Minutes of the Meeting of the FAI Rotorcraft Commission (CIG)

held at Lausanne on 23rd and 24th March 2017
1. Attendance

President
Jacques BERLO
BEL

1st Vice President
Irina GRUSHINA
RUS

2nd Vice President
Marcin SZAMBORSKI
POL

Secretary
Pit SCHÖFFLER
GER

Rules Committee Chairman
David MONKS
GBR

Belarus Delegate
Olga SHEVELOVA
BLR

Austrian Delegate
Wolf-Dietrich TESAR
AUS

Swiss Delegate
Bernard LÜNGSTENMANN
SWI

Alternate Austrian Delegate
Stefan SEER
AUS

Alternate German Delegate
Konrad GEISSLER
GER

Alternate UK Delegate
Roy HARFORD
GBR

National Representative
Linda Christine LILLENG
NOR

Observer
Mike BOUTIN
CAN

Observer
Wolfgang PERPLIES
GER

FAI General Secretary
Susanne SCHÖDEL
GER

FAI Sports and Event Director
Markus HAGGENEY
GER

The President Jacques Berlo welcomed everybody at Lausanne and said a
especially warm welcome to FAI General Secretary Susanne Schödel, FAI Sports
and Events Director Markus Haggeney and the new participants Linda Christine
Lilleng from Norway and Mike Boutin from Canada.

He mentioned that helicopter air sport is the safest air sport at all. It got its roots in
SAR tasks and depends on three elements: the pilot, the copilot and the helicopter.
At the end of his opening speech he announced the official CIG dinner at
EDELWEISS Restaurant at 19.00.

The roll call confirmed the attendance of Austria, Belarus, Germany, Norway, UK,
Canada, Poland, Russia, Switzerland and Belgium.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from New Zealand, France and Turkey.

3. In Memoriam

The Commission remembered Nigel Feetham, who lost his life after surviving a
helicopter crash last year, Mikhail Farikh, outstanding Russian helicopter pilot, FAI
record holder, member of the round-the-world flight on R66 and several Polar and
Arctic expeditions on helicopter, who crashed in Arctic in April 2016, Vitaliy Pavlov,
Hero of the Soviet Union, former Commander of Army Aviation of Russia, President of honour of the Federation of helicopter sport of Russia, who died in July 2016, **Mikhail Kormyagin**, overall World helicopter champion (1996), who died in October 2016, **Igor Volk**, outstanding Russian cosmonaut and pilot, former FAI Vice-President and former President of the Federation of helicopter sport of Russia, who died in January 2017, **Dmitry Rakitski**, outstanding Russian helicopter pilot, FAI record holder, member of the round-the-world flight on R66 and several Polar and Arctic expeditions on helicopter, who crashed in Altay in February 2017 and **Sergey Kiyaev**, Chief of the Moscow regional Aeroclub, Flying Director of 14th WHC, who died in March 2017.

4. **Proxies and votes**

A proxy was given from the Czech Republic to UK. There were eight countries which means a majority of five for the votes.

5. **Declaration of Conflicts of interest**

There were no conflicts of interest known.

6. **Secretary General’s welcome**

The FAI Secretary General Susanne Schödel reported in her welcoming remarks from the Asian summit of Air Sports where 18 countries participated. She additionally emphasized the importance of helicopter sport as part of the FAI World Air Games and the new invented Air Games Tour which was presented later during the plenary.

7. **Minutes of CIG meeting Lausanne 10th and 11th March 2016**

David Monks commented that the Minutes of the last year’s plenary were different to those written by him and approved by the President, Jacques Berlo. He said it was important to record the meeting factually and not “sugarcoat” the record. It was agreed to discuss this item at a later stage in the meeting. Markus Hagggeney stated that the FAI Head Office do not change minutes, they check for the correct naming of competitions and advice if an item is factually wrong. The Secretary General supported the comments of Markus Hagggeney and informed the commission there would be a paper trail showing approval of the minutes published on the website by the secretariat.

An additional item relating to a letter written by David Monks to Konrad Geissler relating to WAG 2015 payment was introduced to the meeting and was deferred for later discussion.

