



*Fédération
Aéronautique
Internationale*

Minutes

Of the Meeting of
**FAI Commission Presidents' Group
with FAI Executive Board**

**held in Antalya (TUR)
at Topkapi Hotel**
on Wednesday 17 October 2012
at 09h00

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1. FAI President's Introduction

The FAI President welcomed the CASI representatives and looked forward to a busy meeting with a full agenda.

2. Roll Call

President :

- John GRUBBSTRÖM FAI President (JG)

Executive Board Members :

- Alvaro de ORLEANS-BORBON FAI Executive Director (AOB)
 - Robert CLIPSHAM FAI Executive Director Finance (RC)
 - Robert HENDERSON FAI Executive Director (RH)
 - Otto LAGARHUS FAI Executive Director (OL)
 - Beat NEUENSCHWANDER FAI Executive Director (BN)
 - Jean-Marc BADAN FAI Secretary General (JMB)

Air Sport Commissions (ASC)

- Agust GUDMUNDSSON FAI Hang Gliding & Paragliding Commission (AG)
 - Jean-Pierre DELMAS FAI General Aviation Commission (JPD)
 - David HAMILTON FAI Rotorcraft Commission (DH)
 - LG ARVIDSSON FAI Aerobatics Commission (LG)
 - Richard MEREDITH-HARDY FAI Microlight Commission (RMH)
 - Eric MOZER FAI Gliding Commission (EM)
 - Antonis PAPADOPOULOS FAI Aeromodelling Commission (AP)
 - Jean-Claude WEBER FAI Ballooning Commission (JCW)
 - Graeme WINDSOR FAI Parachuting Commission (GW)
 - Alfons HUBMANN FAI Amateur-Built & Exp. Aircraft Comm. (AH)
 - Richard 'Buzz' BENNETT FAI General Air Sports Commission (RB)

Technical Commissions (TC)

- Michiel KASTELEIJN FAI Aviation & Space Education Commission (MK)
 - Jürgen KNÜPPEL FAI Medico-Physiological Commission (JK)
 - Lars HOLMSTRÖM FAI Airspace & Navigation Commission (LH)
 - Bernald SMITH FAI Environmental Commission (BSm)

Apologies for absence :

- Mike HEUER FAI Aerobatics Commission
 - LEE Jonghoon FAI Executive Director

In Attendance :

- Rob HUGHES FAI Senior Sports Manager (RHU)
 - Giancarlo SERGI FAME Chief Executive Officer (GS) – part time
 - Tengku ABDILLAH FAI RVP for Asia (TA) – part time

3. Approval of Agenda

FAI Expert System/Expert Groups would be presented and discussed in full during the General Conference. Results from the FAI website survey conducted earlier in the year would be discussed during the meeting. With these clarifications, the agenda was approved.

4. FAI Sports Strategy

1. Sports Strategy

(R. Henderson, R. Hughes)

RH discussed the presentation he would give to the GC. The focus was on the four level model; more emphasis would now be placed on level 3 'marketing' events in collaboration with FAME.

The sporting principles as defined in the Sports Strategy paper were not strongly supported at the May 2012 meeting; reference would be made instead to the FAI Constitution with effort going towards ensuring its relevance. RHU was preparing a new organiser agreement, to be introduced in early 2013.

2. **Anti-Doping**

(R. Henderson)

Anti-doping testing could be compared to airport security; undesirable but necessary to protect the majority from the minority who do not follow the rules. As air sports became more developed and with commercial opportunities opening up, it was all the more important to be able to prove that air sports were drug-free.

Beta blockers were now removed from the list of banned substances in air sports. The submission to remove them was made late to WADA but was accepted as a result of coherent argument and the good working relationship between the FAI and the WADA European office.

Target testing, in accordance with the WADA code would allow for Out of Competition testing on a non-random basis and would minimise the effect on athletes. Out of competition testing could take place at any time outside of the competition period, which started 24 hours before the Opening Ceremony.

WADA's attitude towards non-professional sports had become more flexible. It was FAI's responsibility to prove a logical approach to drug testing in air sports. The FAI did not demand anti-doping tests; this was a decision taken by its members in 2003 and the last step towards full compliance with the WADA code was now necessary; creating the FAI Registered Testing Pool (RTP). Its size and composition would be in accordance with the findings from a risk analysis. The FAI HO would provide literature to describe the RTP and its implications on FAI competitors to Members, ASCs and individual air sports persons.

