

<i>SUBJECT:</i>	Temporary Records Working Group –Findings & Proposals	<i>AGENDA #</i>	6.2a
<i>AUTHOR:</i>	Gillian Rayner – Chair, Temporary Records Working Group		
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ISC Temporary Records Working Group Findings and Proposals

Members: Gillian Rayner (Chair), Istvan Sipos, Steve Hubbard, Ronald Overdijk, David Grauwels Guests: Christine Rousson (FAI Record Officer), Gail Bradley (ISC Finance Secretary), Mark Szulmayer (FS Committee Chair),

Four online meetings were held, March 10th, April 1st, 16th and 27th.

For several years Gail Bradley, the Finance Secretary, has been highlighting the cost to ISC of the records process introduced by IBD in 2016. This has been caused by the higher number of record claims and in particular, the Continental Records. Several previous proposals to the Plenary to no longer pay for Continental Records have been met with resistance and no decision has been taken.

Consequently, the primary reason for the start of this WG is the 2021 ISC decision to evaluate the substantial financial burden on ISC budget and come up with proposals to alleviate this.

These proposals do not include the cost of performance records as those are paid for directly to FAI by the organisers or the participants of such records.

The discussion extended beyond the financial aspect and looked at Records as a whole, highlighting discrepancies and differences from one discipline to another.

For reference:

Terms of Reference TRWG

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UIxY7vr8MdoOzdB2L1iHPe4CHBFzTZpr/edit>

Tentative record list

Tentative list of ratified world competition records and performance records (2 tabs)

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ToO1idjK42bDoXE0yOZq46P8A0mzqDIs/edit#gid=362123452>

Continental records are not included.

The key findings of the Working Group are:

ISC Finance

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- There is no written agreement between FAI and ISC regarding the payment of records. There was only a verbal agreement between Exi and Susan Schödel followed by an IBD in 2016, first applied at the Mondial in Chicago.
It was declared at the time that ISC would pay 80 CHF for a world record with no additional fee for any continental record set at the same time. It was also declared that competitors would only pay one fee per year regardless of the number of records achieved. This has never been applied and FAI has always billed 80 CHF for each separate record.
- Currently, the cost of world records represent only about one fifth of all the records paid for by ISC. The remainder are Continental records.
- ISC has increased the number of skydiving disciplines and categories. Record categories inevitably follow which leads to an increase in the overall number of records and consequently potentially generating increased cost to ISC.

Record Categories:

- Competition record categories do not match competition title categories. This allows women to set records even if there is no female ranking in the event and also allows women to set both general and female records for the same performance (and in some circumstances even a Junior record) whilst men do not have this opportunity. If there is a female record, why is there not a female title?
- Performance record categories give the same opportunity to women but, except for Style, the rules are different to competition rules which may explain it.
- Style has the same records for competition and for performance. This is an unnecessary doubling. Accuracy records are usually only performed in competition even if the Performance category is slightly different.
- Some disciplines have junior categories and others not. There is no clear ISC policy on this, disciplines decide for themselves. Juniors in Accuracy can be up to 24 years of age. A 24 year-old cannot really be considered a junior but in the light of a military jumping career it does make sense and could be the reason for maintaining this. That is not true of Speed which is the only other discipline that has Juniors in Outdoor Skydiving. Indoor Skydiving is a different matter where Juniors are a necessity due to the young age at which a child can start flying in a tunnel.

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Value of Records

- Whereas a world record is of importance and can be broken throughout one FCE and used for media purposes, this is less true for continental records.
- Many records seem to have little real value other than to the claimant.
- Some records do have media value. However, this depends on the type of record, the PR effort made by the claimant, the NAC or ISC.
- There can be some considerable value for the claimants, particularly in relation to sponsors. A record reinforces the value of the athlete to the sponsor. It is very hard to find a sponsor just because of a record.
- Some ISC records have been acknowledged (and communicated) by Guinness World Records. FAI has been contacted a few times by Guinness.
- Guinness World Records include some obscure skydiving (both indoor and outdoor) records. Some high-profile records have been better exploited than others i.e. the highest jump by Felix Baumgartner in 2012, whereas those achieved by Alan Eustace received little media attention.

FAI feedback

- Due to the high workflow of record management, the overall cost for FAI is higher than income received.
- FAI wants the ISC to be more precise, especially for record claims at national events. Those claims must be paid by the NAC, for the full fee. There is a lack of clarity about the process, SC5 should be more explicit.
- ISC rules for simultaneous records are not in compliance with the General Section. Consequently, FAI has not ratified some records and we need to reconsider our rules.
- FAI receives requests from competitors regarding records due to visa requirements (about 15 a year). Governments require confirmation from FAI that the records are official. Should this be done?
- FAI only provides 4 diplomas per NAC for a performance record. Additional diplomas cost 20 CHF (one) or 10 CHF (two or more). These are paid for by the claimants or the organiser of the record.

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Proposals

- Re-evaluate the verbal financial and procedural agreement with FAI for records and establish a written agreement. This will need to integrate any change in process relating to Continental Records.
- ISC to discontinue payment for continental competition records from 2022 onwards. The non-payment of CRs will be by a moratorium with re-evaluation in 2 years at the 2024 Plenary.
- Claims and payment for continental competition records can be handled as follows:
 - The Jury President (JP) advises the competitor/team/HoD (interested party) of the record and the possibility of making a claim.
 - If the interested party confirms an interest in making the claim and confirms willingness to pay, the preliminary claim for the record performance will be sent electronically to FAI within 7 days.
 - If the claimant has given the billing details to the JP, the full claim, including all information necessary to properly categorise the record claimed (as per GC 7.8.2) including a copy of the official result for the jump/performance in which the record performance occurred together with the billing details, will be sent to the FAI by the JP at the same time as the Preliminary claim. A copy will be made available to the interested party and the relevant NAC.
 - If billing details cannot be provided to the JP, the full claim dossier will be made available by the JP to the interested party and the relevant NAC who will consequently be responsible for submitting the full claim dossier to FAI and making the necessary payment.
- Clarify that the requirements for records achieved in Second Category Events and National Championships must be the same as for First Category Events to ensure the integrity of records.
- Discontinue the record possibility when there is no relevant competition ranking.
- ISC Juries will only formally apply for best world competition records to FAI at the end of an FCE. Any previous world records set at this FCE will only be given exposure and not formally claimed.

72nd FAI/ISC PLENARY MEETING, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, 28-30 JANUARY 2022

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- Modify the record process and determine that continental records are the best per competition as opposed to per round.
- Delete SC 5 para 3.3.10. to align with the General Section regarding simultaneous records or modify wording to ensure that such records can only be considered if completely different people are involved. .
- Ask all competition committees to reconsider what categories should apply for competition records in their discipline i.e. male, female, junior only when there is male, female and junior ranking, Otherwise if there is no gender specific title only have Open records.
- Ask the Style and Accuracy Committee to determine if Style records should be performance records or competition records.
- Determine if ISC should have a standard practice regarding Juniors within all disciplines.
- Include the possibility for a performance record to be achieved in competition (when the rule allows it) and consequently manage it in the same way as a competition record (including payment).
- Contact Guinness regarding publication and promulgation of records.

In a separate document, proposed modifications to Section 5 show what the application of these proposals would look like. Whereas some changes are immediately necessary and require a decision at this Plenary meeting, others are only open for discussion at this point.

The report from the TRWG will be made during the Open Meeting “Bureau General Matters”.

November 2021