Notes from the IGC Bureau meeting 9th – 10th October 2021 in Woerden, the Netherlands

Participants

- Peter Eriksen (PE)
- Frouwke Kuijpers (FK)
- Angel Casado (AC)
- Christof Geissler (CG) - remote
- Patrick Pauwels (PP)
- Rick Sheppe (RS) - remote
- Brian Spreckley (BS)
- René Vidal (RV) - remote
- Vladimir Foltin (VF)

Guests

- Mandy Temple (MT) – remote (for items 4, 16 and 17b.)

1. Bureau action List (PE)
   a. status on actions – to list of actions will be updated after the meeting

2. Finance (PP)
   - PP reported on IGC’s financial situation, for details see the reports.

1-Financial Overview 2-FAI-IGC Financial
2021-08-31 - Budget planning 2022-2023.p

   - Given the situation where IGC reserves in 2021 are expected to decrease, the bureau discussed the necessity to review IGC’s income basis and the related possibilities. The fees have not been adjusted since many years.
   - The bureau provided feedback to PP about the main principles that should be considered.
   - PP will now develop a proposal in cooperation with FK and BS that will partly re-establish IGCs reserves over the next 3-5 years, and present this to the Bureau at the next meeting.

3. IGC Champion Pilot of the Year
   - The award ceremony will take place during the 2022 IGC plenary meeting in Copenhagen.
   - **Action:** PE will invite Gisela Weinreich to take care of the calculation and verification of results to identify the IGC Champion Pilot of the Year and to coordinate the responsibilities for logistics associated with the delivery of the award to the winner.
- **Action:** PE will formally invite the winner of the IGC Champion Pilot of 2021 to the award ceremony during the 2022 IGC Plenary meeting in Copenhagen.

4. **Report from Gliding Development Group (GDG)**
   - MT reported about the activities of the renewed group and its proposed mission.
   - The bureau supported the presented approach and the initiatives envisaged for 2022. More details can be found in the report.
   - The GDG will have a dedicated session at the 2022 IGC Plenary.

5. **Future IGC web services**
   - FAI website - no substantial changes can be expected because of limited funding. Small changes could be implemented based on the request from ASC.
   - BS provided overview of IGC’s existing media outputs and communication channels. These are usually linked to SGP website.
   - The bureau decided to continue to use the FAI website for promulgation of a more static and formal information (MoM, reports, sporting code, etc.) and use SGP website for the more dynamic information related to gliding sport and communication directly with pilots (news, announcements, competition updates, etc.). There will be overlaps and crosslinks between the two sites.
   - **Action:** BS to coordinate publication of the abovementioned information on FAI and SGP websites and promulgating it through existing IGC media channels.
   - The bureau decided to set-up a small group of people that can take over IGC media and communications including the content management and its promulgation via various social media.
   - BS presented the new look of the SGP website, which will be launched after the transfer of the remaining necessary information from the old SGP website. The new site uses up-to-date IT technology that should allow for better and easier content management and lower operation costs.

6. **Proposal for the establish of common FAI database for results from WGCs and Continental GCs (PE)**
   - The agreed that the results of past IGC championships should be collected, consolidated, and then included in the dynamic part of the IGC website (SGP part).
   - **Action:** PE to inform FAI and to establish contact between experts.

7. **Feedback and actions following 2021 Championships**
   a. **JEGC Pociunai**
      - The bureau, considering the steward’s report, expressed willingness to provide additional IGC’s support and guidance to the organisation of the upcoming championships in Lithuania.
b. WGC, Montlucon
- FK (chief steward) verbally reported about the organisation and proceeding of the competition.
- The organisers were managing the event in the very challenging circumstances of COVID-19 pandemics. That had an impact on some parts of the championships (e.g., no camping possible at the airport, limited local facilities and catering).
- The operations and sporting aspects were at the required level, some issues occurred in relation to complex airspace structure.
- On 2nd competition day a towing incident happened, which resulted in a glider accident. The glider concerned was repaired and could fly the during the rest of the competition. Another incident occurred during the training week when two gliders collided in a thermal, both gliders landed safely. Fortunately, no one was hurt during these two events and there were no other noteworthy safety concerns observed during the competition period. The interaction between the safety committee, stewards and organisers worked very well (e.g., there were regular safety sessions managed by stewards during daily briefings).
- The Bureau discussed if the current requirements for participation in CAT-1 events are sufficient in terms of recency and competitions experience. The issue will be included in the continuing discussions on competition safety.
- IGC trackers were tested for the first time during this event.

8. Quality of FAI sanctioned championships
The bureau had a general discussion about the quality of IGC Championships. There were too many competitions over the last years that did not meet the expected level of quality for such events.
The bureau decided to implement following initiatives in the short term:
- Develop guidelines and template for organisers that shall be used for the preparation of championships (work is already ongoing)
- Establish IGC championships detailed quality performance metrics to assess the bids against the objectives of IGC Championships as outlined in Annex A
- Assess each submitted bid using these metrics and report the result of assessment to the plenary prior to vote on bids (in close cooperation with the organisers).
- An IGC nominated expert (e.g., chief steward) to report on the preparation of already awarded championships to the IGC Plenary instead of organisers.
- Assess each completed championship using the same metrics as before (including feedback from the teams).
Notes of the IGC Bureau meeting October 2021

- Standardisation of Local Procedures and update of the related template

**Action:** FK to follow up on the above listed initiatives.

9. Possible sponsorship for the SGP
   The SGP team is in an initial contact with a potential sponsor that may be willing to support next series. The bureau decided that any future sponsor arrangements should be consistent with overall IGC’s objectives and reinforce the image of gliding as an environmentally friendly sport.

