

IGC Plenary 2009

### **Report of the Continental Records Working Group**

#### **“Implementation of Continental Records into the FAI Sporting Code for Gliding Performances (General Section and Section 3)”**

At our last IGC meeting in Rome 2008 the plenary accepted to form a working group to develop a formal proposal for the implementation of continental records into the Sporting Code.

Working group members as suggested by Bob Henderson are: Göran Ax, Dick Bradley, Terry Delore, Beryl Hartley, Klaus Ohlmann, Judy Ruprecht and Nina Shalneva. Some of the team members such as Terry and Klaus are still active in flying world records. Furthermore, Marcel Mayer from the FAI bureau was involved in the information exchange and discussion process. The group started work in September last year. A status report was submitted for the IGC Bureau mid-year meeting in October 2008.

The idea and concept of continental records has been discussed from various perspectives within the group. There has been broad agreement and support for the major goal, which is to ensure that international record flying continues to be attractive and provides an incentive for exploring new regions for gliding in the world. Continental records are expected to contribute to the development of gliding on all continents. Another important step is to open record flying to a wider group of pilots and to make our sport attractive to the media.

Crucial aspects and questions covered in our discussion:

- Which record classes and types should be defined?
- How to claim and verify continental records?
- To which extent can the FAI definition of continental regions be adopted?
- Should minimum performances be defined?
- How to differentiate flight results crossing borders of continental regions?
- Should the records be open to all pilots or only to those of the respective continent?

A number of other valuable ideas was brought up during our discussions which are worth being mentioned, e.g. regarding a simplification of the record claiming process or separate record lists for the southern and the northern hemisphere.

Please see our formal proposal for the IGC Plenary 2009 attached. It summarizes all rounds of discussions and is based on many voices and considerations. Our joint proposal supports an implementation of continental records into the Sporting Code.

At this point I would like to express my very thanks to Max Bishop, FAI Secretary General, and Marcel Mayer for their support and valuable advice.

**Hanno Obermayer**  
Continental Records Working Group