

Report to the CIA on the 2018 meeting of CIMP, the medical commission of the FAI and other CIMP matters.

By Dr David Bareford, UK delegate & CIA representative.

The annual CIMP meeting was held in Lausanne 16th/17th June 2018. Saturday was a technical meeting. The major presentation was on safety theory and practice by Dr. Prof Alfred Ultsch, University of Marburg : he explained that improvement of safety in gliders was mostly due to education of participants and not more rules or more medical exams which don't prevent accidents. Human Factors mean humans will make errors! Therefore, we should promote the ideas of the social network to promote the implementation of new safety methods. Discussion, Recommendations and Advice: Off season training of safety officers at FAI, WAG CIMP working groups and a Safety plan. There was also an update on WADA. Current statistics and cases of TUE were summarised for 2018: about 12 requests each year. The Sunday morning was devoted to formal business.

Other matters:

Peter Saundby (past chairman of CIMP) promoted the UK medical licencing system as a more reasonable solution for sport pilots in Europe for many years backed by detailed cost/effective analysis and evidence-based papers. The UK Government and Political EU Parliament Members supported this greatly. So far, they have devised and installed the EASA LAPL Licences with less requirements. Prompted by a couple of NAA's, including UK CAA, EASA agreed to trial the optional use of national medical requirements for FCL licence holders in air sport. This approach was supported at EASA committee by only two NAA's (including UK CAA) but rejected by all others. As a result, many tens of thousands of pilots continue to face the cost and hassle of EASA medicals. Some will not be able to meet the requirements and as a consequence will have to stop flying. Pete Stratten, Chief Executive Officer of the British Gliding Association commented that the AME community must be feeling very comfortable that their income is protected

He has approached CIMP on their position regarding air sport pilot medicals, and what efforts are being made by FAI to influence national and wider policy on this important topic. Marja Osinga (Dutch CIMP delegate) has been for several years the official EAS (European Air Sport Delegate) in the EASA Medical Expert Group (EASA MEG) and has been trying to promote FAI Interests. The head of the EASA MEG, Christian Parnait, EASA, Cologne is willing to hear additional considerations, outside the normal rulemaking process.

Maybe the FAI, CIMP and the air sports pilot community needs to lobby ICAO to produce more reasonable medical standards for air sport pilots.