

**FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE
INTERNATIONAL PARACHUTING COMMISSION**

52nd Plenary Meeting: San Diego, USA
Tuesday – Wednesday, January 30-31, 2001

MINUTES

In the Chair: BJ Worth, IPC President

FAI Representative: Max Bishop, FAI Secretary General

1. WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

The authority of the delegates was verified. Of the 54 registered delegates, 29 nations were present with voting rights. 3 legal proxies were received: Mexico to Spain, Latvia to Norway, Belgium to the Netherlands, bringing the total votes to 32. Two countries were present without voting rights (Russia & Indonesia). The delegates (and observers) in attendance at the Roll Call of the 52nd Plenary Meeting of the IPC are listed separately. The delegates' address list was circulated and updated. The updated email address list is on the FAI/IPC website.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

51st IPC Plenary Meeting: Canberra, Australia – January 22 – 23, 2000

The following amendments were requested:

- Add Brenda Reid as an Advisor to the Judges Committee
- Add Christian Ratenburg as a Member of the Freefall Style and Accuracy Committee
- Delete Roger Flynn as an Advisor to the Technical and Safety Committee
- The Australian delegate requests that paragraph 12.4 “The Australian delegate expressed his country’s disagreement with the fact that the Committee have decided to include a Female World Cup at the next FS World Championships” be replaced by “...expressed his country's disagreement with the concept of a separate women's event, and it's inclusion as an event at the forthcoming World Cup in Eloy.”
- The Russian delegate explained that a misunderstanding regarding the nomination for the Gold Medal is in the Minutes. The Russian nominee was Tatiana Osipova (now deceased), not Mr. Serebrenekov. Change 20.1 to “...from G. Serebrenekov for Tatiana Osipova”

The Minutes of the 51st Plenary Meeting were approved unanimously.

3. FAI ACTIVITIES REPORT

92nd FAI GENERAL CONFERENCE: Linkoping, Sweden – September 28 – 29, 2000

The FAI Secretary General, Max Bishop, presented an overview of the FAI's activities in 2000, the results of the General Conference, and the FAI plans for 2001. He reported on the election of the new President, Wolfgang Weinreich, and on the change of FAI Statutes replacing Council by a 7-man Executive Board. FAI has signed a contract with Discovery television for the coverage of certain international air sports events including the World Air Games. A project is underway to further change the structure of the FAI and to relieve the financial burden of the member-countries by finding alternative methods of financing. These will be presented to the next General Conference in October 2001. Four new members have joined the FAI (Azerbaijan, Georgia, Madagascar and Panama) but four countries have been lost due to non-payment of dues (Chinese Taipei, Tunisia, Honduras and Puerto Rico).

4. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

4.1. President's Report

IPC President, BJ Worth commented on his report (Agenda Annex 1), on the IPC activities during 2000 and thanked the Bureau members for their hard work during the year.

4.2. Decisions by the Bureau

IPC President BJ Worth commented on the actions of the Bureau in 2000 (Agenda Annex 2). Canada moved to approve the President's Report. This was approved unanimously.

4.3. Mission Plan

The President commented on his report (Agenda Annex 3). Most of the Bureau members are working on this Mission Plan, which is to be the blueprint for the future of the IPC. Obviously the IPC needs to be flexible and adapt as changes in the sport occur. Several tasks are being looked at through Mission Teams. The Format Synchronisation Mission Team is looking at harmonising the competition rules for all summer disciplines, and making them more media friendly. Ronald Overdijk, as leader of this Mission Team, commented on the work carried out so far. Communication is very important and all delegates are encouraged to participate and have their national specialists contribute. The more talent participating the better the work can be. There are discussion forums on the FAI/IPC website to encourage exchange.

The FAI is working on the World Air Games of which one has already taken place and a second is soon to... The FAI wants to see this competition as a stand-alone event. This means that there will not be World Championships within the WAG. The Mission Plan Task Force has looked at the impact of this change to see what can be done to make it easier for organisers to plan for future events. This means changing the cycle of competitions as we should avoid having World Championships the same years as WAG or Mondial events. Although this point will be part of the changes proposed in the Sporting Code, a decision needs to be made early to enable the bids to be in conformity with what is decided. Mondial would be like a World Cup where all events are carried out over a 10-day period (or shorter). The World Championships would be shorter competitions that can be conducted either as individual events or grouped together as one larger event. The new cycle would start in 2003 with a Mondial, 2004: World Championships, 2005: World Air Games, 2006: World Championships. World Cups will be held in 2002, which will be an interim year. Patrice Girardin gave more explanations about the Mondial concept however it is clear that there are not many countries that will be able to host this type of competition.

The IPC is aware of how difficult it is for some countries to cope with some of the more technical aspects of the competition (image transmission, etc.) and the Task Force proposes to have a complete up-to-date technical package that would automatically be provided to host organisers in a partnership but at a cost. The intent is to implement this by 2003 which causes problems regarding the French bid to host the Mondial in 2003. The details of this proposal were distributed to the delegates.

The President requested the delegates' opinions regarding the IPC Mission Plan, and their support for its overall concept, the Synchronisation of Competition Rules, the restructuring of the competition cycle, and for having the IPC serve as general contractor to supply technical support to event organizers. The concept of the IPC Mission Plan was approved unanimously.

4.4. Media and Promotion

IPC President BJ Worth commented on his report (Agenda Annex 4). The IPC does not yet have a Media Officer, but someone should be appointed to this position by the end of the meeting.

