

Report to the CSPA Board of Directors and membership on the

68th Plenary Meeting of the International Parachuting Commission (IPC) of the Federation Aeronautique Internationale held in **Sofia, Bulgaria, January 27 and 28, 2018.**

In attendance:

Rina Gallo; Delegate; Canopy Formation Committee Chair, and member of the Judges Committee
Barb Davies; Alternate Delegate, Chair of the CSPA Competition and National Teams Committee
Richard (Buzz) Bennett; appointed observer, member of the Rules and Regulations Committee and the Finance Working Group, new member of the Wingsuit Committee.
Regrets; **Martin Lemay**, member of the Formation Committee. **Melanie Guerin** (due to work commitments), Indoor Skydiving Committee Member.

I arrived in Sophia on January 20 in order to participate in the Chief of Training Judges Workshop held again this year on the 22 and 23 of January. As well I would be attending all the open and closed meetings (which pertain to my Committees) prior to the Plenary Meeting on January 27 and 28. This year, as in past years, the open meetings are crucial to understanding what will be presented at the Plenary Meeting. The open meetings are the time to ask pertinent questions and give input in regards to the proposed rule changes by the different Committees and Working Groups as well as competition bids. In fact, without attending these meetings, I am doubtful that anyone would be able to follow the Plenary Meeting.

Chief of Judges Training Seminar:

On the Monday and Tuesday prior to the Plenary, Karla Cole, the Judges Committee course co-ordinator invited all those wishing to become involved in judge training to attend a workshop designed to standardize judge training courses in all disciplines. Fifteen judges attended this seminar. Myself and Buzz Bennett attended from Canada. My intention is to teach Formation Skydiving, Buzz wishes to teach Wingsuit Flying.

Open / Closed Meetings:

Although most of the day is spent in Open Meetings and a lot of information is covered in those meetings, a lot of work is done behind the scenes in closed meetings by the various Committees and Working Groups. Closed meetings are for Committee members only. Attendance by anyone other than Committee members is by invitation only

Highlights of the Plenary:

The Agenda and all documents pertaining to the Plenary session as well as the minutes of the meeting are available on the /FAI-IPC Website.

- 34 countries were represented in person and 12 by proxy for a total of 46 votes.
- Over 120 attendees at this Plenary Meeting.
- The President announces the change in status of his First Vice President Patrice Girardin. He would be stepping down as delegate for personal reasons and Gillian Rayner would be taking his place as the new delegate for France.

- Markus Haggenev, presented the Annual report on behalf of the FAI. There has been a huge increase in the number of 1st Category events within FAI and the strain this puts onto the Head Office. There has been an increase from 40 - 60 per year over the past 10 years. The principle air sports involved are CIVL (Hang Gliding and Paragliding), IPC and the Aeromodelling Commission. Markus spoke of the greater use of 2nd Category Events to increase sanction fee income as well as the increase in the number of Records being broken - Parachuting was one of the most active commissions with regard to this.
- During the Open Meeting, a big discussion ensued regarding the 1st FAI Swoop Freestyle World Championships in Copenhagen 2017. This discussion carried on into the Plenary although all agreed that it was a positive step in the right direction, there were questions on how the decision was made to go forward and why the rules and procedures of the IPC were ignored.
- Again, during the Open Meeting, there was a discussion to include Indoor Skydiving into the name of the IPC. On further discussion there seemed to be a reluctance to lose Parachuting from the title and so "International Parachuting & Skydiving Commission" seemed to be the most accepted format. However, since it was not voted on, no decision was made. I am confident that there will be a proposal presented for next year.
- The Olympic Project of the French Parachute Federation was presented by David Roth (president of the French Federation), Gillian Rayner, and Patrice Girardin. Since Paris was selected the host city for the 2024 Olympic Games, the French Federation has been working hard with the French Olympic Committee to have Parachuting accepted as one of the "five new sports" a host city is allowed to propose for introduction to their Olympic Games. The French Federation feels that the most likely discipline to be accepted is Indoor Skydiving, but the door is being left open for other disciplines. The French Federation presented the video that they had prepared for the Olympic Committee Selection Committee and will have the first opportunity to present it in May/June this year.
- Presentation by Skydive TV and vote for Skydive TV continue to be IPC's official partner and a one time 5000 euro payment to cover the shortfall of 2016. This arrangement had been agreed to at the 2016 plenary, but had not been acted upon with the 2017 Bureau for accounting reasons. **Carried.**
- Winding up of IPETA. Request from Gail Bradley to use the terminology "return of seed capital" when winding up the company. Vote to go ahead and do what was necessary to close out the company as soon as possible. **Carried.**
- CISM report on activities in 2017 mentioned the first ever CISM indoor/outdoor FS Tournament held in Sion/ Switzerland.
- The Ranking system has been revamped to dovetail with other ranking systems in use today. It includes an Individual Ranking List for Canopy Piloting. This is a major change from the original Ranking List introduced previously.
- Randy Connell of the U.S.A. reported 120 new Records processed in 2017, a 66% increase over 2016. They represent 49.9% of Records claimed over all Air Sports.
- 35th FAI World Freefall Style and Accuracy Landing Championships in Erden, Montana by one week to accommodate the CISM event.
- Asiana reports that China intends to hold an International Invitation Indoor Skydiving competition in November 2018 with the intention to cover travel, food and accommodation costs in the hope that participants will stay on afterwards as tourists.
- The next World Games in 2021 will be held in Birmingham Alabama, USA.
- It was reported that Turkey (along with other countries) was vying to host the 2020 World Air Games. Since the Plenary, Turkey won the bid and is now the official host for the WAG.

