

AGENDA ITEM 16.3

The Leon Biancotto Diploma

With the agreement of the Bureau of CIVA, the British Aerobatic Association has been nominated for the Leon Biancotto Diploma by CIVA President Mike Heuer.

The description and criteria for the Diploma are as follows (see Chapter 12, FAI By-Laws):



12.8. AWARDS FOR AEROBATICS

(Subject to approval by the FAI Aerobatics Commission)

12.8.1. THE LEON BIANCOTTO AEROBATICS DIPLOMA

12.8.1.1. History. This Diploma was established in February 1993 upon the proposal of the FAI Aerobatics Commission.

Widely regarded as one of the finest aerobatics pilots of all time, Léon Biancotto was a member of the French aerobatics team. He lost his life practising for the first FAI World Aerobatic Championships in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia in 1960. Biancotto won the famous Lockheed Aerobatics Trophy in England on three of the six occasions it was held. In 1965, a competition known as the Biancotto Trophy was started and this eventually developed into the European Aerobatics Championships.

12.8.1.2. Eligibility. The Diploma may be awarded to individuals or organisations that have contributed significantly to the sport of aerobatics.

12.8.1.3. Frequency and Number. Only one Biancotto Diploma may be awarded each year.

12.8.1.4. Nomination and Approval. Procedure for selecting recipients of the Diploma shall be as set out in Chapter 10 of the By-Laws.

Voting is in accordance with Chapter 10 of the FAI By-Laws as follows:

10.1.4. Recommendation and Approval Procedures. When considering nominations for Medals and Diplomas, Commissions shall adopt the two-stage procedure described below. Before the procedure begins, any delegate present who is a candidate for the award in

question shall be asked to leave the room for the duration of the discussion and voting. Any such person shall be deemed to have voted for himself.

10.1.4.1. A vote shall first be taken on whether or not to approve or recommend the award of the Medal or Diploma concerned in the year in question. This vote shall be open unless any Delegate requires a secret ballot.

10.1.4.2. If the result of the vote in 10.1.4.1. is positive, and if more than one nominee is under consideration, a secret ballot shall be held to determine the recipient of the award, following full discussion in closed session, with no written or taped record of the proceedings.

10.1.4.3. FAI Vice Presidents will be invited to decide on nominations for awards listed in Chapter 11 by email voting. Detailed rules for the voting procedures will be decided by the FAI Executive Board.

10.1.4.4. Unless otherwise specified, all results shall be determined by a simple majority.

10.1.4.5. No proxy voting shall be accepted.

Citation

The British Aerobatic Association's most notable achievement in 2009 was the organization of the 25th World Aerobatic Championships in Silverstone, United Kingdom. It is widely regarded as the best organized WAC in FAI's history. The BAeA, under the leadership of Chairman Alan Cassidy, has been able to attract a wide array of talent to its organization and their skills were on display in every operational area of the WAC. Its Contest Director, Steve Green, worked tirelessly for the last two years to make every detail perfect. BAeA member Graham Hill served as Chief Judge of the event. Alan Cassidy was its Flight Director. Nick Buckenham has authored a superb software package for FAI Aerobatic Championships worldwide and it was BAeA members that worked on the new "FairPlay System" that is the heart of the software. Aside from the WAC, BAeA organizes a full array of domestic competitions and training camps that would be the envy of organizations one-hundred times its size. They have contributed immeasurably to the promotion of aerobatics in the true spirit of FAI.