5. OLYMPIC GAMES

The IPC/IOC Liaison officer and President of the FAI/IOC Coordinating Committee, Roland Hilfiker, commented on the work carried out in 2000, and on his report included in the agenda.

6. **WORLD GAMES**

The World Games Coordinator, Roland Hilfiker commented on the progress of the World Games to be held in Akita, Japan, in 2001. He stressed the importance for parachuting to be present at these games and that the relationship between the organisers of the World Games and the IOC has strengthened this importance. Patrice Girardin confirmed that this relationship has already had positive consequences for the French delegates to Akita, as the French Ministry now recognises this competition and has given financial support.

Max Bishop thanked Roland Hilfiker for his work, asked that delegates show their appreciation for his excellent contribution, and made the following comments: The only way Parachuting is going to be part of the Olympics is if the IOC adopts a policy of relegation from the Olympics to the World Games allowing the inclusion of other sports from the World Games. One air sport keen to enter the World Games is gliding aerobatics, so there will be competition within the FAI. The FAI has received a lot of help from the IOC in 2000 on the question of airspace. The FAI approached the IOC for political help, which was given by the IOC in the form of a letter that was distributed to all nations. The President, BJ Worth, confirmed that the IPC is still committed to becoming part of the Olympics and that the World Games are very important to this objective.

7. **WORLD AIR GAMES**

7.1. **Progress of WAG2**

Srecko Medven, Managing Director of the 2nd World Air Games, commented on his report which was distributed to all delegates. He reminded them that the IPC is five months from this competition and many difficulties have been encountered in the last year. He read a message from the FAI President addressed to all NACs on 23 January 2001, confirming that the World Air Games will take place in spite of the financial difficulties encountered by the Spanish Organisers and the withdrawal of certain events.

There were times when it appeared that the parachuting events would not take place, which would have compromised the existence of the World Air Games. The nomination of Jose-Luis Bahun-Pena, former Vice President of the IPC has significantly improved the situation.

Srecko then showed slides of the different sites that will be used during the World Air Games and reminded delegates of the entry schedule and requested that they be respected. They are available on the official web site. From April 1st, a late entry will be applied although there is no guarantee that the entrance will be accepted.

Patrice Girardin, IPC/WAG Liaison Officer, gave his report and commented on the current situation: "After giving the World Air Games to Spain, you gave me the responsibility of control and coordination with the organizers. With the agreement of the organizers, I have visited Armilla, host site, three times. Since the beginning, as everyone probably already knows, we have had to face many problems. I don't want to go into the political issues that led ECO to change the WAGLEOM (local organizer in Armilla) three times however, these serious problems highlighted the incapacity of the organizer to cope with internal tensions and have led to a delay that it is almost impossible to compensate. The only solution is that the current WAGLEOM works day and night to make up this lost time. This situation caused the test competition to be a complete disaster mainly due to the absence of any management on the part of ECO. I have to say that the means made available to Mr. Alberto Martins Paracuellos were totally insufficient for such a competition. Following this competition, I gave a full report that indicated all the negative points and I suggested remedies. In September 2000, ECO finally found a person who was capable to prepare the competition, as it should be done. This person is Jose-Luis Bahun Pena.

“In October, we agreed what needed to be done from a technical point of view and Mr. Bahon obtained the support of the military. I have come to the conclusion that the technical solutions proposed by Mr. Bahon are close to what is acceptable for this level of competition. From the very outset, I have always recommended the use of both civilian and military aircraft in order to give ourselves the maximum chance to finish the competition. This point is not yet resolved.

In spite of the efforts and work carried out by Jose-Luis Bahon over this very short period, the organizer today is facing financial difficulties that put the competition in jeopardy. Although I am convinced that the technical requirements will be achieved, we need to face facts. If the organizer is not able to finalize the budget, we run the risk of seeing the competition cancelled.

The organizer now suggests that the only solution remaining is to increase the entry fees by 100 Euros. They must justify their request themselves and although overall this solution is not acceptable, following discussions with the IPC WAG Working Group, I support the increase on the condition that a contract is drawn up between the organizer and the IPC, guaranteeing certain technical aspects including the use of two Twin Otters.

There remain points that still need to be resolved, in particular, the facilities during the training period. Depending on the decision of the plenary, the Technical Team and myself are ready to return to Spain as soon as possible to help the organizer find solutions to all these problems.”

The Spanish representatives gave further information on the situation, particularly regarding the need to increase the entry fees. Jose-Luis gave a presentation of the site and commented on the different aspects relating to the organisation, infrastructure and security. Srecko Medven gave explanations for the increase from 750€ to 850€ requested by Spain of the WAGCC on January 19, 2001, confirming the impact of changing the budget from Dollars to Euros. Patrice Girardin confirmed that a contract would be signed and that the sum of the 100€ increase would be set aside in the IPC account of the FAI as a guarantee and that if all went well and after the competition upon the authorisation of the Jury, the monies would be released to the organisers.

The delegates approved the proposal. Vote: 24 yes. 8 abstentions (including Canada).

The following IPC personnel were nominated and unanimously approved for the WAG 2:

FAI Controller: Rainer “Exi” Hoenle

IPC Controller of Judging and Scoring (new position specific to WAG2): Brenda Reid

Chief Judge Canopy Formation: Roger Flinn, UK

Chief Judge Style & Accuracy: Serge Bayou, France

Chief Judge in Formation Skydiving: Elisabet Petersen, Sweden

Chief Judge in FR, SS, FF: Igor Van Aperen, Netherlands

7.2. World Air Games Working Group

The President, BJ Worth, reported that Slovenia proposed to host the 3rd World Air Games. A Slovenian representative had come to the Bureau and commented on the parachuting aspect of the bid and answered the questions raised by the Bureau. There is insufficient information to decide on the bid. Main areas of concern include the weather (clouds), aircraft (types not known) and accommodations (in military barracks, 7 to a room). The deadline for IPC’s decision is March 2001. Further information will be obtained and distributed to IPC delegates by e-mail.