Some sports / NACs were already experienced with anti-doping testing at events, especially where NADOs were more active. These countries would have fewer problems finding RTP members. Lifestyles, which were incompatible with or which made it difficult to pre-declare 'whereabouts' (such as military personnel or commercial airline crew), were taken into account. Refusal to take part in the RTP would lead to the inability to compete. If an RTP member retired from sport and later resumed competition activity, he would automatically rejoin the RTP.

The initial RTP would comprise 10 competitors, two from each of five ASCs. The ASCs would be chosen based on their previous testing history, with the least tested ASCs being included for 2013. These were: GAC, CIAM, CIG, CIMA and CIVA. ASC Presidents would supply a list of competitors to the Executive Board, from which two per ASC would be drawn. Competitors already in national RTPs could be included in the FAI RTP.

3. **FAME**

(R. Henderson)

FAME CEO Giancarlo SERGI explained that the purpose of FAME was to engage with commissions and create new ventures. He stressed that FAME was not a second FAI but instead a separate commercial company aimed at bringing air sports to a market hungry for spectacular events. FAME was keen to work with interested ASCs to create new events or to support existing marketing events.

There had been little communication regarding FAME's activities to date which was explained by the fact that the CEO had been in place for only 5 weeks and communication would improve in the future.

What if a proposed Commission project did not fit exactly with the FAME vision, for example, bringing an existing event to FAME for support? FAME could assist with finding sponsors or host cities for existing events, as was the case with IGC's Sailplane Grand Prix.

Were ASCs obliged to use FAME? JG explained that FAME was available to support ASCs if they were interested in cooperation. A venture which took advantage of FAI intellectual property or rights must be subject to a contract with the rights holder. Collaboration with FAME would ensure the use of these rights.

What was the composition of the FAME Board? One member had to be established in Switzerland (JMB) and currently the others were FAI Executive Board members (RH / RC) plus a director representing the outside minority shareholder Sinergi (G. Sergi). This arrangement had been established in consultation with

a commercial lawyer. Were copies of the share purchase and shareholder agreements and also the Key Performance Indicators available to view? RH would take advice as to what could be released. *(Afternote; While FAME Statutes were available – Annex 1 -, the other documents listed above contain a clause of confidentiality and therefore cannot be disclosed.)*

4. **Breitling** (G. Sergi, R. Hughes)
JMB gave details of the timeline from first contact to final signature of the sponsorship and subsequently the first steps taken. Breitling were given exclusivity in the category "Watches and Jewellery" and this category was therefore no longer available to others at FAI world and continental championships.

Breitling had attended two FAI championships in August/September; following an offer by Breitling, Brian Jones, pilot of Breitling Orbiter III, had attended the FAI Women's European Hot Air Balloon championship where he had given a presentation on his round-the-world flight and flown the replica balloon.

There was the need to improve communication between the FAI HO, ASCs and event organisers. GS was preparing an 'Event Guide' on the benefits and obligations of the sponsorship arrangement, though it would serve as a general guide to event organisers to consider the needs of other sponsors as well. Topics would include clear branding, the use of logos and how to accommodate advertising material at ceremonies.

Breitling would focus in 2013 on ten FAI championships, though the contract was applicable to all FAI world and continental championships; therefore category exclusivity must be respected across all others. ASCs were invited to propose FAI championships for inclusion in the programme for 2014 and several event organisers had asked either to be included or else to be associated with Breitling to increase their event's visibility.

This was a new project and still developing. Initially the sponsorship income would be used to fund projects and strengthen the FAI so that it could better serve its membership. FAI members, ASC Delegates, event organisers and even competitors invested a lot into the FAI in order to improve air sports in general and it was necessary to consider the big picture.

5. **Medals** (J. Grubbström, R. Hughes)
Two proposals had been put to CASI for the meeting the next day to introduce an FAI medal specification so that FAI event organisers could choose to provide their own medals. The specification resembled that of Olympic medals; some obligatory items (such as the FAI name and logo) on the front face and a blank rear face to accommodate a free design.

