



*Fédération
Aéronautique
Internationale*

Minutes

of the Annual Meeting of the **FAI Rotorcraft Commission (CIG)**

Held
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From 09:15 am

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3 Apologies

A P Herbert	President of Honour
Wolfgang Perplies	Rules Committee Chairman
Ridvan Ozdemir	Turkey
Jacques Escaffre	France
Wolf-Dietrich Tesar	Austria

4 In Memoriam

Captain Eric Melrose “Winkle” Brown, CBE, DSC, AFC, Hon FRAeS, RN, former Secretary of the Helicopter Club of Great Britain and International Jury member at 2nd WHC in 1973 in the United Kingdom.

5 Proxies and Votes

Proxy votes were received. New Zealand gave its vote to Germany
There were 10 votes present at the meeting, absolute majority = 6 votes, 2/3 majority 7.

6 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

In accordance with FAI Regulations and the FAI Code of Ethics, delegates were asked to declare any Conflict of Interest prior to the start of the meeting.

No Conflicts of Interest were declared.

7 Reception and Dinner

A reception will be held at 6pm in the Hotel AuLac Bar. Dinner will be held at 7pm in the dining room Hotel Aulac 1st floor. The costs for the meal will be charged on the hotel bill of the participants.

8 Minutes of CIG Meeting Lausanne 5th and 6th March 2015

The minutes were circulated in April 2015 and published on the CIG Website. They were unanimously recorded as a true record.

9 Minutes of CIG Bureau Meeting at Zielona Gora 12th August 2015

The minutes of CIG Bureau Meeting at Zielona Gora were unanimously recorded as a true record. There had been no more meetings of the Bureau since then.

10 President's Report

The President gave a report of the General Conference held in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, in September 2015.

The FAI President wants to see some kind of SAR competitions in Helicopter Sports. David Hamilton asked the Delegates if they wanted to organize such an event. No comments have been given at this time.

The Organizers agreement has been revised. This may affect the future bidding process. Details will be presented to the Commission by the FAI Sports and Marketing Director in the afternoon.

It has been reported that FAI has incurred cost as a result of losing appeals due to discrepancies between the Statutes and By-Laws.

David Hamilton met the FAI Far East Vice-President during the General Conference and discussed the hosting a WHC in China.

The General Rules state that a competitor representing a NAC who changed the NAC has to wait at least two years until he or she can start for the new NAC in a Cat 1- or Cat 2-Event. The CIG had decided that he or she has to wait at least three years. This is in accordance with the rules and was confirmed by the Commission unanimously.

5 years ago young Italian judges had been trained and financed by the University of Torino. Unfortunately, the Italian NAC quit participation in any Cat 1- or Cat 2-Event. The FAI President had promised to try to get them back into the business but without success. General Secretary, Susanne Schödel proposed to register them with another NAC (e.g. San Marino).

11 FAI World Air Games Dubai 2015

It was reported by Konrad Geissler that WAG in Dubai was a great success and a perfect presentation of air sports (see Annex E). There will be a workshop at the beginning of April to review and make recommendations for future events. A gift organized by Germany on the behalf of CIG was handed over in Dubai.

The bidding process is open for the next WAG on the FAI-website.

The President asked for opinions of paying key members of the Commission who worked hard during WAG. David Monks said he felt it was unwise to pay people as this would set a precedence for paying people in a voluntary organization and should be treated with caution. The proposal was put forward by the President. Konrad Geissler explained this was the express wish of the Organizers to hand this money over to the key personnel and the Commission agreed to it.

The LOC had paid an amount to the FAI to cover expenses; the FAI EB assigned an amount of 7'000 CHF to each ASC to be spent at their discretion. The Commission decided to give 4.500 CHF to Wolfgang Perplies, 1.500 CHF to Wojciech Dobrzyński (who will transfer it to the Polish Helicopter Association) and 1.000 CHF to Irina Grushina.

12 General Secretary's Report

Presently there are 114 countries member in the FAI: 87 are active members (Algeria and Kosovo joined the FAI recently), 15 associate members, 8 temporary members and 4 affiliate members.

FAI Head Office's task is mainly to support the Sport Commissions and all airsport activities. They maintain archives where records and the results of Championships and other main events are recorded. They supported 50 Cat1 events and 373 records in 2015.