Australia’s delegate said that the IPC does not have control over parachuting events at the WAG because the FAI’s contract supersedes the IPC’s requirement for a performance contract as specified in the Sporting Code. He urged the IPC to obtain performance contracts for all future WAG events. Srecko Medven, WAG MD, indicated that the IPC/WAG Liaison Officer is responsible for performance/quality, although no contract is signed with each Air Sport Commission. This point will be referred back to the FAI for consideration in future WAGs. BJ Worth said that the FAI is reviewing the format of the WAG, and may change it because WAG’s are currently so large and challenging to conduct, that it is difficult to find event organisers.

8. **IPC DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP**

Odd Heimstad, Chair of the Working Group was not able to attend this Plenary meeting so Mattias Peterson commented on Odd's report (Agenda Annex 5) in his absence. Further, Mattias commented that the Working Group was set up as a project, and has resulted in the Mission Plan. In 2000, the work of the group has been to support the Mission Plan, and the group promotes the Mission Plan and urges the delegates to endorse it full. The Working Group has been extremely useful but no longer serves a direct purpose and will be temporarily suspended. Working Group member Leanne Knowles has prepared a paper on marketing which is extremely useful, and is passing it to the MP Task Force. All delegates are encouraged to give input on the Mission Plan.

9. **FINANCE WORKING GROUP**

IPC Treasurer and Chair of the Working Group, Richard "Buzz" Bennett, commented on the financial documents presented with the agenda (Agenda Annex 6), and updated during the open session and answered questions. Two sums of money representing sanction fees for two competitions (Para-Ski held in Italy and Canopy Formation in the USA – both held in 1997) seem to be missing and, in spite of investigation, have not yet been found.

Ronald Overdijk requested that the income be broken down by discipline. Buzz confirmed that this would be done for the Mondial. Exi Hoenle indicated that it is preferable that the IPC Controller sends the money to the FAI as soon as possible during the competition. Since there is no longer an obligation to present a budget two years in advance, Buzz suggested that the 2002 budget be ignored particularly in view of the changes that the Mission Plan will provoke.

Buzz requested that the delegates approve the 2001 budget. It was approved unanimously.

The designated FAI Controller (Bob Card) was unable to attend the World Championships in Immola, Finland, and had to be replaced by Graeme Windsor, who travelled from Australia. Obviously the additional cost was not budgeted by the Finnish Aero Club so they requested that the additional out-of-pocket expense of US\$ 900 be paid for by the IPC. This decision has to be made by the Plenary meeting. Buzz consequently proposed that the Finnish Aero Club be reimbursed for this expense. This proposal was approved unanimously.

Buzz concluded by thanking the Working Group for their efforts during the year.

10. **FREEFALL STYLE AND ACCURACY LANDING**

The Chair of the S&A Committee, Srecko Medven, commented on his report (Agenda Annexes 7, 7a, 7b). He particularly highlighted the excellent work of the Japanese organising committee of the 25th WPC. There were problems with some of the technical aspects (data transmission) and Srecko indicated his support of the Mission Plan proposition on this subject. He also spoke of the Match system that was tested in Japan. This was designed to generate more excitement for the public and regrets that this will not be pursued. He concluded by thanking the committee members for their work throughout 2000.

10.1. **25th World Parachuting Championships in Style and Accuracy in Ise-Shima, Japan**

The organisers thanked the parachuting community for the success of this competition, held October 6-16, 2000. Japan has many projects to develop parachuting in the future and this event has given Japan the opportunity to have contacts throughout the world.

10.2. **26th World Parachuting Championships in Freefall Style and Accuracy Landing**

These Championships will be held as part of the World Air Games in Granada, Spain, in 2001. There were no additional comments other than the WAG organisers report presented earlier in the Plenary.

10.3. Future World Cup and WPCs

Slovakia submitted a bid to host the 11th World Cup of Champions and 2nd WPC in Junior Style and Accuracy. The Slovakian delegate presented the details of these competitions to be held in Lucenec from July 25th to August 3rd, 2002. The aircraft would be a civilian AN2 and the entry fee for one event would be US\$ 550, for two events US\$ 600, and for accompanying personnel US\$ 500, with a late registration fee of US\$ 100. The bid was approved unanimously.

10.4. Proposed changes to the existing WPC Style and Accuracy Competition Rules

The Committee Chair, Srecko Medven, distributed a copy of the proposed changes to the Competition Rules to all delegates, and addressed these changes one by one.

