



January 2013

Report from IGC President to the IGC 2013 Plenary

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Welcome to Papendal. On behalf of IGC I want to extend our thanks to Frouwke KUIJPERS and all our Dutch hosts for providing this terrific venue for the Plenary in 2013.

In March 2012 Bob HENDERSON informed me that he needed to relinquish his duties as President of IGC to focus on the numerous portfolios he is responsible for as a member of the FAI Executive Board and to mitigate any conflict of interests that may arise from carrying out his EB duties.

Dick BRADLEY (RSA) accepted the President's invitation to serve on the IGC Bureau with the news of Visa-Matti LEINIKKI's departure from the Bureau to assume a new position with FAI in Lausanne. Mr BRADLEY will serve until new Bureau elections at the meeting in Papendal.

One of my first official duties as acting IGC President was to attend the meeting of the FAI Commission Presidents' Group in Lausanne. The meeting was held in conjunction with the FAI President, Secretary General and the FAI Executive Board. Areas that were presented and discussed included:

- The parameters of future multi-sport events, such as the World Air Games,
- The branding of FAI events as 'GOLD, SILVER, and BRONZE
- The announcement of the FAI Sports marketing Agency FAME
- The continuing work on the Anti-Doping policy of FAI,
- The revision of Organizer Agreements,
- The announcement of Breitling as a Global Partner with FAI

The full minutes and Annexes of this meeting are available at
http://www.fai.org/downloads/fai/Presmeeting_2012_Minutes
http://www.fai.org/downloads/fai/Presmeeting_2012_Annexes

In October, I attended the FAI General Conference in Turkey. We had a second session of meeting of the FAI Commission Presidents' Group. Bob HENDERSON gave an excellent presentation of the current status of the current status of the FAI Anti-Doping program and policies. Spirited discussion took place with the ASC Presidents and the EB. Complete details of the FAI Anti-Doping Program can be found at the following link (<http://www.fai.org/cimp-projects/cimp-fai-anti-doping-programme>). I urge the delegates to read the program details and share it with your Aero Clubs.

FAME. Mr Giancarlo SERGI, the new President of the FAI sports marketing company FAME, briefed the Presidents on the goals of the company. From the minutes of the meeting; “*Mr. SERGI explained that the purpose of FAME was to engage with commissions and create new ventures. He stressed that FAME was not a second FAI but instead a separate commercial company aimed at bringing air sports to a market hungry for spectacular events. FAME was keen to work with interested ASCs to create new events or to support existing marketing events.*”

Breitling. FAI Secretary General Jean-Marc BADAN elaborated on the progress made in the agreement with Breitling as a partner with FAI. Secretary General BADAN will certainly give more details at the Plenary meeting about the partnership between the FAI and Breitling.

It was announced by Mr. SERGI that the World Gliding Championships in Argentina would be one of 10 events for 2013 where Breitling would have a heightened presence.

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A wonderful part of the General Conference was the presentation of the Lilienthal Medal to Mr. Giorgio GALLETTO (ITA). Also, the FAI Group Diploma of Honor was awarded to the GNSS Flight Recorder Approval Committee (GFAC) for their work over the years on Flight Recorders for IGC. Mr. Ian STRACHAN (UK) accepted the Diploma on behalf of the many committee members.

After the FAI General Conference, the IGC Bureau met in Frankfurt for two days. A full agenda was discussed and worked through. My gratitude to the Bureau members for their dedication to attend this meeting and for all of their work done on your behalf. They have given extraordinarily of their time and wisdom to continue the journey of making gliding a strong and effective sports organisation. The minutes of the meeting can be viewed at the following link: <http://www.fai.org/igc-documents>.

Pilot Rankings

The top three pilots on the IGC Ranking List (at time of writing of this report) are:



1st

Zbigniew Nieradka (POL)



2nd

Sebastian Kawa (POL)



3rd

Michael Sommer (GER)

2012 FAI/IGC Championships, Competitions and Records

A successful *32nd FAI World Championships in the Open, 18 meter, and 15 Meter classes* was competed in August in the United States at Uvalde. Record speeds and distances were flown in the extraordinary conditions the venue provided. The success of this competition was due to the dedication and hard-work of the organisers and their volunteers, and the enthusiasm of our IGC Stewards and Jury members. Some interesting statistics about this WGC were provided by the Director of the Championships Ken SORENSON:

- 99 pilots from 24 nations
- Pilots flew 7 training days and 13 days of competition. No competition days were lost to weather.
- Total distance flown during the official training period and the competition was 799,900 km (distance from earth to moon is 384,400 km, so pilots in total flew to the moon and back).
- Typical total distance flown each day was 40,000+ km, (99 pilots, 400+ km each). The circumference of the earth is 40,000 km. Each day the pilots flew around the world.
- 18 meter class champion Zbigniew Nieradka won with 12170 pts. This was more points than earned at any previous WGC.
- Fastest speed 161.0 km/h (100 mph) Peter Harvey, Open class.
- Slowest winning speed 130.7 km/h.
- Average daily distances: 493 km in 15 meter, 504 km in 18 meter, 559 km in Open
- Total hours flown on task 4773 hr. (199 days at 24 hr/day)
- Shortest distance flown by a winner was 310 km, 15 meter on Day 8, Assigned Area Task
- Longest distance flown by a winner was 715 km in the Open Class on Day 3, Racing Task

