

PROPOSAL TO IGC PLENARY 2009

from the Continental Records working group

It is proposed that:

1. The FAI Sporting Code (General Section and Section 3) be modified to include continental records for gliding performances.
2. The record categories, classes and types defined for world records (see Sporting Code, General Section, 3.1) shall apply also to continental records.
3. The rules for world records and the procedures for their verification and homologation shall apply as far as possible to continental records.
4. For continental records, the continental regions defined in para 3.4.5 of the General Section will be used, with one exception: that part of the Russian Federation east of the 61° meridian will be assigned to Asia.
5. Flights which cross the borders of continental regions will be assigned to that region in which the greater part of the flight took place.
6. A minimum performance shall be stipulated for each continental record category, class and type. Proposals for the minimum performances should be worked out by the continental records working group in cooperation with the FAI office.
7. EITHER¹
 - a. All continental records are open to any pilot with a valid FAI Sporting Licence,OR
 - b. Continental records are open only to pilots with a valid FAI Sporting Licence issued by an NAC of a country within the respective continental region. In this case, the Russian NAC would have to decide which licences are valid for each region, or the Russian pilots could be allowed to set records in both regions.

This proposal affects:

Sporting Code, General Section, chapter 3 (3.5.4 and 3.5.4.7)
Sporting Code, General Section chapter 6
Sporting Code Section 3 (Gliding), chapter 3

Reasons supporting the proposal:

These days most world records are flown in lee waves of the Andes. Because of the high costs involved, only relatively few pilots have the chance to fly world records. The primary aim of the proposal is to ensure that international record flying continues to be attractive.

- Record flying should be open to a wider group of pilots.
- Record flights should be possible at less expense.

¹ **The working group did not reach agreement on this point.**

- The introduction of continental records would provide an incentive for exploring new regions in the world for gliding.
- Continental records are expected to contribute to the development of gliding on all continents.
- Records in thermal flight should again be possible.
- Records make our sport attractive for the media.

Implementation

In the Chapter 6 of the General Section of the Sporting Code and in Chapter 3 of Section 3, the term “world record” must be replaced by “world or continental record”. Any other required changes of the Sporting Code should be decided in close cooperation with the FAI Office. All rule changes could be put to the vote at the IGC meeting in 2010. Continental records could then be flown from January 1st 2011.