- 4.2 Order of Jumping – approved unanimously
- 4.4 Overall Winner – approved unanimously
- 5.1.1. Wind Drift Indicator – approved unanimously
- 5.1.3. Wind Speed – approved unanimously
- 5.1.4. Wind Direction on the ground – approved unanimously
- 5.1.5. (3) Target – approved unanimously
- 5.1.6. Presence on Target – approved unanimously
- 5.1.7. (8) Re-jumps – approved unanimously
- 5.1.8. (5) Scoring Accuracy Landing – approved unanimously
- 5.1.9. (1) Team Accuracy Landing Event – a motion to amend the proposed rule was proposed by Mattias Peterson of Sweden, seconded by Darko Elezovic of Croatia, to change this rule from “During the quarter final, semi-final and final rounds, only four team members...” to “a team consists of a maximum of 5 members who will participate and score for the team in all rounds.” A secret ballot was requested. The proposed amendment was carried with 19 votes in favour, 11 against and 2 abstentions.
- 5.1.9.(2)(3) In view of the motion above, (2) needs to be changed from four to five members and (3) needs to be changed to 1000m for all rounds – approved unanimously
- 5.1.10 Individual Accuracy Landing Event – approved unanimously
- 5.2.3. Jump Order – approved unanimously
- 6.1.1.1. Decision on landing point – approved unanimously
- 6.1.2.3 Other Responsibilities – approved unanimously
- 6.2.4. Other Responsibilities – approved unanimously

7.3.8. Programme of Events – number of teams for rounds after the qualifying rounds. This change puts an end to the Match System that was proposed up until now. Buzz Bennett proposed an amendment to the rules as per the proposed rules presented at the open session; noting that this would allow delegates to express their real opinion on the Match System. The Committee recommends that there not be a Match System and the President suggested that a vote be made on whether the committee recommendation was acceptable. The vote was by secret ballot. The Competition Rules were approved as presented: 24 For, 7 Against and 1 Abstention.

The rules for the World Games in Akita were proposed as those adopted by the Plenary with one major change: The programme of events will include a Match System. 18 competitors will compete with no gender separation, round one will be conducted following a draw, then there will be 6 qualifying rounds. The 7th round will be a match, the best round of three jumps. These rules were adopted unanimously. The updated rules are available via the FAI/IPC website: www.fai.org/parachuting/documents

In conclusion, Srecko Medven confirmed that he was standing down as Chair of the Style & Accuracy Committee. The President thanked Srecko for all his work over the last eight years.

11. (Formatting Realignment per Agenda)

12. **FORMATION SKYDIVING**

The Committee Chair, Pål Bergan, commented on his report (Agenda Annex 8) and highlighted the work done together with the Format Synchronisation Mission Team to harmonise the competition rules among the different disciplines.

12.1. **12th World Cup in Formation Skydiving, 2nd World Cup in 16-way Formation Skydiving, and 4th European Championships**

The event organiser from USA offered to comment on the report that was circulated to the delegates. No questions were asked, and the President thanked the organisers for the success of these events in spite of the inclement weather that occurred while the event took place.

12.2. **14th and 15th World Championships in Formation Skydiving**

No further information was given on the 14th WPC other than the report presented by the WAG organiser earlier in the Plenary. The 15th WPC in FS will be part of the 2003 Mondial.

12.3. **Future WPCs, World Cups and European Championships**

A bid was received from Portugal to host the 5th European Championships and 12th World Cup in 4 and 8 way and 2nd European Championships and 2nd World Cup in 16-way in Porto Santo, Madeira from October 9th to 13th, 2002. The aircraft to be used will be a Twin Otter and the entry fee (including the IPC sanction fee) would be €700 for one event, €800 for two events, €900 for three events, €600 for accompanying personnel and a late entry fee of €100. The entry fee includes full board and lodging. A training camp will be held in the week preceding the competition. There will be a deadline for the registration of 16-way teams because if there is not enough interest, the 16-way will not be held. A short film showing the island of Porto Santo was shown. The bid was approved unanimously.

12.4. **Proposed changes to the Formation Skydiving Competition Rules**

The Committee Chair, Pål Bergan, distributed the proposed changes to the Competition Rules to all delegates, and addressed these changes one by one:

- 4.5.4. Video evidence – approved unanimously
- 5.1. Training jumps – approved unanimously
- 5.6. Judging – approved unanimously
- 5.10. Deleted – approved unanimously
- 6.2., 6.2.1. Aims of World Championships – approved unanimously
- 6.3.6.3. At a World Cup... – approved unanimously
- 6.3.8.3. Time reserved for semi-final and final – approved unanimously

Dive Pool for 2001, similar to 2000, can be downloaded from the FAI/IPC website.

Specific changes to Competition Rules for the World Games for Akita were proposed and approved unanimously.

The changes proposed for 2002 concerning both the events and the number of judges necessary were also presented. The Plenary agreed in principle to the format synchronisation with events moving towards shorter competitions (5 days) and reduction of rounds (from 10 to 7). The revised dive pool for 2002 (reduced to 20 blocks and 14 randoms) will be distributed from September 1st 2001 to avoid confusion prior to the WAG. The suggested changes can be revised during the plenary in 2002. The modified rules for 2001 are available via the FAI/IPC website: www.fai.org/parachuting/documents.

The President thanked Pål for the work carried out by the Committee in 2000.

13. CANOPY FORMATION

Graeme Windsor served as Acting Chair of the Committee in replacement of Bob Card, who resigned for personal reasons. Graeme commented on his report (Agenda Annex 9).

13.1. 8th World Parachuting Championships in Canopy Formation

- a. The Finnish Delegate offered to answer any questions on the report that was circulated to the delegates. No questions were asked. The President and Graeme thanked the organisers for the success of these events. The Chief Judge's report was distributed to the delegates.
- b. This item was addressed by the IPC Treasurer, under point #9 (Finance Working Group).

13.2. 9th and 10th World Championships in Canopy Formation

No further information was given on the 9th WPC other than the report by the WAG organisers presented earlier in the Plenary. The 10th World Championship in Canopy Formation will be part of the 2003 Mondial.

