



**PRESS RELEASE**  
For immediate release

## **Honours for air sports' greats at the 2019 FAI Awards Ceremony**

Lausanne, Switzerland, 6 December 2019 – **The dedication and achievements of air sports' heroes was honoured last night at the 2019 FAI Awards Ceremony held at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, Switzerland.**

The FAI Gold Air Medal, which is FAI's most prestigious award, was today awarded posthumously to Domina Jalbert from the USA. Greg Principato, the President of the National Aeronautic Association, received the award in Jalbert's name from FAI President Bob Henderson at the beginning of the second day of the FAI General Conference.

The FAI Awards recognise individuals from around the world for their contribution to global air sports, or their prowess in a particular discipline.

Mr Henderson said: "The FAI is delighted to honour outstanding pilots, athletes and supporters at our annual Awards Ceremony.

"I extend my sincere congratulations to all those recognised for their courage, skill and commitment."

The FAI Awards Ceremony is part of the federation's General Conference, which is being held over two days on 5 and 6 December in Lausanne.

### **FAI General Awards**

#### **FAI Gold Air Medal**

Domina Jalbert (USA)

For his great contribution to the development of Aeronautics through design innovation in parachuting and paragliding, which has benefitted hundreds of thousands of pilots throughout the world

#### **FAI Gold Space Medal**

Viktor SAVINYKH (RUS)

For his great contribution to the development of Astronautics through his remarkable career in scientific research and his achievements as a pilot-cosmonaut

#### **FAI Bronze Medal**

Suzie GEBB (FRA)

For her eminent long-term services rendered to the FAI, especially as co-ordinator of the FAI Young Artist Contest

#### **De La Vaulx Medal**

James M. PAYNE (USA) / Timothy GARDNER (USA)

For the World Record of 22 657 m as absolute altitude on 2 September 2018

#### **Sabiha Gökçen Medal**

Alexandra SEREBRENNIKOVA (RUS)

For her outstanding achievements in hang gliding and her two World Records in 2018

**Paul Tissandier Diploma**

Georges DE MOURA FERREIRA (BRA)

For his remarkable services to Aviation and Sporting Aviation, particularly Ballooning

Castor FANTOBA LERENDEGUI (ESP)

For his remarkable services to Aviation and Sporting Aviation

Pankul MATHUR (IND)

For his remarkable services to Aviation and Sporting Aviation, particularly Gliding

Barbara SONZOGNI (ITA)

For her remarkable services to Aviation and Sporting Aviation, particularly Paragliding

Bernard VAILLOT (FRA)

For his remarkable services to Aviation and Sporting Aviation

Yuri YABLOKOV (RUS)

For his remarkable services to Aviation and Sporting Aviation, particularly Rotorcraft

**Group Diploma of Honour**

Red Bull Air Race (AUT)

For their significant contribution to the progress of aeronautics, particularly in air racing

Aerathlitiki Enosi Magnesias (GRE)

For their significant contribution to the progress of aeronautics, particularly in aeromodelling in Greece

Perlan II Team (USA)

For their significant contribution to the progress of aeronautics, particularly in gliding and for their research relating to the stratosphere

Russian National Hot Air Balloon Team (RUS)

For their significant contribution to the progress of aeronautics, particularly in ballooning in Russia

Museum of Cosmonautics (RUS)

For their significant contribution to the progress of astronautics, particularly in Russia

**FAI Awards for Individual Disciplines****Leonardo Da Vinci Parachuting Diploma**

Christian FREI (SUI)

**Notes for editors**

FAI logo: [bit.ly/FAI\\_logo](http://bit.ly/FAI_logo)

Pictures of the Ceremony (free for editorial purpose): <http://bit.ly/FAIawards2019>

The list of all the FAI awardees and their citations will be published at [www.fai.org/awards](http://www.fai.org/awards) soon.

**About FAI**

FAI, the World Air Sports Federation, is the world governing body for air sports and for certifying world aviation and space records. The FAI was founded in 1905 and is a non-governmental and non-profit-making organisation recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

FAI activities include Aerobatics, Aeromodelling, Airships, Amateur-Built and Experimental Aircraft, Ballooning, Drones, Gliding, Hang Gliding, Helicopters, Manpowered Flying, Microlights, Parachuting, Paragliding, Paramotors, Power Flying and all other Aeronautic activities and Space records.

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