

<i>Subject:</i>	FAI GOLD PARACHUTING MEDAL, NOMINATION MR. B.J. WORTH	Annex No. -	57
<i>Author:</i>	USPA, Kirk Verner, IPC Delegate USA	Agenda ref. -	25.1
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NOMINATION

FAI Gold Medal for Parachuting

October 24, 2016

Nominated by:

United States Parachute Association

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Nominee:

B.J. Worth

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Justification:

B.J. Worth's extensive accomplishments in the world of skydiving have spanned more than 45 years. He has been instrumental in the organization of multiple world records and the development of numerous skydiving competitions.

In the realm of skydiving competition, B.J. led the way in helping develop and promote a number of competition disciplines. In 1975, he introduced the concept of sequential relative work (now called formation skydiving) to the international skydiving community at the World Parachuting Championships of Relative Work in Germany. Over the years, he helped develop 4-way and 8-way formation skydiving into viable competition events. He was also the captain of the U.S. 8-way team that won four consecutive World Championships. He served as the meet director for the Accuracy World Cup in 1987 in Seoul, Korea, at the Olympic stadium and as event organizer of the 1996 World Parachuting Championships of Para-Ski.

In the 1990s, B.J. also introduced and promoted skysurfing to the International Parachuting Commission as a competition discipline. In the early 2000s, he introduced Blade Running to the international skydiving community. In this exciting and spectator-friendly discipline, skydivers flew their high-performance parachutes through slalom-like courses down snow-covered ski slopes. Blade Running was the precursor to the discipline of canopy piloting, which B.J. also introduced and promoted to the IPC as a competition discipline.

B.J. has also been a key figure in creating and organizing skydiving world records. He was the organizer of the World Team, which set three FAI formation skydiving large-formation world records: the 282-way, 357-way and current 400-way world records. He introduced the performance-record discipline of large-formation sequential records to the IPC and was the dive director and organizer of the FAI large-formation sequential two-point 100-way world record.

B.J. has also worked tirelessly over the decades to promote the sport of skydiving to the general public. He was the primary organizer of the Olympic Rings exhibition jump into the 1988 Olympics opening ceremony in Seoul. He worked for more than 15 years on behalf of the FAI and IPC to integrate sport parachuting and other air sports into the Olympic Games. He was also the organizer of various international non-competition events that promoted sport parachuting, and he generated extensive media exposure for the sport through his work in film production and skydiving stunts.

B.J. served as the U.S. delegate to the IPC for 21 years. He served as President of the IPC and FAI Vice President on behalf of the IPC from 2000-2003 and is an IPC President of Honor.

B.J. has completed more than 7,800 skydives and was the first to jump on all seven continents. He personally holds 12 FAI world records.

For these reasons, he is an ideal candidate to receive the FAI Gold Medal for Parachuting for his outstanding accomplishments and contributions to sport parachuting.