6. **Organiser Agreement** (R. Hughes)
A working group of ASC representatives had been created and a draft first version of the new Organiser Agreement was nearing completion. This draft would be circulated to the working group, the resulting second version would then be circulated more widely before legal and Executive Board approval.

7. **Naming of Competitions** (R. Hughes)
The updated document was presented to the meeting and further feedback received. Delegates agreed to its publication, incorporating the changes requested.

5. Events

1. **World Air Games 2015** (R. Hughes, J.-M. Badan)
RHU gave a preview of his presentation to the General Conference. The World Air Games bid process was now open; information was on the FAI website (www.fai.org/world-air-games/wag-2015) and all NACs or other interested parties were encouraged to contact RHU for further information.
2. **IWGA World Games 2013, Cali (COL)** (R. Hughes, J.-M. Badan)
The test events in August 2012 had concluded successfully but there had been significant problems with the Local Organising Committee, mostly due to lack of money and poor administration. FAI Vice-President for Colombia Markus GRAEBER had worked extensively to ensure the success of the event. RHU would

travel to Cali at the end of November for a Competition Manager's meeting and would seek assurance that there would be no repeat of the problems encountered this year.

3. **Asian Beach Games 2014, Phuket (THA)** (R. Hughes, J.-M. Badan)
Following the success of the Asian Beach Games in 2012, planning had already started for 2014. The Thai hosts had proposed a large programme of air sports to include 5 separate disciplines. There was concern that this would not be accepted by the Olympic Council of Asia and an alternative reserve proposal involving fewer sports was required. FAI RVP Tengku ABDILLAH agreed to coordinate the 5 sports involved in order to find a solution acceptable to all.

6. Administration

1. **Sporting Licences** (J.-M. Badan)
Following the request in May to conduct a survey on NAC Sporting Licence procedures; there had been 20 replies; 8 NACs delivered a Sporting Licence which covered all air sports and 10 delivered licences specific to one sport. There was no evidence of high prices being charged for licences, though this would probably not be reported in such a survey. Comments included the desire to print licences online, replace Judges' identification cards using the same system and the need for a simple system.

The Sporting Licence database was now online and licences could be checked for their validity. The President encouraged NACs to upload current data so that the database could become a genuine verification system in the near future. An evolution of the current system had been approved by the Executive Board with delivery in early 2013; this would include the ability to manage an NAC's Sporting Licence system online and then issue electronic licences.

2. **FAI Head Office** (J.-M. Badan)
After a period of severely reduced staff levels, JMB was pleased to announce that the FAI staff was once again complete. Visa-Matti LEINIKKI (VML) had joined in May as IT Manager and Annick HAUSER joined in September as Assistant Sports Manager and first point of contact for FAI Air Sport Commissions. Records Officer Marcel MEYER had taken retirement in June. There were now two air sport people within the office, one of whom was current FAI European Gliding Champion. An up-to-date table explaining the Head Office structure was available on the FAI website (www.fai.org/structure/head-office) and in Annex 2.

3. **Plans for future IT and on-line services** (J.-M. Badan)
FAI website performance problems were now almost completely resolved, thanks to AG, Faustine CARRERA and VML. A questionnaire on the FAI website had been sent to all commissions with the intention of understanding their priorities and needs. The resulting list had been sent to AG for feedback and incorporation in future development.

The FAI email lists system had been unreliable for a while. VML had installed a new system, Sympa, which allowed ASCs to create new email lists and then search the archive of messages via a web interface. The new Delegate lists were automatically linked to the FAI database, ensuring the correct people appeared on the lists at any time.

The IT Expert Group had been launched in June with the New Technology Expert Group following in August. Further information was on the FAI website and VML became the point of contact.

The FAI database system had evolved without consideration for its growth or possible use in connection with online tools which were now available; in short, it was desperately out of date and extremely difficult to use on a daily basis while at the same time unable to provide useful data services to the HO, ASCs or the general public. The Executive Board had approved a programme of renewal, to include consolidation of existing data and provision of new services in the future.

7. Air Sport Commissions – “State of your Commission”

IGC – Gliding: IGC has overseen several successful events during 2012, including the Plenary meeting in RSA and the multi-class World Championships in Texas (USA). This World Championships produced record distances and speeds which were presented to the meeting by EM. The “Safety Pays” working group continues to explore innovative ways to emphasize and reward safety during competitions. IGC is still committed to raising the profile of the Sailplane Grand Prix series. EM was optimistic that an MoU would be signed between IGC and FAME soon and that the necessary work on marketing the SGP series could move forward productively.