11 sporting licenses were invalid. To be valid a sporting license has to be registered in the FAI Sporting License Data base. In 2016 34 world championships and 14 continental championships are planned.

Susanne presented the public relations efforts with several examples. There were more than 40 press releases in 2014 and 2015. If a Commission wants to get the result of a championship published on the FAI website it has to be sent to the Head Office within 1 day.

The FAI has signed a contract with a German TV production company. They will produce, for example, trailers for Cat 1 events.

Cat 2 events that wish to be included in the FAI are required to be recognized by the appropriate Commission including any sanction fee paid.

13 Organizer's agreement revision

FAI's Sports and Marketing Director, Markus Haggene, advised the Commission the revised Organizer's Agreement is expected to be released at the end of March 2016. The aim of the document is to simplify and standardize the basic clauses of the agreement such as venue, insurances, finances, head office services and the details of the NAC involved. The sanctioned bid should be appended to the OA as an annex

The FAI will request a minimum visual presence during an event. If they or an FAI partner wants to have more visual presence they should be able to buy more.

14 Judges approval

The list of judges has been approved unanimously.

15 World helicopter championship 2015

See Annex A.

16 Formal request to FAI by David Monks

The President asked if anyone had any positive suggestions as arising from David Monks' letter (Annex B). There was no response from the room. The President attempted to close the issue and sought David Monks' satisfaction in order to conclude the matter.

David Monks, UK Delegate and CIG secretary, said he was not satisfied and looked to the President to address the issues raised in his letter, annexes and subsequent response letter which had been circulated to the Commission earlier that day. The President advised he was only the chair of the meeting and was representing the others in the room. David Monks responded that he sought a response from The President as he has written a reply to his first letter on behalf of the Commission. (See Annex C).

The President asked what David Monks suggested he should do. David Monks asked him to acknowledge that the items raised by him in his letters were valid and should be addressed. The President did not want to acknowledge this to be the case.

David Monks then addressed the Commission explaining that his letter was written because of his experiences during WHC 2015 and was not a complaint about the organizers or the competitors but the management of the event. He explained the importance of this situation and experiences at WHC 2015 not to be repeated, acknowledging the Austrian, Czech and Polish delegates who are working hard promoting the sport and trying to attract sponsorship further explaining how a repeat of his experiences could have a negative effect on sponsorship.

Irina Grushina stated she thought it was a direct complaint about the organizers as they were the managers of the competition. David Monks responded it was not. The management of the event was carried out by different people to the organizers who did a very good job and credited them.

He went on to explain sporting licenses were referred to in his letter because it was an example of how an apparent small non-compliance of a rule can have a massive impact on a competitor. Irina Grushina commented there was only one competitor without a sporting license. David Monks advised there were seven competitors without valid sporting licenses registered on the database and referred to FAI Sporting Director and Annex B of his letter. The Secretary General confirmed for a license to be valid it needs to be on the Sporting License Database. The Secretary General advised no alternations to the scores could be made regarding the invalid sporting licenses after four months.

David Monks asked if the FAI could assist the Commission in the matter as he felt the President was not addressing the issues raised and was in denial. The Secretary General advised other Commissions set up working groups to address these matters.

The President proposed to David Monks that the Bureau should look at what changes to the rules should be made and asked David Monks if he was satisfied with the proposal. David Monks replied that he was not. David Monks said before the Commission could go forward the President had to acknowledge the points in his letter were valid and the proposals made in it should be considered. David Monks stated there were failings by the management. David Monks stated the management keep making the same mistakes and referred back to the WHC 2005 Chief Judge Report and compared it to his own experiences with the fender course not being available to inspect for one hour before the competition at WHC 2015. And again in 2012, an issue arose which was to be addressed at the 2013 Plenary meeting only for nothing to be done. That is why David Monks asked FAI to help as he believed the President would again do nothing and sweep things under the carpet. David Monks then referred to his letter and quoted from the minutes of the 2006 Plenary meeting:

"The President proposed that the Commission adopt the following resolution to which he thought nobody can object.

