



IGC REPORT TO THE FAI GENERAL CONFERENCE 2005

The International Gliding Commission held its annual meeting in Lausanne in March 2005. Changes to the format of the meeting included having keynote speakers and presenters and providing a significant period of time for discussion on the strategic question of where gliding, as a sport, should position itself for the future.

As a result the Bureau has been working on a long-term Strategic Plan for the IGC.

Key decisions taken included the intentions to:

- Require Official Observers to be approved by their NAC before verifying or recording any part of a World Record claim,
- Re-instate the 2-seater Class as an FAI Class with a wing span limitation of 20m,
- For any pilot or Official Observer proven to have falsified information or cheated on a World Record claim to have their sporting licence cancelled, to be expelled from any NASC and to have recognition of any achievements of records/ badges and competitions results withdrawn,
- The maximum Take-Off Mass for Open Class to be 850kg for all gliders and this limit to remain unchanged for 10 years, and
- Changes to be permitted to the wing-span of Open Class gliders during a competition.

Awards conferred were:

- The Pirat Gerigher Diploma - Gillian Bryce-Smith, United Kingdom.
- The Lilienthal Medal - Janusz Centka, Poland.

2005 Championships

During 2005 the following Championships were held:

- 2005 European Gliding Championships; Club, Standard and 18 Meter Class, , Nitra, Slovak Republic.
- 2005 European Gliding Championships; 15M and Open Class, Räyskälä, Finland. (we note that a task of 1011 kms was achieved during this contest)
- 4th FAI Juniors' World Gliding Championships, Husbands Bosworth, UK..
- 3rd FAI Women's World Gliding Championships, Klix, Germany.
- 1st World Sailplane Grand Prix, Saint Auban, France.

Championships Awarded

Strong bids were provided from several countries for the new calendar of gliding championships in 2007 and 2008. The bids were awarded as follows:

- FAI Juniors' World Gliding Championships 2007, Rieti, Italy.
- FAI Women's World Gliding Championships 2007, Bailleau, France
- FAI EGC 2007 Standard, Club and World Class, Lithuania.
- FAI EGC 2007 15-meter, 18-meter and Open Class, Issoudun, France
- FAI WGC 2008, Open, 18-Meter, and 15-M class, Luesse, Germany
- FAI WGC 2008, Standard, Club, World Class, Rieti, Italy

FAI Centenary

Two "gliding weeks" were held to contribute to the celebration of the FAI Centenary. The aim of these two-week periods (one northern hemisphere and one southern hemisphere) was to record the total number of kilometres flown by all glider pilots during the nominated days. The German OLC website and the French NetCoupe were used to log and record the flights. The total distance flown was an astounding 2,511,421 kms, achieved with a massive 5,224 flights. This is equivalent to 62-and-a half times around the Earth! Diplomas will be awarded to the best flight in each FAI class.

IGC Budget

A copy of the IGC Budget is attached to this report. We are moving to a “per-pilot” sanction fee system and transferring the responsibility for the costs of providing Event Officials from the Organisers to the IGC with the expectation that the latter will be in place for Fiscal Year 2007. This is part of our strategy to improve the quality control of our International Championships. This will see the IGC committing to between 20 and 25,000 EUR expenditure per annum commencing in 2007.

Future Challenges

As reported last year, the marketing of our sport to the public remains a challenge. The use of in-flight tracking devices, in-flight video, new styles of glider racing and the use of the internet to turn a glider race into a public spectacle are all being pursued to try and make the sport more visible. There are a number of commercial solutions now being developed to meet this challenge and we look forward to their continued development over the next year. We also look forward to being able to integrate our Sailplane Grand Prix into the FAI Regional and World Air Games events as part of this marketing strategy.

Airspace, Membership and global participation remain other key issues. We continue to push our airspace requirements, we are developing our communication tools to reach more pilots and are examining ways to ensure that all countries are able to participate in IGC and to have the opportunity to compete in and host World Championships.

Finally, I would like to extend grateful thanks to Secretary General Max Bishop and the staff at the FAI Office for their untiring work and generous support on IGC’s behalf.



President
International Gliding Commission

International Gliding Commission – Budget (EURO)

Description	Actual Fiscal Year 2004	Budget Fiscal Year 2005	Budget Fiscal Year 2006
Income			
Championship Sanction Fees	4,808	7,300	7,400
Championship Protest Fees	97	-	-
International Ranking List	4,532	4,500	4,500
Flight Recorder Certification	1,923	1,000	1,000
Other Income	-	-	500
Total Income	11,360	12,800	13,400
Expenses			
Championship Sanction Fees	513	1,025	1,130
Championship Officials	-	-	-
International Ranking List	-	640	960
Flight Recorder Certification	763	1,000	1,000
Attendance FAI Meetings	654	600	900
Attendance IGC Meetings	2,228	3,340	1,500
Other Expenses/ Projects	74	-	2,500
Total Expenses	4,232	6,605	7,990
Income-Expenses	7128	6,195	5,410
Accumulated Surplus (EURO)	44,453	50,648	56,058