MINUTES
Plenary Meeting
FAI Rotorcraft Commission (CIG)

at NH Hotel Collection Grand Sablons
Brussels, Belgium
29th and 30th March 2019
Minutes of the CIG Plenary Meeting
held 29th and 30th March 2019 in Brussels

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1. Attendance:

President         Jacques Berlo           BEL
1st Vice President Irina Grushina         RUS
2nd Vice President Marcin Szamborski      POL
Secretary          Pit Schöffler          GER
UK Delegate/       David Monks             GBR
Chairman of Rules  
Austrian Delegate  Stefan Seer             AUS
Belarusian Delegate Olga Sheveleva         BLR
Chinese Delegate   Han Zaofang             CHN
Czech Delegate     Andrzej Migus           CZE
French Delegate    Laurent Michellat       FRA
Ukrainian Delegate Vladimir Yena           UKR
Alternate Belgium Delegate Joëlle Van Leemputten BEL
Alternate Czech Delegate Marek Vastak       CZE
Alternate Russian Delegate Maxim Sotnikov   RUS
Alternate UK Delegate Roy Harford          UK
Alternate Ukrainian Delegate Garri Georkov  UKR
Ukrainian Translator Natalia Baakalinska   UKR
FAI Sport and Events Director Markus Haggeney FAI
FAI Executive Board Mary Anne Stevens      FAI EB

President of The Royal
Belgian Aero Club  Jo van de Woestijne
2. Welcome Remarks

CIG President, Jacques Berlo welcomed the participants and emphasised the common enthusiasm for helicopter flying. The President of the Royal Belgian Aero Club also welcomed the participants in the “Capitol of Europe”.

3. Roll Call

FAI Sports and Events Director performed the Roll Call. All nominated representatives were attending the meeting.

4. Apologies

No Apologies were reported.

5. In Memoriam

Hans-Peter Dickmeis who passed away 30.09. 2018 and John Allwright; the former Chairman of the Helicopter Club of GB.

6. Proxies and Votes

There were three Proxies: New Zealand to Germany, Turkey to UK and Switzerland to France. So there were 13 Votes available, the majority is seven and the 2/3 majority is nine votes.

7. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No Conflict of Interest was indicated.

8. FAI Representative’s Welcome Remarks

FAI Sport Director, Markus Haggeney and Mary Anne Stevens, FAI Executive Board member for CIG, gave their warm welcome to the participants.

9. Minutes of the 2018 Plenary Meeting

There was a question concerning Annex 2 of the Minutes, it was not published on the FAI webpage. It was the President’s decision not to publish this statement.

10. President’s report

See Annex 1
11. General Conference Report

David Monks reported from the FAI General Conference which he attended as representative of the Commission on behalf of the President. At this Conference, a new President was elected; Mr Bob Henderson. David Monks stated that Drones are growing in importance for FAI because they perform spectacular events which can be marketed and are very much seen as a growth sport. During the General Conference Helicopter Races were demonstrated with a video and explained to the attendees. The video was well received and the first time the conference had been exposed visually to helicopter sport.

12. Financial Situation

The Financial Situation of CIG is still stable. In 2018, CIG spent 1.154,45 CHF more than the income was. The Russian and Belarusian delegates proposed to support newcomer crews by financial means as CIG did in Austria for the young Norwegian crew. David Monks gave his opinion to this proposal that such a support will only work if it is sustainable. Markus Haggeney cautioned the Commission about their spendings since the most income is related to the WHC and the next one be in 2021 only.
The CIG decided to invest in the production of a professional advertising video. Poland and UK will work together to create a concept first.

13. FAI and Olympism

Markus Haggeney presented a report of the General Conference in Luxor in addition to what David Monks presented (s. Annex 2). Mary Anne Stevens talked about the benefits a nation organising air sport will have being a FAI member. Another presentation showed the connection between FAI and the IOC (s. Annex 3).

14. Antidoping-Update

As usual, every year an updated list of prohibited substances and methods is published by WADA and Markus Haggeney informed the Delegates that In-Competition testing can be performed anytime. Again, he emphasized the importance of the TUE.

15. FAI World Air Games 2022

The FAI World Air Games are postponed to 2022 and where the rotorcraft competition was to be located in Antalya is now replaced by Ankara. As the next Helicopter World Championship is due to be in 2021, CIG must decide if it will have a Helicopter World Championship in 2021 and another one in 2022 or if it will have another event for the FAI World Air Games. The FAI World Air Games will be held between 29 August 2022 and 18 September 2022. Test events are planned for in 2020.
16. FAI IT-Update

There is a new Event Management System available by Noosphere on the FAI webpage. Brenda Nicoll from the HCGB is the contact point for posting items on the FAI CIG webpage, and nations are requested to forward information to her to place it on the webpage. The future of Helisport.Aero webpage is unclear because Eduard Malina is no longer Czech CIG Delegate. The webpage should be transferred to the official CIG webpage.

17. 16th FAI World Helicopter Championships

At the 16th FAI World Helicopter Championships in Belarus, 32 crews from 7 countries attended. The reports of the event were circulated to all Delegates. There were no questions or remarks.

There was a report circulated prior to the meeting which required no further comment. There was an additional document introduced by Russian Delegate, which was a letter of complaint regarding a publication in a HCGB club magazine by David Monks (Annex 4). David Monks asked if this document was an addition to the meeting agenda as it had not been declared at the beginning of the meeting. He also asked in which agenda point it would be included. Irina Grushina replied "World Helicopter Championships". David Monks thanked Irina Grushina for the opportunity to speak about her concerns. He explained it was a private publication and not public. He stated that the last paragraph requesting other CIG members to comment was nothing more than an attempt to incite an argument in the group.