Portugal submitted a bid to host the 6th World Cup and European Championships in Canopy Formation in Porto Santo, Madeira, from October 5th - 9th, 2002. The aircraft would be a Twin Otter. The entry fee (including IPC sanction fee) would be €700 for one event, €800 for two events, €900 for three events, €600 for accompanying personnel and a late entry fee of €100. Entry fees include full board and lodging. A training camp would be held the week preceding the competition. The bid was approved unanimously.

13.3. Proposed changes to the Canopy Formation Competition Rules

The acting Committee Chair, Graeme Windsor, distributed proposed changes to the Sporting Code and Competition Rules to all delegates, and addressed these changes one by one:

- 5.2.12.(SC) Number of jumps per day – approved unanimously
- 2.2.ii (CR) Clarification of the airstep formation – approved unanimously
- 2.4.1. Working time rules – approved unanimously
- 4.5.2. Training jump will be judged – approved unanimously
- 6.2.6. Video evidence – approved unanimously
- 4.8.1. Re-jumps – approved unanimously
- 6.1.2. Video standard (PAL digital): Ronald Overdijk moved to revert to the previous rules obliging the use of PAL cameras rather than trying to convert from NTSC to PAL – approved unanimously
- 6.1.4.(a) Use of multiple cameras – carried unanimously.

In line with the new format synchronisation, a number of changes for the WAG in Spain were suggested and presented to the delegates. These changes were approved unanimously. The new Competition Rules will be on the FAI/IPC website: www.fai.org/parachuting/documents.

The President thanked Graeme for all the work carried out by the Committee in 2000.

14. FREESTYLE SKYDIVING, SKYSURFING, AND FREEFLYING

The Committee Chair, Ronald Overdijk, commented on his report (Agenda Annex 10), answered questions and highlighted points on Judging and the use of OmniSkore!. He also pointed out the competitors' lack of use of the Discussion Board on the FAI/IPC website. Although it is not a problem that he is contacted directly, he encouraged all delegates to publicise the use of this tool.

14.1. 3rd World Cup and 2nd European Championships in Freestyle Skydiving and Skysurfing

The event organiser from USA offered to comment on the report that was circulated to the delegates. No questions were asked. Ronald thanked the organisers for hosting this event.

14.2. **1st World Cup in Freefly**

The event organiser from USA offered to comment on the report that was circulated to the delegates. No questions were asked. Ronald thanked the organisers for hosting this event.

14.3. **3rd and 4th World Championships in Freestyle Skydiving and Skysurfing and 1st and 2nd World Championships in Freefly**

The 3rd World Championship in Freefall Skydiving and Skysurfing and the 1st World Championship in Freefly will be held as part of the World Air Games in Granada, Spain, in 2001. No further information was given other than the report of the WAG organiser presented earlier in the Plenary. The 4th WPC in Freestyle Skydiving and Skysurfing, and the 2nd WPC in Freefly will be held as part of the 1st FAI Parachuting Mondial in 2003.

14.4. **Future WPCs and World Cups**

A bid was received from Portugal to host the 4th World Cup and 3rd European Championships in FR and SS and the 2nd World Cup in FF in Porto Santo, Madeira, from October 5th to 9th, 2002. The aircraft to be used would be a Twin Otter and the entry fee (including IPC sanction fee) would be €700 for one event, €800 for two events, €600 for accompanying personnel and a late entry fee of €100. Entry fees include full board and lodging. A training camp would be held in the week preceding the competition. The intention of the organisers is to also promote some new disciplines by organising high-performance canopy flying competitions.

A question was raised regarding travel access. Flights are possible directly to Madeira and then a 10-minute flight to the Island of Porto Santo. The runway has been extended by 1km which means that past access problems no longer exist. A pre-event competition will be organised in early October 2001, and all nations are welcome. The competition, including 10 jumps, of which three will be training jumps, will be absolutely without cost other than travel. Three FAI judges will be present at this competition including Exi Hoenle. The bid was approved unanimously.

14.5. **Proposed changes to the Freestyle Skydiving, Skysurfing and Freefly Competition Rules**

The Committee Chair, Ronald Overdijk, distributed the proposed changes to the Competition Rules to all delegates. He explained some of these in more detail, highlighting a change regarding the time set for the finals to align with the Formation Skydiving rules. Ronald moved that the changes be accepted as a whole. This proposal was approved unanimously. He reported that a new hardcopy version with these changes will be provided to the delegates, and that the updated rules will be available via the FAI/IPC website: www.fai.org/parachuting/documents.

Ronald requested that the plenary endorse the Euro Tour concept, and noted that he will post on the FAI/IPC website the competitions which will count, and details of the ranking system. This endorsement was approved unanimously. The President thanked Ronald for all the work done by the Committee during 2000.

15. **MONDIAL 2003**

The French delegate presented a bid to host the 2003 Mondial. These WPC's would be included: 27th in S&A, 15th in FS, 9th in CF, 4th in FR and SS, 2nd in FF. He presented the personnel who would be available, including proposed Assistant CJs. The aircraft would be Pilatus Porters for all disciplines, with the possibility to use helicopters for style and accuracy if necessary.

Entry fees are as follows (they may be reduced due to Competition Rule changes or may be maintained to allow a better level of service and cash prices – to be determined at a later date.): S&A: €850; Canopy Formation: €850 for one event, €950 for two events, €1050 for three events; Formation Skydiving: €1050 for one event, €1150 for two events; Freestyle, Skysurfing and Freefly: €850 for one event, €950 for two events; Accompanying persons €700 each. A reduction of €100 per person will be afforded to complete delegations who organise their own transport.