8. **FAI General Conference**

The report of the FAI General Conference stated the new FAI president Frits Brink from the Netherlands. In the CASI are 11 ASC and 10 NAC represented. Presently 4 working groups exist within the CASI. They are dealing with Sporting Licences, a Jury Handbook, Multi Sport events and Records and Classes. During 2016 there
were 724 Cat 1 and 2 events executed on behalf of FAI. The next World Air Games are planned for 2020.

The Secretary General reported about the new Air Games Tour. The Air Games Tour concept aims at 4 – 5 stages per year. It will be a 3 – 4 days’ event with different Air Sports including Rotorcraf. She went to explain with the use of a presentation that Rotorcraft, due to their unique ability, could compete either of the two venue types the event would be held at.

The World Games will be held in Wroclaw this year including 3 Air Sports which will be Canopy piloting, Glider Aerobatics and Paramotoring.

9. The President's Report

The President gave his report and stated his intent to make CIG an Elite Commission for Helicopter Sports. His plans are to set up a professional management structure and he presented a first draft of an organisational chart (Annex A). Additionally, CIG will create a working group to develop a organizer's handbook and a flowchart for the revision of rules. Both are in the responsibility of David Monks the Chairman of the Rules Committee. The delegates agreed to the President’s proposals.

He presented the accounts of CIG (Annex B) and proposed to appoint the secretary as a treasurer in addition to his secretary position. The plenary approved and Pit Schoeffler was confirmed as the CIG treasurer.

10. 16th FAI World Helicopter Championship 2018

For the World Helicopter Championship 2018, there is only one bid from Belarus. The plenary accepted the bid without objections. Due to construction works near to the venue, a request was made by the Belarus delegate to reduce the freestyle box to Minsk 600x600m which the Commission agreed. Irina suggested Chief Judge should be Lothar Oehler from Germany and deputy Olga Shevaleva (BLR). David Monks advised the Commission of a proposal to a change the rules to allow for non commission members to be jury members. The Commission agreed. UK proposed Jeremy James and the President proposed Mary Anne Stevens (FAI Executive Board Member) as jury members in Minsk. Additionally, Irina suggested herself as a third jury member. The Commission agreed to these 3 persons as jury for the World Helicopter Championship 2018. David Monks suggested that CIG should create a list of possible jury members to draw from in the future.

Irina Grushina proposed the Chief Judges – representatives from all countries - should meet every year after the season and discuss the rules. She offered to arrange a meeting in Russia at the end of the season.

11. Helicopter World Cup

The Helicopter World Cup will have 7 events in 2017. The rules are ready and as soon they are published they will be valid for the 2017 World Cup. The CIG members will be informed about the publication by the secretary.
Irina Grushina advised for a World Cup event a minimum of 20 judges and 8 crews are necessary. The number of crews will be coordinated by Irina and given to the individual organizer. During the World Cup the awards are medals and diplomas only. Cups will be awarded to the overall winners of the nations and the individual disciplines. It was stated by Irina the FAI CIG medals will be paid for by the Commission and she would organise the manufacture.

Irina presented the Logo she commissioned for the World Cup. The plenary chooses Logo 3 to be applicable.

12. Minutes 2016 Further Discussion

At the beginning of the second day the President reminds the plenary that it was the World day for tuberculosis. Then the discussion starts on the publication of 2016 minutes.

The President stated the minutes of the 2016 plenary were not published in the version which was approved by the President. Markus Haggeney stated that Head Office will check the incoming Commission prepared minutes for correct wording and grammar errors. In the 2016 minutes the wording about the President’s election had to be considered.

Markus Haggeney spoke on the subject of minutes and the role of the secretariat. Regarding the awarding of the President of honour the original version stated the words of Roy Harford. In the published version, they were missing according to David Monks. David replied to Markus Haggeney and said the minutes published by the secretariat regarding the award of President of honour to David Hamilton were not being questioned by him. Irina stated the published text only records the UK opinion and that there were also statements of other nations missing. This was discussed and additional comments were drafted to be added.

Jacques Berlo proposed to print both versions and circulate it in the plenary and discuss it again after the coffee break. He apologised the situation and stated finally that such situation should be avoided for the future. David Monks explained which items were not published as approved by the President and provided the original text alteration. Wolf-Dietrich Tesar asked David why it was so important to which David replied as the minutes should be correct and a true and accurate account of what was said and agreed in the meeting. Wolf-Dietrich said he believed there was more to it.