IPC - Parachuting: The Commission was in a positive frame of mind, despite recent issues with the Executive Board and the Bureau was looking to resolve outstanding issues as soon as possible. GW drew attention to Felix Baumgartner's recent freefall record attempt and that Joseph Kittinger had assisted as a member of the ground crew. IPC had made efforts to have Kittinger's freefall jump from 23,300m recognised as an FAI world record though this was not in compliance with FAI rules.

The Mondial 2012 would be an event of unprecedented size with over 1600 participants already registered.

The Bureau were frustrated with the situation regarding IPETA; IPC wanted to take parachuting into cities and present attractive and dynamic events to the public, but it felt that the Executive Board had not been helpful, nor had it followed the principles of the discussions between GW and JG. JG replied that the Executive Board was fully in favour of the promotion of a Canopy Piloting tour and a task force had been created to work with the IPC Bureau to resolve the outstanding issues between them.

There was further frustration regarding the supply of FAI medals; parachuting was different from the other sports due to its large number of competitions and competitors. The Plenary had given clear direction to the Bureau to award non-FAI medals at FAI championships. GW asked for consultation and the liberty to produce their own medals.

At the 2012 Plenary, Delegates had ignored advice and awarded a championship in 2013 to Grozny, Chechnya. This was undesirable due to current Government travel warnings and also the inability to obtain sufficient insurance cover; the Bureau had asked the event organiser for proof of event insurance but this had not yet been provided.

CIMA – Microlights & Paramotors: There had been two very successful world championships in Spain, including GL1 (microlight autogyros) for the first time. Paramotoring was becoming more active in several countries, including India, Qatar and several other Asian countries. The first Asia-Oceania championship would take place in 2013 in Thailand, alongside the test event for the 4th Asian Beach Games in 2014. France was also bidding for the first Paramotor Slalom championship in 2013.

CIMA had asked the Executive Board to make a retrospective change to the FAI By-Laws to accommodate a decision taken on the Colibri Diploma in 2011 and RMH thanked the Board for their flexibility and cooperation.

RH noted that this positive report was a change from previous years when CIMA had struggled to attract event organisers. There had been a focus on attracting bids, including changing the sanction fee system to make it more transparent.

CIVL – Hang Gliding & Paragliding: Had registered 300 competitions in the last year, reflecting the previous 3 years. 5 were CAT1 in 2012 and there will be a further 5 CAT1 in 2013. CIVL's main income was derived from sanction fees, reinforced by the requirement to have competed in a CAT2 to be eligible for a CAT1. CIVL had 10,000 pilots in their ranking list and 7,000 in the online PXC contest; this had seen 70,000 track logs from 65 competing nations in the last 2 years. In particular, the Asian flying community was growing quickly, helped by government funding and willing sponsors.

CIVL was looking to adopt a more professional approach with regard to its stewards and organisers. The safety issues in recent years were also being addressed; new competition formats and paraglider design and certification were being investigated but more significant was the need to change pilot mentality when flying tasks.

CIA - Ballooning: The first Junior World Hot Air Balloon (WHAB) took place in Lithuania and 20th FAI WHAB had been in the USA. There had been problems regarding the recognition of pilots' licences by the FAA and the organisers had to set up complex procedures to enable competitors to fly. There was concern that other national authorities would look more closely at the validity of national licences in future and this would become a barrier to competing.

CIA now owned 120 loggers, enough to cover CIA events and competitors were pleased with them.

The next world championships were due to take place in Brazil and preparations were under way. There had been problems in the past with organisers reluctant to sign the Organiser Agreement and therefore the initiative to renew the Agreement was welcome.

GAC – General Aviation: Had staged 2 events; the world rally flying championship and also the Air Navigation Race (ANR), which the Commission was promoting for inclusion in the FAI World Air Games. GAC were also looking at real-time tracking to increase interest in their competitions. There was an issue regarding a conflict of sponsorship at the 2013 World championship but JPD thanked JMB for his input so far and he was hopeful for a positive outcome. *(Afternote; the conflict was resolved to GAC's satisfaction thanks to Breitling's understanding and constructive spirit)*

CIVA – Aerobatics: Had held 4 competitions in 2012; AWAC very many pilots participating (more than 80 competing for 10 days) hard work for all to finish in time. In Glider Aerobatics the two classes of Advanced and Unlimited had been combined into one event. The EAC had taken place in Dubnica (SVK) and had been the first event attended by Breitling.

