

HOSPITAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE (HEMS)

A Proposal submitted by FAI-CIG President

The Concept

The Competitive side of Helicopter Championships was born out of "Search and Rescue". In recent years the skills exhibited by crews in the field of SAR have seen dramatic changes.

The CIG Bureau considered the President's initial proposal promoting the idea of "Special FAI Recognition" of leading hospitals and their resident helicopter crews jointly with CIMP (FAI's Medical Commission). The Bureau agreed that the President should develop the proposal.

There are numerous Special Hospitals providing HEMS. Countries providing such a service include: Austria, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, New Zealand, Switzerland , UK and USA.

Helicopter Crews have on board 'paramedics' and often 'flying doctors' as part of the crew. They bring in the patient who is treated 'en route'. On arrival at the HEMS hospital there continues to be 'on board' examination and frequently further emergency work before the patient is moved to an operating theatre. Such Helicopter Crews and Hospital Staff achieve an exceptionally high level of skill in life saving.

The Proposal

The Proposal is to recognise HEMS units by FAI. This would not include, initially, other hospitals that receive injured by civilian or military helicopters.

The Parties

Two Commissions would be responsible jointly, CIG and CIMP. CIMP's President has warmly welcomed this initiative.

Procedure

Such an Award would require a new By-Law. This would be drafted and approved solely by the Executive Board.

It would bring SAR into FAI International Recognition.

Candidates would be able to apply, be invited or nominated.

How It Works

CIG and CIMP would work together to promote and vet. Vetting should be repeated every 5 years to confirm that they are 'up to standard'.

CIG would vet the helicopter service, its authority, clearance, licences, helipad design and their associated Helicopter Operation.

CIMP would approve the standard offered by the hospital and its medical staff, the skills and services and the extent of its function.

Most of this can be achieved by drafting comprehensive Questionnaires in the application.

Taking It Forward

Initially focus on those Companies who conduct HEMS operations, who are recognised as a good professional advisor together with hospitals which have already a perfect set-up and training for HEMS Operations.

Benefits

- International coverage for FAI CIG and CIMP.
- An opportunity to obtain PR not only from HEMS but also for our Championship events World or otherwise.
- More professionalism.

Award

FAI SAR Diploma

CIG are invited to approve.

February 2013

David Hamilton - President