When asked many delegates said they had not read the minutes prior to the meeting.

Finally, it was decided to edit the 2016 minutes to:
“The delegates discussed the subject of the award. Different opinions have been given and reflected upon. The delegates voted.” For item 11 Markus Haggeney requested to change the wording to read: “The Commission’s President stated that . . .”
13. WAG 2015 Payment

A letter was written to Konrad Geissler (GER) (Alternate Delegate) from David Monks, UK Delegate. It was not circulated to the Commission prior to the meeting (Annex C). It requested site of a document from the WAG LOC for confirmation of the statement “it was the express wish of the WAG organisers to give the money to key personnel from the commission”, made by Konrad Geissler during the 2016 plenary which was the basis of Commission vote. Konrad Geissler read his and Wolfgang Perplies statement. He stated it will be attached to the minutes (Annex D).

Markus Haggeney displayed 2 emails dated 10.12.2015 and 10.02.2016 (Annex E and F) explaining to commission presidents how the money became available through negotiations by the FAI Executive Board with the WAG 2015 LOC and how the commissions are then entitled to use these funds to cover the expenses and that they must follow the standard Air Sport commission expense policies.

14. Revision of Rules

David Monks presented his rules revision flow chart explaining the system of how to request a rule change (Annex G). Stefan Seer commented the flow chart is too complicated and the revision following this flow chart takes too much time. Irina stated that proposals should be sent to the Bureau until a specific date. The Helicopter working group will then discuss the proposals and present the revision to CIG. After the approval of CIG the revised rules will be published by the Head Office. Irina requested to put the date into the revision guide lines. David Monks explained this is the process the chart depicts involving the Bureau, the rules committee and the point of presentation to the Commission. The Commission agreed to adopt the document.

David Monks presented his proposed revisions for this year. Secretary General stated that the Head office needs to be involved in the revision process. David Monks stated most of the revisions are grammatical with some proposed textual changes based on the working group meeting in Warsaw.

Some of the following changes were discussed and decided:
6.2. to be edited to name the recommendations,
6.7. to be changed that event director and chief judge will decide on navigational event details. Konrad Geissler gave the remark that an alternate course might be a good idea to avoid a situation happened in Poland 2015,
7.1. delete the deputy event director,
7.3. Remove “and be all members of CIG”,
7.4. add “variable parts of the events will be drawn and announced during the general briefing”,
12.6. During Free style there often is a difference between the preparation map which was sent to the participants and the reality. Stefan Seer reminded the organizers to avoid this as far as possible.
13.8. Additional paragraph including for the use of cameras.
A discussion followed about the size and details of the rules. The plenary agreed that they must be as detailed as possible to avoid discussion in the preparation, ease the preparation and avoid complaints. The World Cup is much less detailed.

14. IT-Update

Head Office IT-Manager Visa-Matti Leinikki gave an update on the IT used by the Head Office and presented the new FAI website coming up in summer.

15. Rotorcraft Gold Medal

For the Rotorcraft Gold Medal were given 2 bids. From UK for Jeremy James presented by David Monks and from Poland for Richard Wittkowski presented by Marcin Szamborski. The plenary voted 5 to 3 for Wittkowski.
Jacques Berlo decided to award the FAI Air Sport Medal to Jeremy James and will personally hand him in the UK.

16. Anti-Doping Update

Anti-doping update was presented by Ségolène Rouillon, FAI Anti-Doping Manager (Annex H)

17. International Judges

The international judges list be updated according the inputs of the nations and published in due time.

18. Other Business

A demonstration of an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) was given by Mrs Hayoz from the Samaritains -Vaud.

The organizer’s handbook is in progress. Inputs from everybody are highly welcomed.

The next CIG plenary will be held on 08./09. March 2018.

Finally Wolf-Dietrich Tesar announced his retirement from CIG and introduced Stefan Seer as his replacement. CIG thanked him for long engagement for helicopter sports.

The plenary was closed at 15.45 h.

02/05/2017 approved 02/05/2017
Pit Schoeffler Jacques Berlo
Secretary CIG President