- FAI introduced electronic voting at the IPC level. However, it did not work and manual voting was re-instated.
- Formation Skydiving Committee introduces 2 new 4-way randoms to the dive pool to take effect in 2019. It was felt that to bring them in during 2018 would cause too much of a disruption to many teams' training as this was a World Championships year.
- CF Committee reports that the 4-way events (sequential and rotation) are in jeopardy due to lack of attendance.
- The AE and Dynamic events will be separated. Dynamic Flying will form its own Working Group.
- Ron Miasnikov resigns as Chair of the AE Committee with no replacement.
- CP to add Freestyle as an optional event in CP competition going forward. The competitors can opt to do the classic event with 9 rounds, or opt to include the Freestyle event and do 12 rounds, or competitors can simply enter the Freestyle event and do only 3 rounds.
- Denis Werenskiold from Denmark takes over the Wingsuit Flying Committee from John Smythe. The Altitude Window was discussed and will be finalized and incorporated into the rules for 2019.
- Vote on the Mondial as presented by Russia, to be held in Tanay. **Carried**
- Vote on a bid from Skydive Arizona for a World Cup in FS and AE for October 5-13 in 2019. **Carried**
- Vote on a bid from Romania to host the Canopy Formation World Cup and European Championships from August 15-21 of 2019. **Carried**
- Indoor bid from Japan could not be considered as their NAC did not support them and refused to support their bid. Parachuting is not affiliated with the FAI in Japan.
- Vote on bid to award the Indoor bids (Germany, Belgium, France) for 2019. **France wins overwhelmingly.**
- Vote on bid to award the Indoor bids (Poland, Belgium) for 2020. **Belgium wins overwhelmingly.**
- Motion by John Smythe of GBR to award the Leonardo Da Vinci Award to John Hitchen. **Carried**

All Bureau positions were up for election. Results as follows:

- President: Gillian Rayner – President - France
- 1st Vice President: Elisabet Mikaelsson – Sweden
- Vice President: Doris Merz – Switzerland
- Vice President: Agnieszka Sobczynska – Poland
- Recording Secretary: Susan Dixon – France
- Finance Secretary: Gail Bradley – Australia

Bid to host the 69th Annual IPC meeting. There being only one bid - Lille, France was selected to host and organize the next Plenary Meeting.

Competitions to be held in 2018:

CISM Para-Ski World Championships Hochfilzen, Austria – April 3-8, 2018

European Championships AE, FS – Voss, Norway – April – 11-14, 2018

World CP Freestyle Championships - Wroclaw, Szymanow, Poland – July 3-7, 2018

World CP Championships - Wroclaw, Szymanow, Poland – July 3-7, 2018

CISM World Military Championships - Szolnok, Hungary – August 10-21, 2018

WPC of Style & Accuracy (including junior category) – Erden, Montana, Bulgaria – August 25-30, 2018

WPC of Wingsuit Flying – Prostejov, Czech Republic – August 26-31, 2018

WPC of FS, AE, CF, Speed – Gold Coast, Australia – October 6-13, 2018
WC of Indoor Skydiving – Zallaq, Bahrain – October 25-28, 2018

Competitions to be held in 2019:

World Cup & European Championships – Bucuresti, Romania – August 16-21, 2019
World Cup of AE and FS – Skydive Arizona, USA – October 7-13, 2019

Competitions to be held in 2020:

Mondial – FS, AE, CF, CP, Speed, Wingsuit Flying, Style and Accuracy (including junior category), CP and CP Freestyle – Tanay, Russia – July 31 – August 12, 2020
World Air Games – Efes, Turkey – details to follow

My work as Delegate:

- CF Committee - This is my third year as Chair of the CF Committee. A number of rule changes were made by the committee last year. As it is a World Championship year, and numerous changes were implemented last year, we had no intention of any major rule changes. Therefore, there were only a couple of changes to the rules. The biggest rule change is the elimination of the opportunity for manual scoring. Manual scoring has not been used in many years and this brings the CF rules in line with all other disciplines.
- Much discussion last year focused around the definition of a “foot hook.” This was addressed in the Web Challenge in 2017 and since all teams chose to use the foot hook, we believed there was no longer an issue with this rule.
- I prepared those rule changes for presentation to the Plenary for discussion and for voting. All were accepted unanimously.
- Judges Committee – Three closed meetings and a number of hours were spent in Judges Committee meetings due to many Section 5 changes.
- During the Judges Committee presentation at the open meeting many of these changes were discussed, most importantly to the delegates, the number of required judges per event.
- Participated in all Extended Bureau Meetings
- During the elections, I was Nominated for the Vice president position. I declined for now.

Barb and I wish to thank the CSPA for the financial support and ask that such support be continued in the future. An accounting of all expenses has been provided to the CSPA separately.

Sincerely,



Rina Gallo
IPC Delegate