

WINGSUIT FLYING COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT — 2020

This past year has been challenging for all skydiving disciplines, and wingsuit flying is no exception. The FAI Mondial World Championships was postponed due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, as well as nearly all national championships, other regional WS competitions and record attempts.

The Wingsuit Flying Committee has met several times throughout the year via Zoom, in an effort to continue the communications and teamwork that we established last year, and I'm happy to report that this has been largely successful.

While there are no major modifications to the Wingsuit Flying Competition Rules, the committee has identified several things that required our attention.

1. We feel as though it's necessary to bring in the principal judge panel in an additional day earlier, due to the large amount of work required of the panel in advance of the competition that separates them from nearly every other discipline. We feel this will give the judging panel enough time to get their work done and freeing them up to be available to the competitors on their official training day. This was discussed with the ISC Judging Committee and they are in agreement with our proposal.
2. Similar to Speed Skydiving, we feel it important to add a Technical Scoring Director, who would be responsible for the planning, setup and maintenance of the downloading and analysing software before and during a First Category Event.
3. We feel it necessary to certify a second scoring system for the Acrobatic event, since there is currently only one. Performance Flying has OmniSkore HD! and SkyDerby, however Acrobatic currently only has OmniSkore HD!. This was discussed with the Judges Committee and they are going to reach out to InTime to discuss the possibility of certifying InTime for Acrobatic. That conversation is ongoing and we hope that it will be approved by the Judging Committee, giving hosts an alternative scoring system.

The committee received a proposal from the Russian delegation, asking for the support of a new vertical formation record category, along with a still image and video of skydive that they used as an example for this record. This was discussed extensively amongst the committee and the committee decided that we would not support this addition, as the flying of the record is not different enough from the existing record category, and what differences there were meant obtaining this new record category would be easier than the existing WS Large Formation records, which the committee is not in favour of. We will be reaching out to other delegations and record-setting groups to ascertain their interest in such a new record category over the next year, but for now, we would not support adding the vertical formation record category.

The 3rd FAI World Championship of Wingsuit Flying was scheduled to take place at the 2020 FAI Mondial World Championships, which has since been rescheduled to 2021. We hope that this event will take place as scheduled. The 2021 FAI World Cup of Wingsuit Flying was scheduled to take place in Skydive Arizona but has been cancelled to allow for the rescheduling of the 2020 FAI Mondial World Championships. The 4th FAI World Championship of Wingsuit Flying is currently scheduled to take place in Skydive Arizona, but that event is pending decisions to be made at this 2020 ISC Plenary meeting.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the members of the committee for their continued efforts through what has been a very challenging year and I look forward to continuing the progress we have made, Deputy Chair, Michael Cooper (CAN), Vera Asquith (CAN), Sandro Bohme (GER), Scott Callantine (USA), Bert Ham (NED), Sudeep Kodavati (IND), Mike Pennock (NED) and Marco Pistolesi (ITA).

Steve Hubbard
Wingsuit Flying Committee Chair