## FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

BALLOONING COMMISSION CIA COMMISSION D'AEROSTATION



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## FAI Ballooning Commission Report 2018

This was a busy year for the Ballooning Commission in regards to Category 1 events. This year we held three World Championship events and the 62<sup>nd</sup> Coupe Gordon Bennett. In addition to our general World Championship we held our 4<sup>th</sup> Junior World Championship and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Women's World Championship. All three World Championship events were held in very small communities, with the smallest having a population of only 2500. I find it amazing these three small communities could find the support and sponsorship to host a major Championship and do such a great job. Poland hosted two of these events and Austria one event.

We helped support two international youth camps this year. One was held in Europe and the other one was held in Brazil. Over one half on the participants in this year's Junior World Championship had previously attended a youth camp supported by the CIA.

Our technical committee is in the process of implementing our new 2<sup>nd</sup> generation logger system. This new system is capable of doing a lot more than our present system and many events are looking forward to using it at their event. We are confident that our substantial investment into this new project will make a good financial return. Our 1<sup>st</sup> logger program paid back our investment in five years and is still making money!

We need to continue to develop new Event Directors and senior staff. I was quite pleased we were able to fully staff all of our events last year with top notch personal. Many of our officials give up a lot of holiday time to support our events and we thank them very much.

Our biggest challenge in 2020 will be staffing and finding enough pilots to participate in both the World Air Games and our World Hot Air Balloon Championship that are only one week apart.



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