with competence to run one. I can't see us approving a formal world Championship bid from such a country with no knowledge of the sport and no experienced people to run it. Heini here has horror stories to tell in the run up to Dubai about dealing with local officials. So running an event with modified rules due local problems can hardly be called of World Championship status I And this requirement is I think one-off requirement to suit the ambitions of Turkish NAC in a political statement against the present government.

Another point I want to raise now for you to think about but we do not have to decide on. Several other commissions save time at Plenaries and give office holders more security of tenure, and time to get settled into their role, by having elections only every 2 years. It has its pros and cons. So think about it and be prepared to share your views in any non-binding discussions that might occur.

So that concludes the Presidents report

Thank you .