10. Status on 2022 Championships
    - FK informed about the nominations of IGC officials
    - WGC Hungary – There are regular contacts with the organisers.
      **Action:** PP to advise the organisers to contact AC when looking for a solution how to implement no-tracking feature.
    - 13.5 m WGC Lithuania – **Action:** PE will contact the organiser to indicate IGC’s willingness to provide IGC experts’ support and guidance to the organisation.

11. Tracker project
    a. Lessons learnt from the WGC and the SGP Final
       - The units were tested successfully at WGC 2021.
       - The feedback received will be used for improvements of the trackers and their handling at future championships.
       - The main issues were related to size/positioning of antenna and lack of charging/switching-on units before flight.
    b. Changes for 2022
       - There also is a need for assigning dedicated person(s) from the organisation to be in-charge of the management of trackers during the whole championships. To this point IGC decided to develop guidelines (e.g., videos, presentations) for organisers and pilots how to handle the trackers.
       - MoU with LXNAV will be concluded in support of transportation and associated logistics.
       - Recovery of investment costs – The bureau decided to incorporate the costs in the sanction fees and to require the use of OGN/IGC trackers by organisers of WGCs from 2023 onwards. **Action:** AC to draft the relevant bureau’s proposal for the 2022 IGC Plenary.

12. Organisation of OSTIV/IGC Safety work
    There is no update since IGC and OSTIV agreed to undertake a joint initiative.
    **Action:** PE to contact OSTIV president to check the status and coordinate the next steps.

13. Future organisation of Virtual gliding
    BS and Antoine Havet provided written report from the 1st Virtual SGP event run in parallel with SGP Final.
Notes of the IGC Bureau meeting October 2021

The IGC recognised the event has been a great success.
- IGC bureau decided to establish a WG to manage Virtual gliding within IGC with the aim to organise FAI Virtual World Gliding Championships. The bureau will ask Antoine Havet to take the lead of the group. The actual setup should be like the structure used for SGP management. **Action:** BS.
- There is a need to strengthen the cooperation with Condor.

14. Electric gliding
  - There is a need to ensure standardisation of various events.
  - The bureau decided to reinstitute the E-Gliding working group. The SGP management team will continue to take care of this topic for the time being. **Action:** BS to revise the group’s ToR and the membership

15. Reports from WGs and Specialists
  a. Annex A – RS provided the written report
     - The bureau decided that the Safety committee will draft a proposal to the Plenary to clarify the conditions for cancellation of task by CD after the start line was open
     - External aid to competitors – the bureau considers the text used in the LPs for WGC 2021 as sufficient. It should be noted that the view of the Bureau is that communication between Team Captains and pilots not is considered “external aid”
     - The bureau decided to publish the new version of Annex A online
     - Protest fee – The bureau decided to set the protest fee to 100€
     - The bureau decided to move start time announcements from Annex A to LPs template
  b. Annex D – the Bureau decided to incorporate the proposed changes and publish the new version

16. Bids and request from the Bid manager
  - WWGC 2023 – the Bureau decided to accept request to organise the championships in 3 classes (std., club and 18m)
  - WGC 2024 – the bureau decided to accept the change of dates proposed by the organisers (new dates August 17 - September 1)
  - Bids – the bureau noted the list of intended bids. The formal bids need to be submitted by 31 December 2021.

17. 2022 Plenary
  a. Sessions, focus areas.
- The bureau’s ambition is to reduce detailed technical discussions about the sporting code and focus instead on IGC’s vision and strategic items. The following topics are considered – Virtual Gliding, E-Gliding, country development, iConspicuity for U-space
- IGC Champion Pilot of the Year award ceremony will take place on Friday 4 March 2022 in the afternoon.
- The bureau will aim to run a virtual gliding competition during the Plenary with objective to present this fast-growing way of gliding to the delegates.
- The bureau will hold a half day bureau meeting on Thursday afternoon. With the frequent online meetings, there is no need for the usual two-day bureau meeting.

b. New Proposals

**Action**: VF to distribute the draft proposals to the relevant committees, working groups and specialists.
- The bureau decided about the revised process for Y-2 proposals – any amendment received after the deadline for publication of the agenda and proposals for the Plenary meeting (D-45) will be considered as a late amendment (requiring 2/3 majority to be discussed).
- Proposals from Annex D committee – there were no comments.

- Proposals from Denmark:

  - MoP related – there were no comments
  - Handicaps related – the bureau will seek the opinion of the Handicap sub-committee
  - Proposals from Sweden – the bureau will seek opinion of the SC3 committee

- Proposals from Sweden:

  - Proposals from France:

    - Proposal 1 – it may be addressed through a note in Annex A. (note - 1 sec recording requirement may eliminate the issue)
    - Proposal 2 – the bureau will seek opinion of Annex A committee

**Action**: Annex A Committee to discuss both proposals with FRA
- Proposals from Australia

- Proposals 1-5 – these proposals will be processed by the newly reinstituted E-gliding WG (see item 14 above)

- Proposal 7 – there were no comments, the matter does not require a proposal (Australia indicated it will not make the proposal) The Bureau agrees that scoring script for IGC sanctioned competitions should be made available and will create a “github account”. The Bureau will through the bid process make it mandatory for organisers to publish the used scoring script.

  Action AC to create the account. FK and PE to formalise the requirement towards organisers.

- Proposal 8 – there were no comments, the bureau will seek the input from SC3 committee

- Proposal 9 – the bureau will seek the input from SW WG

Next online IGC Bureau meeting will take place on 16 November 19:00 UTC.