



# IPC NEWSLETTER

May 2018

Number 1

## In This Issue

- Bureau
- In the Northern Hemisphere
- First Competition of the Year
- Temporary Executive Board Working Group
- FAI News
- Swoop Challenge
- ASC Presidents' Meeting
- New Initiative
- Summary of IBDs

## Bureau

It has now been three months since the new Bureau was elected. We have had a busy start and have already made several Interim Bureau Decisions (see below).



We decided that an efficient way to work was to hold our Bureau meetings as a telephone conference rather than using Skype or any other internet based system. The Chorus Conferencing facility already used by FAI is more stable than Skype and our first experience in March was very successful.

## In the Northern Hemisphere

Spring has arrived and the outdoor parachuting season has started almost everywhere. In the Southern Hemisphere, Autumn approaches but no sign of letting up yet and, as I write, the POPs World Meet in Australia is in full swing.



## First Competition of the Year

The 1st FAI European Indoor Skydiving Championships. This competition was very successfully run in Voss, Norway and our congratulations to both the Organisers and the Medallists.

Although the tunnel facility in Voss is quite small, the organisers maximised the space with several tents outside and an independent entry into the building for the competitors. Luckily the weather was excellent so the arrangement worked very well and it also enabled space to be kept inside for

the public which was maximised with “bleacher” style seating arrangements thanks to a mezzanine built over the entrance.

The competition was of a very high standard as was the judging. The live stream was also excellent and enabled spectators from all over the world to watch what was happening as it happened. Judging was fast but can probably still be accelerated. The overall presentation will need working on more if we are to succeed in our Olympic dream. We need to see what we can take from other sports such as skating, gymnastics, etc.

## Temporary Executive Board Working Group

To this end, a Temporary EB Working Group is in the process of being set up to look at the overall Indoor Skydiving picture and the very specific issues that need to be addressed to ensure our success, the results of which will be presented at the next Plenary Meeting for discussion and approval.

## FAI News

First of all, the next World Air Games have been attributed to Turkey and will be held in the first two weeks of September in 2020. One concern, shared with several Air Sport Commissions, is the fact that the competition will be held over five distinct sites. This rather defeats the objective of bringing all the air sports together but a meeting between the ASC Presidents and the EB may clarify matters and a meeting of the Liaison Officers in June in Turkey should help to see how things will work out.

On a positive note however, the WAG will take place although unfortunately they will be held just one month after our Mondial in Tanay, Russia. Hopefully competitors will be motivated to attend both events. Up to us to make the WAG desirable without detracting from the World Championships.

The second good news comes from the International World Games Association (IWGA). It has announced which sports are retained for the 2021 World Games to be held in Birmingham, Alabama. Happily, Air Sports are retained and will comprise Canopy Piloting and Drone Racing. This is excellent for our visibility.

## Swoop Challenge

As you will recall, the FAI and IPC decided to support the Copenhagen Swoop Challenge by making it a World Championships although only to be considered a Second Category event.

I am pleased to announce that this relationship will continue



in 2018 and that there will now be two events. The first in Copenhagen on August 24th-25th and the second in San Diego, USA on September 14th-15th. An FAI Controller\* will be nominated to be present at both competitions and that person will work together with George on the rules and the selection process. So CP jumpers watch this space. (\*this was to have been Alberto Martin Paracuellos but a very recent accident means he will be unavailable for a while and will have to be replaced – we wish him a speedy recovery).

The high competition season is soon upon us. In the meantime, however, there is still work to be done.

### **ASC Presidents' Meeting:**

Gillian attended the ASC Presidents Meeting with the Executive Board held in Istanbul, Turkey from May 8th to 10th.

During this time there was a short workshop on the subject "One FAI" at which all the ASC Presidents (or their representative), the NAC Presidents present and the EB participated. Although short, some ideas emerged following presentations that clearly described the difficulties that the matrix structure of the FAI cause. We were asked to look at the strengths and weaknesses of the current structure but also to think about how the FAI might look if we were to start from scratch. Some words used really struck a chord: crisis, wasted resource, slow decision making, unfinished projects but in spite of their negative resonance, the reactions were very positive and the Executive Board is to be congratulated for kicking off this initiative. Watch this space for what happens next....

The part of the meeting that was reserved for the Air Sport Commissions covered subjects such as the reimbursement process, communication and the web site, FAI Sporting Licences, subjects that have been on-going for some time. IPC brought up the subject of Commission Branding and I'm happy to report that the EB is totally open to us modernising our name to integrate Indoor Skydiving and the other Commissions appear happy to possibly follow suit.

The Turkish NAC presented their vision of the World Air Games, and the meeting at the end of June will help clarify some important points. They are prepared to make a big investment to host these games and are hoping for a very high participation. They want, however, interesting and attractive events to draw the maximum number of visitors and spectators to. This leads nicely into the next part of this Newsletter.

### **New Initiative:**

By the end of May, the Bureau will launch a challenge to our Discipline Committees to review their disciplines. This is done for several reasons defined in the supporting documents but two key factors are the WAG and the work to be done to hopefully be part of the 2024 Olympics. Details will be published on the IPC Web pages. By starting this before the Championship season starts, we

hope that the Competitor Meetings at the end of each competition will enable discussion on some of the ideas brought up. This work will then be integrated into a Workshop that the Bureau plans to run immediately prior to the next IPC Plenary meeting. More on that in the next Newsletter.

Blue Skies for everyone.



Gill Rayner – IPC President

## Summary of Interim Bureau Decisions:

Details of which appear on the IPC Web Site <https://www.fai.org/page/ipc-bureau-ibds>

- 1) New Finance Working Group
- 2) Temporary replacement of Finance Secretary (a big thank you to Peter Pfalzgraf)
- 3) Return of deposit for hosting Plenary
- 4) Additional entrants to 1<sup>st</sup> EISC (this decision was not followed through as the entrants finally withdrew)
- 5) After review of the relevant rules, it was decided not to agree to host a European Championships in Canopy Piloting at the same time as the World Championships.
- 6) Change of FAI Controller for the Wingsuit Flying World Championships
- 7) Replacement of a Jury Member at the Wingsuit Flying World Championships
- 8) Approval of an additional budget to be able to extend the Judges Conference at the Canopy Piloting World Championships to cover Freestyle.
- 9) Acceptance of Bid Changes for Bahrain
- 10) Replacement of Alberto Martin Paracuellos as Meet Director at the Canopy Piloting World Championships in Wraclaw by Bjorn Korth who was to have been FAI Controller. Bjorn will be replaced in that role by Elisabet Mickaelsson. A big thank you to them both for accepting these last minute challenges.