The Advanced classes were becoming over-subscribed whereas the unlimited classes were seeing reduced numbers due to the amount of resources needed to compete; therefore a new intermediate class was being considered to cater for a broader base of pilots.

CIG - Rotorcraft: The World Helicopter Championships had been a great success in Russia and DH thanked JG for attending. CIG were working with CIMP to recognise the performance of hospital helicopter crews and the work of the Helicopter Hospital Emergency Medical Evacuation Service (HEMES). This in turn would bring greater recognition and visibility to the FAI.

CIACA – Amateur-built & Experimental Aircraft: Had established 3 working groups to consider finance, new power sources and the development of a new sporting code for future CIACA competitions. CIACA experts were involved in SolarImpulse and their world record attempts. AH expressed regret that the NACs of GBR and SWE had not invited the winners of the 2011 Phoenix Diploma to the FAI Awards Ceremony.

CIAM - Aeromodelling: There had been some in-competition anti-doping tests carried out at a CIAM championship in GER. AP was working with VML and SRO in the FAI Head Office to improve the database content and develop online forms to reduce the workload on the Office, NACs and also CIAM. The Commission was currently discussing the possibility of reducing the number of championships per year. AP thanked JG and RH for their visit to the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) in Muncie (USA); this type of contact with member associations should be encouraged.

EnvC - Environment: BSm had submitted his report to the GC and had nothing further to add.

CANS – Airspace & Navigation: The Minutes of the last CANS Plenary meeting were on the FAI website and LH would report further during the GC.

CIMP – Medico-Physiological: The main topics for 2012 had been around EASA Medical Regulations, activity on the FAI TUE Panel (about 20 TUEs per year) and anti-doping. CIMP had asked WADA to remove beta-blockers from the list of banned substances in air sports.

CIMP had compiled reports from NACs on Human Factors issues and also their national accident reports. JK expressed concern that many accidents went unreported and this did not contribute to the education process. ICAO were looking at proactive accident prevention, including physiological concepts and Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM); this may be of relevance at FAI championships if an accident were to occur. JK hoped for greater interaction with ASCs in 2013, in particular in accident data collection and anti-doping.

CIEA - Education: MK Reported on the results of the 2012 Young Artists Contest. There were also several successful educational programmes around the world, for example the “Why Fly” concept in the Netherlands.

CIEA had set up a working group to evaluate and modernise the content of the CIEA website. The Commission was considering proposing changes to FAI Recommended Museums programme as there were problems in monitoring Museums. MK encouraged NACs and ASCs to send delegates and representatives to the CIEA Meetings.

8. Any Other Business

1. **Real-time Data Collection** (R. Meredith-Hardy)
RMH proposed research into a system to collect scoring and timing data. This would enable real-time scoring and display on large screens. The project was under development within CIMA and focussed on Android tablets. RMH invited other ASCs interested in this programme to make contact and LG expressed interested since CIVA has been using such a system for some years.
2. **RCTA – Update on Unmanned Aircraft Systems and UAVs** (B. Smith)
BSm had provided a report on the recent RTCA meeting. One subject was UAVs and the Navy and Army projects to make more and more use of them; helicopters, fixed wings or balloons. He expressed concerns regarding how it would be possible to jam GPS signals to cause interference. The consequences of losing control of aircraft remotely controlled from a great distance could be severe (safety of commercial traffic, safety of persons on the ground).

AOB referred to the ATMOS project to collect data from all sports flying activities. Now that the FAI HO had a full-time IT Manager, he would like to suggest that the project develops a .fai file

9. Date and Place of next Meeting

The intention was to hold the next meeting in May 2013. There had been one proposal from a NAC and the FAI HO was investigating alternatives to Lausanne, principally near major airport hubs.

10. FAI President's Closing Statement

The FAI President thanked all representatives for a productive and informative meeting. He looked forward to 2013 and working closely with ASCs to develop and promote air sports in all their forms.

Annexes

1. FAME Statutes
2. FAI Head Office – Organisation Chart