The President, BJ Worth, expressed his desire to see the Mission Plan proposals integrated into the Mondial including the Technical System. He highlighted that if France cannot confirm that the Mission Plan and the “IPC Look” will be included, he would prefer to risk losing the Mondial than approve the bid as it stands. Patrice Girardin expressed his concern that the IPC is not able to indicate the financial implications of the Mission Plan but stated his willingness to cooperate with the IPC on its Mission Plan objectives. The bid to host the Mondial in France in 2003 was approved, with two abstentions.

16. **PARA-SKI**

Committee Chair, Michael Egger, distributed his report to all delegates and commented on it.

16.1. **5th World Cup in Para-Ski and Open European Championships**

Michael Egger reported on these events which took place in Riezlern and Ramsau, Austria. Weather prevented the minimum programme from being completed, so no titles could be given.

16.2. **8th World Parachuting Championships in Para-Ski**

Michael Egger reported that all preparations are finished for this event, which will take place in Riezlern/Kleinwalsertal, Austria, March 13-18, 2001. Bulletin N° 1 has been made available, and Bulletin N° 2 will be made available immediately after the Plenary. A free pick-up service from Obersdorf or Sonthofen is available upon request. Larry Bagley (USA) was proposed as the FAI Controller. This proposal was approved unanimously.

16.3. **Future World Cups and World Championships**

A bid was received from Italy to hold an Open European Championship in La Polsa di Brentonico from March 8th to 11th, 2001. The aircraft would be an ELI Lama and the entry fee would be 650000 Liras per competitor, 330000 Liras per accompanying person and 430000 Liras for officials. Treasurer Buzz Bennett brought up the problem of the non-payment of the sanction fees in 1997 by the Italian Aero Club. Buzz suggested that the acceptance of the bid be made on the condition that the sanction fees for 1997 be paid prior to the competition. It was decided that the vote would be carried out without this condition. The bid was approved, with 8 abstentions. Ulf Tingnert (Sweden) was proposed for Chief Judge, and was approved unanimously. Larry Bagley (USA) was proposed for FAI Controller, and was approved unanimously.

Slovenia submitted a bid to host a Para-Ski World Cup and a European Championship February 14th to 17th, 2002. Aircraft would be B412 (military). Entry fees would be 680 DM (€340) for competitors, 590 DM (€295) for officials. The bid for 2002 was approved with 2 abstentions. Helmut Schlecht (Germany) was proposed for Chief Judge, and was approved unanimously. Mattias Peterson (Sweden) was proposed for FAI Controller, and was approved unanimously.

Slovenia also submitted a bid to host a Para-Ski World Championship February 11th to 16th, 2003. Aircraft would be B412 (military). The entry fees would be 800DM (€400) for competitors and 700DM (€350) for officials. The bid was approved, with 2 abstentions. Nominations for Chief Judge and FAI Controller were delayed until the 2002 Plenary.

16.4. **Proposed changes to the Para-Ski Competition Rules**

One change to SC 5.1.3. was proposed, regarding wind speed, and it was approved unanimously.

17. **FAI JUDGING**

The Committee Chair, Doris Merz, presented her report (Agenda Annex 11). She apologised that no form was included in the Agenda to facilitate the nomination of FAI Judges. This caused some problems which were resolved. For 2002, this form can be downloaded from the FAI/IPC website to avoid similar difficulties. The current Judges list was posted for delegates' perusal.

A number of training tapes were sold, and some are still available at a cost of US\$ 20 each. No new training tape will be made until the conclusion of the competitions in Portugal.

Re-evaluation will be made easier. A person wishing to be re-evaluated should contact Doris who will expedite an evaluation tape. The person will judge the tape and return it with the results to Doris. The committee will evaluate the judgement and inform the person if they have been successful. This will avoid all travel.

17.1. Proposed changes to the FAI Sporting Code, Section 5, Chapter 6

The Committee Chair, Doris Merz, distributed the proposed changes to all delegates, and these changes were addressed one by one:

- SC4.6.5. (1) Nomination of Judges – approved unanimously
- SC 4.6.5. (3) Time frame for CJ to contact judges (30 days) – approved unanimously
- SC 6.2. (4) CISM judges – approved unanimously
- SC 6.9.4. (1) Arrival time for Judges – (amended to obtain agreement from organiser) – approved unanimously

17.2. FAI Judges List

The list of FAI Judges for 2001 was verified, and will be available on the FAI/IPC website.

17.3. Judging Courses for 2001

No Judge training course will be held during the WAG in Spain. It is possible that a training course will be organised in Germany. Information will be posted on the FAI/IPC website.

Doris concluded with her thanks to the committee members and expressed the desire to continue working with them. The President thanked Doris and her committee members for their work.

18. SPORTING CODE AND INTERNAL REGULATIONS

The Chair of the Sporting Code Working Group, Patrice Girardin, gave the floor to the Secretary of the WG, Buzz Bennett, to present the changes to both the Sporting Code and IPC Internal Regulations that were distributed to all delegates (Agenda Annex 12).

18.1. Proposed amendments to the FAI Sporting Code, Section 5

The Working Group Secretary, Buzz Bennett, addressed the proposed changes:

- 1.1.1. (6) Definition of a World Cup
- 4.1.2 Schedule of Organisation – to take into consideration the amendments indicated in paragraph 4.3 of these minutes.

The proposed changes were presented as a complete package, and were approved unanimously.