Stefan Seer presented an open letter from Wolf-Dietrich Tesar (see Annex 5). The UK Delegate thanked for this statement and stated that most of it is correct.

The Chinese Delegate presented the Chinese Open Helicopter Championship. The invitation, see Annex 6.

18. Helicopter World Cup

In 2018, 4 stages of Helicopter World Cup were held. One in Russia with 23 crews from 4 nations; one in UK with 14 crews from 4 nations; one in Belarus together with the 16th FAI World Helicopter Championships with 27 crews from 5 nations and the final stage in Poland with 19 crews from 4 countries.

In 2019, we will have 5 stages. First in UK, then in Russia combined with the Russian Open, then in Belarus also combined with the National Open, then in Czech Republic and the final stage in Poland.

19. Meeting of UK, Germany, Belgium, France, Switzerland and Czech Republic

David Monks presented the position of the above mentioned countries concerning Helicopter Sport in these countries. He explained there was a notable difference in the ability and the standard of both the competitors and the organisational ability of other countries. (See Annex 7).

Ukraine stated that the promotion of Helisport needs positive information.
20. Warsaw Meeting

The Warsaw meeting of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Poland, Austria and the Chief Judge of the Helicopter World Cup, Lothar Oehler, created several proposals for the World Cup in 2019 (see Minutes Annex 8).

There will be again two classes - Master Class and General Class. To be in the Master Class the Crew must have been within the first sixteen of the World Cup ranking of 2018. All others will be in the General Class. Each year the three best of General class can go up to Master Class, the three last of Master Class Ranking will go back to General Class.

The two best results will count for the overall scoring. Nations Cup will be given to the overall winner in each Class.

In 2019, there will be 5 stages of Helicopter World Cup and CIG has to decide on the Chief Judge and Chief Scorer of each stage. For three stages in Russia, Belarus and Poland, Chief Judge and Chief Scorer were nominated and accepted by the plenary. In Russia and Belarus it will be Lothar Oehler and Irina Grushina; in Poland Lothar Oehler and Brenda Nicoll. For the other stages, the nomination should be in the bulletins which have to be circulated as soon as possible.

The online test for the judges should be sent to the Rules Committee to be checked and after approval it has to be translated. Additionally, a presentation is to be prepared for the training of the judges.

The Warsaw meeting also proposed to introduce an International Board of judges and asked to nominate Lothar Oehler as Chief of that Board. The German Delegate advised that CIG can only ask Germany to send Lothar Oehler to that Board. The CIG President will send a letter to German NAC to follow this proposal.

Another proposal was to nominate Wolf-Dietrich Tesar as a General Advisor to the Bureau. No decision had been made on this topic.

The President is asked to send a letter to NAC’s not being active in Heli Sports nor attending CIG Plenary to reactivate them. A newsletter should be created to promote Helisport by the CIG webpage.

Laurent Michallat offered his support to Lothar Oehler for the creation of a presentation for judges briefing. The proposal of two Classes also in World Helicopter Championships and Classic events was not accepted.

UK Delegate and FAI representative Markus Hagganey expressed a concern that there were no terms of reference for the proposed role of Lothar Oehler and said it would not be correct for CIG to vote and award the position without it. It was suggested by the President that the terms of reference should be drawn up before anything could be approved. The UK delegate agreed to assist.
21. Revision of Rules

David Monks presented a PDF-file with all proposed Rules Changes (see Annex 9). All were discussed.

Germany requested to fly the Navigation event at 250 m AGL without descending at the turning points. Reason for that are the altitude regulations in Germany. This was accepted. The request to delete the search box was withdrawn. The request to let the organiser define the course between A-line and F-line was accepted. It has to be briefed in the General Briefing. The requests to start timing in fender and slalom when fender and bucket cross the D-line was accepted although it needs two more judges.

Points 7 and 9 were removed from the list, 10 and 11 are only relevant for club events.

In the following proposals for the World Cup were discussed. The Master Class will consist of 16 crews. Point 32 was replaced by 43; 35 and 36 were deleted. Also, point 47 was deleted. Point 48 from UK was not accepted, the infringements remain with 15 points. Also 49 will remain with 20 points. No additional ballast is allowed. All the rest was accepted except 63. Point 52 was also deleted.

22. CIG Event Calendar

The CIG Event Calendar was presented. China will inform about its national event later. After the season it was proposed there will be a planning meeting in Warsaw in October. The World Cup trophies will be bought again from Joska in Germany. They must be available at the Polish World Cup stage in September.

23. List of International Judges

The list of International Judges was approved and will be published on the CIG webpage. It will be mandatory for all international judges to pass this test when it made available.

China will send a list of its judges soon.

24. Handbooks and Guidelines

David Monks presented the completed Handbooks and Guidelines with the addition of a guide to risk assessments and the creation of a risk register which was accepted. It was agreed the delegates would have 2 months to comment on the guides as there was too much to read in the meeting. Russian delegate asked if they were based on the CIG rules. David Monks advised yes.

25. Awards

No vote on awards.
26. Rotorcraft Gold Medal

No nomination for the Rotorcraft Gold Medal was made. The Secretary advised that a nomination has to be made till November.

27. Any other Business

No other business was discussed.

28. Date and venue of next Plenary

The next CIG Plenary will be held at Lausanne 27th March 2020.

Approved

Pit Schoeffler, 01.05.2019
CIG Secretary

Jacques Berlo
President of CIG