

Report to the CSPA Board of Directors and Membership on the

67th Plenary Meeting of the International Parachuting Commission (IPC) of the Federation Aeronautique Internationale held in Faro, Portugal, January 28 and 29, 2017.

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

Melanie Guerin; appointed observer, member of the Indoor Skydiving Committee.

Richard (Buzz) Bennett; appointed observer, member of the Rules and Regulations Committee and the Finance Working Group, advisor to the Wingsuit Committee.

Regrets; **Martin Lemay** member of the Formation Skydiving Committee.

I arrived in Faro on January 23rd in order to participate in the Extended Bureau meeting on January 24th, as well as all the open Committee meetings and to Chair the closed meetings for the CF Committee, which all take place before to the Plenary Meeting. The extended Bureau meetings are open only to Committee Chairs and are a chance for those Chairpersons to provide input on various issues/motions that will be put forward by the IPC Bureau to the Plenary. It is also a chance for Chairpersons to discuss any issues involving their committees.

The open meetings are crucial to understanding and giving input in regards to the proposed rule changes by the different Committees and Working Groups. It is at these meetings that the rule changes are discussed in-depth.

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. Invitations are rarely granted to non-committee members.

Proposals from Canada:

There were two formal proposals from Canada included in this year's Plenary agenda. One proposal for Canopy Formation 2-Way from Eric Dinn, and one for Style & Accuracy from Buzz Bennett. The Committees did actually discuss them but unfortunately, neither proposal was adopted. If any competitor wishes to propose a rule change in their event, I would be pleased to submit them for consideration. Please contact the CSPA office for my e-mail address.

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 8 by proxy.
- The Mayor of Faro opened the Meeting.
- The Plenary was addressed by the new FAI President Fritz Brink.

- Markus Haggrenay (FAI Sports & Events Director) announced a new FAI World Air Games Series featuring iconic locations such as Wuhan, China – Dubai, UAE – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil - Empuria Brava, Spain – Durban, South Africa - San Diego, California, etc.
- Motion to call in a loan to IPETA (seen as a first step in winding up this company). **Carried.**
- France proposes to set up a Working Group on parachuting for the disabled. **Carried.**
- Motions to amend jury composition from a nominated jury to a representative jury in World Cup years. **Defeated.**
- Motion to include 8-Way in Tunnel Competition. **Defeated.**
- Bid to Host 2nd World Cup of Wingsuit flying, Overton Nevada – November 2-9, 2017. **Carried.**
- WebChallenge reintroduced by the Canopy Formation Committee. New rule proposal of “contact” definition of a grip will be tested here.
- Proposal for a “Peter Pan” Trophy for Indoor Junior Freestyle in memory of Ty Baird. **Carried.**
- Rules & Regulations Committee to amend bidding process because of the numerous Tunnel Bids.
- FAI Gold Medal awarded to B.J. Worth of the United States.
- Faust Vrancic Medal awarded to Klaus Rheinwald (Germany) and Michael Cooper (Canada) for development of the Parallog and FlySight systems for Wingsuiting competition.
- Seven (7) bids for Indoor Skydiving World Cup / Championships for 2018 and 2019.
- Due to various considerations the Indoor Skydiving bids for 2019 - although voted on - were not awarded.

Two bids to host the 68th Annual IPC meeting. Shefayim, Israel and Sofia, Bulgaria. Sofia was selected to host and organize the next Plenary Meeting.

Indoor Skydiving and Tunnel Activity:

Through the number of hosting bids both this and last year, I feel that it is important to mention this new IPC event. Within 3 years, it has become abundantly clear that Indoor Skydiving is very popular and is here to stay. It has spawned a new discipline under the umbrella of the Artistic Events (Dynamic Flying). Tunnel operators are very keen to host World Cups and World Championships. These tunnels bring a new dynamic to the sport and the tunnel operators bring a large amount of professionalism to the table. There has been much speculation in the past two years that this event has the possibility of becoming an Olympic event.

Competitions to be held in 2017:

WPC of Para-Ski in St. Johann, Austria – March 7-11, 2017.
 World Games – Wroclaw, Poland – Invitation only – July 20-30, 2017.
 European Championships & World Cups of FS, C, AE, SP – Saarlouis, Germany - August 8-12, 2017.
 European Championships of Style & Accuracy – Podgorica, Montenegro – August 24-31, 2017.
 World Cup of Wingsuit Flying – Overton Nevada – November 2-9, 2017.
 World Cup of Canopy Piloting – Dubai, UAE – November 27-December 1, 2017.

Competitions to be held in 2018:

European Championships of Indoor Skydiving – Voss, Norway – April 10-15, 2018.
 World Parachuting Championships of Canopy Piloting – Wroclaw, Poland – July 1-8, 2018.
 World Parachuting Championships of Style & Accuracy – Erden, Montana, Bulgaria – August 19-25, 2018.

World Parachuting Championships of Wingsuit Flying – Prostejov, Czech Republic – August 26 – September 2, 2018.

World Parachuting Championships of FS/VFS, AE, CF, and Speed Skydiving – Runaway Bay, Gold Coast, Australia – October 14-22, 2018.

World Cup of Indoor Skydiving – Kingdom of Bahrain – October 24- 28, 2018.

Competitions to be held in 2019:

World Cup of Style & Accuracy – Cordoba, Argentina – May 19-26, 2019

My work as Delegate:

- CF Committee - This was my second year as chair of the CF Committee. I learned a lot from last year and much of my committee work was done well before I arrived in Portugal. This allowed for more efficient closed meetings with the CF Committee. Some rule changes from last year were clarified by the committee. I then prepared those changes for presentation to the plenary as well as fielding any questions at that time. Final changes to the 2017 rules are underway and I will submit them to the IPC Recording Secretary for uploading to the FAI website for March 1st, 2017.
- Judges Committee – Judges Committee meetings continue to take up many hours as this is a very far reaching committee. I continue to manage the FAI Judges Database. This database tracks all international judges and their judging activity for First Category Events. At the end of the year, I receive Judge Nominations from all NACs and update the database. As well, I receive all Proposed Judges for Competitions for the year from all NACs, synthesize the information, and produce lists of available judges for all events during the year. These lists are used by the various Chief Judges to choose their panels.
- Participated in all Extended Bureau Meetings.
- I forwarded both proposals from Canada to the IPC Recording Secretary for inclusion in the agenda.
- I liaised with the German delegate, Peter Pfalzgraf, and submitted a nomination on behalf of Canada and the CSPA to award Michael Cooper and Klaus Rheinwald with the Faust Vrancic Medal. This medal is awarded for technical innovation or achievement in parachuting. It was last awarded in 2007 to Larry Hill and Ted Wagner for Omniskore. Before 2007, it was awarded in 2002 to Gerd Weckbecker.

I wish to thank the CSPA for the financial support and ask that such support be continued in the future.

Sincerely,



Rina Gallo
IPC Delegate