18.2. IPC Internal Regulations

The Working Group Secretary, Buzz Bennett, addressed the proposed changes:

- 3.3. Plenary Meeting timetable from 5 to 4 days (including a weekend)
- 4.1.,4.2., 4.3. Composition and Powers of the Bureau (reduced to 6 IPC officers who would serve as the decision-making body, consulting others as appropriate)
- 6.2.1. Clarification that the President, even if still a delegate, cannot be a member of a committee or working group and the 1st Vice President cannot be a member of a committee but can remain a member of a working group.
- 6.3.2. Change the restriction on a nation by providing that both the delegate and the alternate delegate from the same nation may chair a committee.
- 7.3.2. Remove the obligation for the 1st Vice President to Chair the Sporting Code Working Group, and for the President to be Chair of the WAG WG

These changes were presented as a complete package and were approved unanimously. The amended Sporting Code, Section 5, and the amended IPC Internal Regulations are available via the FAI /IPC website at: www.fai.org/parachuting/documents.

19. **TECHNICAL AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Harro Trempenau served as Acting Chair of the Committee in replacement of Per Myrin, who resigned for personal reasons. Harro commented on his report which was distributed to all delegates. He suggested that the delegates nominate the technical person in their respective nations who would be the most suitable to respond to the safety survey to improve participation. Harro spoke of the work that will be carried out during the course of 2001. The committee will look at presenting technical data on the FAI/IPC website, and will conduct a new survey.

19.1. **The Annual IPC Safety Survey**

The Deputy Chair, Liam McNulty, commented on the annual IPC Safety Survey and expressed his regret that so few nations responded to the survey this year. Only 26 nations responded. He requested that delegates ensure that the people in their country concerned by this survey receive the documents distributed at the Plenary.

19.2. **FAI Certificates of Proficiency**

The Acting Chair Harro Trempenau distributed and discussed the Committee's proposed new definitions and standards for the FAI Certificates of Proficiency. The Australian delegate expressed concern that this proposal is a workable one but that the IPC needs to be careful not to miss opportunities here. The solution is rather simplistic, given for life with just the log book as proof of activity. He suggests that we defer any decision for one year to further work on this and create a more valid document and a better income stream. Harro felt that another year will not change anything and that only Australia seems to have a problem with the proposal. Harro maintained that he would like a vote on the proposal. The Norwegian alternate delegate Knut Ekerhovd suggested voting on the proposal, but requested that the Committee post the results of the study on the FAI/IPC website. Buzz Bennett noted that Chapter 2 is 30 years old and does need to be updated even if this might cause some problems for a few nations. He encouraged approving the proposal. The proposal was approved, with 1 objection, and 4 abstentions. The C.O.P. booklets will be produced in Lausanne by the FAI and the committee will work with the FAI Secretary General to achieve this. The Secretary General raised the issue of financing the publication of this document. It was confirmed that a budget had been set aside to cover this.

20. **AWARDS**

20.1. **The FAI Gold Parachuting Medal**

Russia presented the only nomination for the FAI Gold Parachuting Medal. The Russian delegate spoke of Ms. Tatiana Osipova, and of Russia's great regret that she was killed in a helicopter accident. He expressed the desire to have Tatiana remembered for all the work she did for parachuting both in Russia and throughout the world. In 1996, at the 23rd WPC, Ms. Osipova became the overall World Champion, won a gold medal in Style and set a world record during the 4th style jump (6,10 seconds). In 1998, during the 24th WPC, she became the first person to become the overall World Champion for the second time running, also winning the gold medals in both individual events. He also spoke of a competition that will be held in her memory, and invited all delegates to send competitors to participate. The Plenary had to first decide if the FAI Gold Parachuting Medal should be issued in 2000, and then determine if it could be awarded to T. Osipova posthumously. This was carried out by secret ballot and it was agreed to award the medal in 2001. Ms Osipova was awarded the FAI Gold Parachuting Medal by acclamation. No nomination was received for the Gold Parachuting Medal in 2001 for 2002.

20.2. The Leonardo da Vinci Diploma

No nomination was received for the 2001 Diploma. The only nominee for the 2002 was Franck Bernachot (France). The French delegate spoke about Mr. Bernachot's stellar achievements:

Born 16/5/1962 in VALENCE, France

Profession: Military since 1982 Grade: Adjutant

Medals already obtained :

Médaille d'Or de la Défense Nationale en 1995 (National Defense Gold Medal)

Médaille d'Or Jeunesse et Sports en 1986 (Youth and Sport Gold Medal)

Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite en 1999 (Officer of the National Order of Merit)

Sport Distinctions:

French Style Champion in 1986 – 1987 – 1988 – 1989 – 1991 – 1993 – 1994 – 1995

French combined Champion in 1986 – 1987 – 1988 – 1989 – 1990 – 1993

European Style Champion 1985 – 1987

Winner of the World Cup of Champions in 1987 – 1989

Military Style World Champion in 1985 – 1986 – 1988 – 1992 – 1993

Military Combined World Champion 1985 – 1986 – 1988 – 1990 – 1994

Team Accuracy World Champion in 1986 – 1990 – 1998

Style World Champion in 1990 – 1998

Combined World Champion by Nation in 2000

Style World Record Holder: 5.40 seconds

20.3. Fausto Vrancic Medal

The Croatian delegate spoke about the proposed Fausto Vrancic Medal. Croatia would like the medal to have the rank of an FAI Silver Medal. He explained what Fausto Vrancic had achieved in the 16th century regarding air safety (it is even believed that he did a parachute jump in 1617). Claude Gillard then explained that the IPC had agreed to put this forward to the FAI. The FAI President explained that this medal, intended for people having made technical innovations to parachuting, was in direct conflict with the objectives of the Gold Medal. Max Bishop clarified that the IPC was required to review the objective so that it is acceptable for all parties concerned. The President, BJ Worth, requested that the delegates empower the Bureau to vote on this during the course of 2001. The cost of the medal will be covered by the Croatian Aeronautical Association and generate no cost for either the FAI or the IPC. Nominations for this medal will be accepted with the Agenda for the 2002 IPC Plenary meeting.

21. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Patrice Girardin presented information on doping. Patrice offered to be the authority on doping for the IPC, and serve on the FAI anti-doping panels should a case of doping need to be handled. Exi Hoenle suggested that delegates consult their NOC website as the most reliable source of information on doping. The Finnish delegate explained that all record holders in Finland must have a doping test within 24 hrs of achieving the record, and that the cost of the control must be picked up by the athlete. There is a very high cost involved in all doping control. The President, BJ Worth, expressed that this is a very important issue and that it is most important to let the athletes know the rules. Max Bishop confirmed that information is available on the FAI web site (CIMP section) with links to both the IOC anti-doping pages and the World Anti-Doping Agency, which is a new independent body. He indicated that two cases of doping were identified in air sports in 2000 (including one in parachuting). Roland Hilfiker confirmed that doping tests would be carried out during the World Games and that the participating athletes must be perfectly aware of the rules, and ensure that their doctors are also aware, so as to avoid prescribing medication that is in contradiction to the IOC Doping rules.

22. ELECTIONS

22.1. Confirmation of the Committees and Working Groups

The list of Committee and Working Group Chairs, and appointed Committee members and Working Group members was presented by the President, and was approved unanimously.

22.2. Election of IPC Officers and Appointment of Official IPC Representatives

- a. BJ Worth was re-elected IPC President by acclamation.
- b. Patrice Girardin was elected IPC 1st Vice-President by acclamation.
- c. Pål Bergan and Srecko Medven were re-elected as Vice Presidents, by acclamation.
- d. Gillian Winter was re-elected Technical Secretary by acclamation.
- e. Richard "Buzz" Bennett was re-elected Treasurer by acclamation.
- f. Roland Hilfiker was reappointed as IPC/IOC Coordinator by acclamation.
- g. Patrice Girardin was reappointed as IPC/WAG Liaison Officer by acclamation.

23. Date and Place of the next Meeting

Two bids were received to hold the 2002 IPC Meeting: One from Portugal in Porto Santo, a small island in the Atlantic near to Madeira, and the other from Brazil. Roland Hilfiker told delegates that he felt it was very important that the IPC meet in Lausanne to clearly indicate its desire to be part of the Olympic movement. The delegates voted not to move away from Lausanne, so the two bids were not considered.

The dates proposed for Lausanne include the weekend of 26-27th January 2002. The exact dates will be confirmed once the availability of the Olympic Museum is known. Hotel information in Lausanne will be presented on the FAI/IPC website.

23.1. Hosts for future IPC Meetings

The Brazilian delegate presented a bid to host the 2003 IPC meeting in Fortaleza, following the Carnival. The exact dates will be confirmed during the course of 2002. He presented a video of the town. He will confirm the entry fee but is almost certain that it will be the same as the bid for 2002 (\$600) covering board and lodging and full meeting support. A late entry fee will be levied for all entries received less than two months prior to the meeting start date.

24. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The 52nd IPC Plenary Meeting was adjourned at 12h00 on January 31st, 2001.

ADDENDUM TO MINUTES OF THE 52nd IPC PLENARY MEETING
COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Freefall Style and Accuracy Committee

Chair : John Hitchen
Deputy Chair : Jean Dermine
Members : Srecko Medven
Igor Tiorlo
Christian Ratenburg
Li Rong Rong
Advisor : Roger Flinn
Jimmy Hayhurst
Deon Nortje

Canopy Formation Committee

Chair : Graeme Windsor
Deputy Chair : Patrice Girardin
Members : Vladimir Gazetov
Larry Bagley
Advisors : Martin Arriens
William H. Ottley
Brenda Reid

Para-Ski Committee

Chair : Michael Egger
Deputy Chair : Dieter Engel
Members : Emil Franek
Mattias Peterson
Advisors : Doris Merz
Marylou Laughlin

WAG Games Working Group

Chair : Patrice Girardin
Doris Merz
Pål Bergan
John Hitchen
Ronald Overdijk
Graeme Windsor

Sporting Code Working Group

Chair : Patrice Girardin
Secretary : Richard « Buzz » Bennett
Members : John Hitchen
Pål Bergan
Graeme Windsor
Ronald Overdijk
Doris Merz

Formation Skydiving Committee

Chair : Pål Bergan
Deputy Chair : Mads Larsen (advisor)
Members : Frank Mahut
Marc Hoornweg
Fiona McEachern
Rainer « Exi » Hoenle
Advisors : Sven Mortberg
Tim Stevens
Anatoly Zhirov

Freestyle Skydiving, Skysurfing and Freeflying Committee

Chair : Ronald Overdijk
Deputy Chair : Markus Willi
Members : Jorge Derviche
Carlos Marques
Advisors : Ray Williams
Roger Flinn
Omar Alhegelan
Ashley Crick

Judges Committee

Chair : Doris Merz
Deputy Chair : Barry McAuley
Members : Pia Berggren
Roger Flinn
Brenda Reid
Advisor : Serge Bayou

Technical and Safety Committee

Chair : Harro Trempenau
Deputy Chair : Liam McNulty
Members : Sanjay Thapar
Knut Ekerhovd
Advisors : Tony Butler
Barry McAuley

Finance Working Group

Chair : Richard « Buzz » Bennett
Patrice Girardin
Doris Merz
Graeme Windsor