Our World Champions from Uvalde are:



18 Meter - 1st
Zbigniew Nieradka (POL)



15 Meter – 1st
Sebastian Kawa (POL)



Open – 1st
Laurent Aboulin (FRA)

At the writing of this report, the *32nd FAI World Championships in the Standard, Club and World Classes* were being competed at Adolfo Gonzales Chaves in Argentina. There are 23 competitors in the World Class, 41 competitors in the Club Class and 25 competitors in the Standard Class.

The OLC 2012

The activity level for the OLC continued at a very stable level in 2012 with 2108 km per participant with the average flight being 266 km. Total activity for the OLC in 2012 had 14,083 participants (an increase of 6.37% from 2011) flying 109,825 flights (an increase of 8.34% from 2011) and achieving a total distance of 29,539,927 million kilometres (an increase of 10.12% from 2011).

The 2012 season of The IGC-OLC World League saw entries from 1047 Clubs and gliding organisations. Congratulations to the top three placed clubs for 2012:

- 1st Albuquerque Soaring (USA)
- 2nd Hole in the Wall (USA)
- 3rd LSV Burgdorf (GER)

Albuquerque Soaring has achieved amazing consistency, remaining in the top 3 placing clubs for the 4th year in a row.

Records.

Ten claims for 2012 have been received by the FAI Headquarters:

Class	Type of Record	Performance	Date	Claimant
15M	Free Distance - General	1403 km	20 Dec 12	Jean-Marc Perrin (SUI)
15M	Straight Distance to a goal	1403 km	20 Dec 12	Jean-Marc Perrin (SUI)
Open	Speed over an out-and-return course of 1, 000 km - General	215 km/h	12 Dec 12	Philippe Athuil (USA)
15M	Distance over a triangular course - OCEANIA	1006.4 km	25 Nov 12	<u>Allan John Barnes</u> (AUS)
15M	Free distance using up to 3 turn points - OCEANIA	1019.8 km	25 Nov 12	Allan John Barnes (AUS)
15M	Free triangle distance - OCEANIA	1017.5 km	25 Nov 12	Allan John Barnes (AUS)
15M	Distance using up to 3 turnpoints - OCEANIA	1006.4 km	25 Nov 12	Allan John Barnes (AUS)
15M (F)	Speed over a triangular course of 750 km - EUROPEAN	117.25 km/h	19 Jul 12	Pilar Muñoz Lopez (ESP)
15M	Speed over a triangular course of 750 km - EUROPEAN	117.25 km/h	19 Jul 12	Pilar Muñoz Lopez (ESP)
Open (F)	Speed over a triangular course of 750 km - EUROPEAN	117.25 km/h	19 Jul 12	Pilar Muñoz Lopez (ESP)

In closing my report, I would like to thank the many volunteers that contribute so unselfishly of their time to do the work necessary to make the IGC an organization that meets the needs of its constituency. From committee chairpersons, committee members, delegates, IGC officials at our competitions, organizations such as the OLC, OSTIV, EGU, National Aero Clubs, local gliding clubs, commercial gliding centers.....all of these and more that I am sure I did not mention make valuable contributions to growing our sport.

I am proud to have worked this year with a tremendous IGC Bureau. They have made my transition to President easy and enjoyable. Our frequent communications via email are promptly responded to with insightful thinking and action that is required is done with no delay.

This year IGC will note the retirement from the Bureau of Roland STUCK and Göran AX. Their years of exceptional service to and leadership of IGC have contributed greatly to moving the IGC as an organization forward in every area that we serve. I have personally enjoyed working with these dynamic men these past years and I know that future leaders of IGC will be able to consult them and they will give their thoughts and counsel freely and help where needed.

I want to thank Brian SPRECKLEY for his work this past year. Brian has taken on many of the very difficult tasks of the IGC and has done so with enthusiasm and managed to keep his noted humor about him. Our commission and our sport are very fortunate to have Brian working on our behalf.

I also wish to acknowledge and very much thank our IGC Secretary Mr. Peter ERIKSEN for all that he does for our commission and for me personally this past year. He has kept me on task and provided the valuable continuity required when a change in leadership occurs.

Finally, a personal note of thanks to Bob HENDERSON. It was a pleasure and an honor to work with him these many years as his First Vice-President. He has been a tremendous mentor to me and a friend. Although he has moved on to serve AirSports in a broader capacity, I know that his love of our sport of gliding will always be there.

Respectfully submitted,



President, IGC