"CIG reaffirms that all International Rotorcraft Competitions must be conducted strictly in accordance with the provisions of the FAI Sporting Code (General Section – Section 9) and Regulations approved by CIG. It is the responsibility of FAI Officials (Judges and Jury Members) to ensure that these Rules are strictly applied".

The UK Delegate seconded the motion which was carried unanimously. The President then ruled that the matter was closed."

David Monks stated quite clearly for the President the matter may have been closed as nothing had been done in line with his statement of 2006. The President responded declaring nothing had been said since then. David Monks responded that something was being said now. David Monks advised as a safeguard that he had forwarded a copy of his letter to CASI prior to the 90 day appeal deadline.

David Monks said he laid the blame of his experiences of WHC 2015 totally with the management. He stated the Jury, whom the Commission President was President, failed the organizers and competitors for failing in its duties. It had a responsibility to oversee the event and make sure the event was run in accordance with all FAI Rules, Statutes and Sporting Code, the Jury did not.

The President responded that it was not the Jurys job to do that. The Secretary General advised the President that it was indeed the Jurys job. The President further stated it was not in the Jury Handbook. David Monks advised him it was in the General Section. David Monks commented on how important it was for everyone to know and understand the rules.

The President suggested The Bureau address the issues raised in David Monks letter and look to find a way forward and asked for David Monks' approval. David Monks replied that if the Bureau will acknowledge the concerns raised are valid and consider his recommendations, he would be satisfied with this conclusion with a view to avoid this situation occurring again. A six month time limit was set to deal with the matters. The President agreed and the discussion was concluded.

17 Anti-Doping Code

Ségolène Rouillon, the FAI Anti-Doping Manager, stated that the doping test during the WHC 2015 was confidential until the outcome was officially announced. The penalty given was the lowest possible.

The President said the Bureau would revise the results and publish them after their meeting.

Jacques Berlo, the CIG Anti-Doping Manager, introduced the FAI anti-doping program for 2016.

Ségolène then stated that in 2015, there were 16 out of competition tests and 24 in competition tests of which one was positive.

18 WHC 2018 Bids

There were bids presented for the WHC 2018 by Czech Republic and Belarus. An additional bid from China is possible. A vote for the bids will be delayed until the revised organizer's agreement is published. The President made a request that the Bureau be allowed to decide on which bid was to be accepted for the next WHC. David Monks questioned this and asked if the Commission could be allowed to vote on this matter as he believed it was their choice where the next WHC was to be held as they would be attending. It was pointed out this was a major decision affecting so many. A vote by email was proposed and the votes are to be returned to The FAI Sports and Marketing Director.

19 Proficiency Awards

David Monks proposed additional qualifications to revise the requirements for the Proficiency Awards. The reason for the additional points was to make the awards more accessible and, in particular, encourage new entries into the competition. The Commission agreed to this proposal unanimously.

20 Rotorcraft Gold Medal

There were no bids for the Rotorcraft Gold Medal for 2016. If there are nominations for 2017 they should be sent to the President and to FAI Secretary General NLT November 30 2016.

21 Financials

The financial situation of CIG is currently 24.786,48 CHF.

22 Revision of rules

The main issue about the rules is not a misinterpretation of rules but the application of rules. If there will be changes to the rules they should be sent to the rules committee by the end of April.

Irina Grushina presented the Russian proposal to include Heli Races as additional events (slalom, fender or executed as relay events) with immediate scoring without protest time. They should be conducted as additional events aside of classic championships.

Austria spoke of a proposed event called Heli Battle with rules to be finalized. They hope to demonstrate this during Heli Days in Gmunden.

23 Cat 2 events sanction fee

To get CIG Cat 2 events published in the FAI calendar a sanction fee should be paid which will be transferred to the CIG account. The proposed amount was either 100 CHF (Russian proposal) as a fixed fee or 10 CHF per competitor (UK proposal).

The majority of the Commission voted generally to introduce sanction fees on an amount of 100 CHF. The fees have to be paid to FAI and transferred to the CIG account. It is Secretary's responsibility to coordinate the events.

In 2016 there will be 2 Cat 2 events in Russia, 1 in Belgium and 1 in Czech Republic. None will be in UK, Austria, Switzerland, Poland and Germany. These will be the Heli Races in Russia June 11 and the Russian Open Helicopter Championship July 14 to 17. In Belgium there will be Heli Races July 29 to 31 and the Czech Championship in Czech Republic August 19 to 21.

