



FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

BALLOONING COMMISSION CIA COMMISSION D'AEROSTATION

CIA Safety & Education Subcommittee Report 2018

Present: Bengt Stener (SWE)
Michael Suchy (CZ)
Dragan Tom Miklousic (CRO)

Observers: Troy Bradley (USA)
Benoit Pelard (FRA)
Sabu Ichiyoshi (JPA)

Apologies from: David Gleed (CAN)
Rudy Paenen (BEL)
Felicity Clegg (RSA)
Andy Chau (HKG)

1. Meetings

The subcommittee have had one Skype meetings prior to this meeting in Mallorca. At the meeting February 25th did Rudy Paenen, Michael Suchy, Andy Chau, Dragan Tom Miklousic and Bengt Stener participated.

2. Reports from safety officers during 2017

The subcommittee have received reports from all events during 2017.

Date	Event	Safety Officer	Report
21 – 27 August 2017	20th FAI European Hot Air Balloon Championship 2017	Benoit Pelard (FRA)	Received
3 – 9 September 2017	4th FAI Women's European Hot Air Balloon Championship 2017	Jerzy Rolland (POL)	Received
7 th to 16 th September 2017	61 th Coupe Aeronautique Gordon Bennett 2017, Freiburg, Switzerland	Sebastian Eimers (GER)	Received
15 – 22 February 2018	10 FAI World Hot Air Airship Championships, Tegrensee, Germany	Harry Roland (GER)	Received

We have been lucky this year to receive all reports from last year's events, even if some of them arrived late. The best examples of quick and good reports are the one from Benoit Pelard and Harry Roland. They were received within a week from the event.

During 2017 years European Championship two balloons had a mid-air collision. The top balloon was flying at about 1200 ft and was going down at a rate of 2.5m/s when his basket made contact with the balloon flying below him and climbing at the time at a rate of 3.8m/s. The basket of the top balloon went deep inside the envelope of the balloon below tilting to 90 degrees sending to the ground, radio, phone and computer, and tearing the envelope of the lower balloon creating a hole just underneath the parachute. The Turkish balloon went down quickly, the pilot was using his burner nonstop. Pilot in

lower balloon had a broken leg had the navigator a sprung ankle. The pilot in the top balloon had no injuries but was in shock.

The SC discussed this and suggest the following actions:

AX WG to:

- Add rule(s) to prevent midair collision (e.g. compulsory equipment)
- Look over penalties for collisions.

Scoring WG to:

- Advice in Operation Handbook about task setting to avoid crowds of balloons in tasks.
- Look over penalties for collisions.

New Technology subcommittee:

- Develop device to prevent midair collision

The Safety & Education Subcommittee recommends delegates that there Balloon Federations arrange local safety seminars. The recommendations to the competitors are:

- Do not climb if you are not sure what is above
- Train your ground crew to be in sight distance
- Use acoustic signal when balloons seen climbing bellow
- Fly with co-pilot for more safety

3. Safety officers for events in 2018

The subcommittee recommended the following safety officer to be appointed for this year's events:

Date	Event	Safety Officer
18 July – 22 July 2018	POST Luxembourg Balloon Championship, Mersch, Luxembourg	Pascal BOURKEL (LUX)
07 Aug - 11 Aug 2018	3rd FAI Women's World Hot Air Balloon Championship, Naleczow, Poland	Jerzy Czerniawski (POL)
18 Aug - 26 Aug 2018	23rd FAI World Hot Air Balloon Championship, Gross-Siegharts, Austria	Nikolaus BINDER (AUT)
12 Sep - 16 Sep 2018	4th FAI Junior World Hot Air Balloon Championship, Włocławek, Poland	Jerzy Czerniawski (POL)
12 Sep - 15 Sep 2018	62th Coupe Aeronautique Gordon Bennett 2018, Bern, Switzerland	Stefan Zeberli (SUI)
22 Oct – 27 Oct 2019	21th FAI European Hot Air Balloon Championship 2019, Mallorca, Spain	Les Purfield (GBR)
	63th Coupe Aeronautique Gordon Bennett 2019, France	

4. Official drone (controlled by the event Organiser) close to targets.

It's recommended that only the official drones be used within the MMA.

Guidelines on limitations for using drones during balloon competitions to prevent mid-air collision:

- Just one drone within MMA
- The drone operation must follow rules and regulations for the country of the event.
- The drone operator to have a high level of experience.
- The Event Director and the Safety Officer decide on the use of drones each time (flight)

- The eventual use of official drones is part of the task briefing.
- The drone pilot is responsible for the drone operation at all time.
- The drone operator must at all times have visual contact with the drone.
- Drone with a propeller protection
- Drone size to be considered.
- Flight over crowded public areas shall follow regulations for the country.

5. **Updating of the Safety handbook**

The Handbook chapter **2.1 QUALIFICATION LEVELS AND CRITERIA** to be updated with:

- *The Safety Officer shall have an understanding of the Event Rules, Safety Handbook, Competition operation Handbook and other relevant information for the event.*
- *If an appointed Safety Officer who has not fulfilled his duties in a previous CIA/FAI competition is not eligible to be Safety Officer in any CIA/FAI competitions. The duties include sending a report to CIA/FAI.*
- *Safety Officers in Gas Balloon events must have a good understanding of Gas Balloons.*
- *Safety Officers in Hot Air Airship competitions must have a good understanding of Hot Air Airships.*

Update of chapter **4.3 EVENT RESPONSIBILITIES** with:

The Safety Officer may inspect that the propane hoses are at least strapped to the burner supports inside the basket. If it is a balloon without burner supports, the propane hoses may then be strapped to the device attaching the basket or the burner frame. Proper securing of the propane hoses may minimise accidents with the fuel system during hard landings or hitting objects during landing.

The Safety Officer shall support the Event Director and the Scoring Officials with regard to penalty assessment about flying behaviour.

Adding a new chapter:

7 GAS BALLOON COMPETITIONS

Most of this handbook cover Hot Air Balloons, but we have here added some comments for Gas Balloon events,

The safety officer should be focussed on the:

- *inflation process*
- *hydrogen filling team and truck operators*
- *amount of ballast connected to the basket*
- *holding line of the fill spout be secured to the basket*

6. **Updates of Education material**

The subcommittee asks the delegates to send Educational information (power point or other documentation) to the Safety and Education sub-committee. This to be able to create a list of good material for training.

If someone is interesting to work with education please inform us in the subcommittee.

7. ***Nomination of sub-committee members and Chairman for the coming year***

Bengt Stener (SWE) - Chairman
Michael Suchy (CZ)
Dragan Tom Miklousic (CRO)
Rudy Paenen (BEL)
Andy Chau (HKG)
Troy Bradley (USA)

Motions from Safety and Education Subcommittee 2018

Motion 1:

Motion to updated Safety Officer's Handbook as presented to be accepted by the plenary.