24 Any other business

Germany presented the planned European Helicopter Cup in Mengen August 4 to 7 and handed out the invitation to all delegates present.

Austria presented their Heli Days at Gmunden.

UK will conduct Heli Races in connection with Heli Expo at Sywell, but presently there are some approval issues with CAA due to an aircraft crash during an airshow last year. It will also in connection with the 50th anniversary of the Helicopter Club of Great Britain.

Belarus will conduct their Heli Races at Minsk.

Russia invited all nations to the above events and also offered an invitation to the Academy of International Helicopter Sport. Additionally, Irina suggested to send a letter to flight schools all over the World to encourage helicopter sports in student training.

25 Elections

Markus Hagganey, FAI Sports and Marketing Director, took over the Chair of the meeting to conduct the elections.

The first vote was to elect the Commission's President:

There were 3 proposals:

- David Hamilton
- Irina Grushina
- Jacques Berlo

Irina did not accept to stand for nomination.

Delegates had to decide between David Hamilton and Jacques Berlo. After the voting Jacques Berlo won the majority vote and was elected as Commission President.

Second vote was the role of the first Vice-President:

The proposals were

- Irina Grushina
- Konrad Geissler

The majority elected Irina Grushina who was elected as 1st Vice President.

The third vote was for the role of second Vice-President. Before this election the Commission had to decide whether to have two or three Vice-Presidents. The majority decided to have only two.

The proposals were

- David Hamilton, who declined the nomination
- Marcin Szamborski
- Konrad Geissler
- David Monks, who declined the nomination
- Stefan Seer, who declined the nomination.

In the first and second vote there was a tie-break situation between Konrad Geissler and Marcin Szamborski. Konrad Geissler conceded, Marcin Szamborski was elected as second Vice-President.

The President suggested to Markus Hagganey that we may only need one secretary as there had been two due to work load. There was no formal vote for one secretary, only an election for one position.

Proposals were

- Hans-Peter Schöffler
- David Monks, who declined the nomination

Hans-Peter Schöffler was elected as Secretary by acclamation.

As Rules Committee Chairman the Commission nominated Wolfgang Perplies for another year, David Monks as Assistant Chair and Olga Shevaleva as Assistant Chair. David Monks will take from Wolfgang Perplies after one year.

Jacques Berlo proposed David Hamilton be awarded President of Honour of the CIG. The UK said they would like to discuss this matter. Markus Hagganey confirmed the Commission could confer and asked David Hamilton to leave the room during deliberations. UK Alternate Delegate, Roy Harford, spoke and said of David Hamilton that he wouldn't dwell on David Hamilton's helicopter flying qualifications and experience but would like to remind everyone here today that he got the job, not on merit, but by default as he was the only nominated candidate willing to stand. However Roy Harford did recognize that David Hamilton did undertake the role of President when no one else was willing to do so. In Roy Harford's opinion, in the role of CIG President, David Hamilton has come up short. Following serial failures in Competition Management Oversight, to make such an award risks bring the CIG and the FAI into disrepute. We should not be seen to reward failure.

In his absence, David Hamilton was awarded as a President of Honour.

26 Date of next meeting

The Plenary Meeting will take place on 9th and 10th March 2017 in Lausanne starting at 14.30 on 9th March 2017 and 9.30 on the 10th March 2017.

The Bureau will meet in Lausanne at 09.30 on 9th March 2017.

An informal dinner will be held on the evening of 9th March 2017.

Post-plenary note: Dates for the next Bureau & Plenary Meeting have been moved to 23 and 24 March 2017

N.B.1 Delegates are requested to submit their revised List of International Judges and Assistant Judges for 2017/2018 to the Chairman of the Rules Committee not later than 1st February 2017.

N.B.2 The Plenary Dinner with Guests will take place on Thursday evening. Would you please advise the President and Secretary by mid-January the members in your party including any guests. If anybody has a special food requirement i.e. vegetarian would they please let the President know as quickly as possible.

Bamberg, March 22 2016

Pit Schöffler, Secretary

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