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1 FAI GENERAL AWARDS FOR 2023

THE FAI GOLD AIR MEDAL (STATUTES 10.2)

Eligibility. The Medal is reserved for those who have contributed greatly to the development of aeronautics by their activities, work, achievements, initiative or devotion to the cause of Aviation.

Not awarded

THE FAI GOLD SPACE MEDAL (STATUTES 10.3)

Eligibility. The FAI Gold Space Medal is reserved for those who have contributed greatly to the development of Astronautics by their activities, work, achievements, initiative or devotion to the cause of Space.


Not awarded

THE FAI BRONZE MEDAL (STATUTES 10.4)

Eligibility. The Medal is reserved for persons who have rendered eminent services to the FAI in administrative work, in Commissions, or in the organisation of FAI sporting events.

Ian STRACHAN (GBR)

Ian Strachan, Chairman of the IGC GPS Flight Recorder Approval Committee (GFAC), has been instrumental in the development and adoption of GPS flight recorders in gliding. With extensive experience in competition flying and administration since 1955, he became a two-time National Champion in the UK National Championships by 1961. Ian's advocacy for self-launching sailplanes and his involvement in formulating competition rules have been significant contributions to the gliding and all other FAI sports. In 1965, Ian published a widely used paper on calculating relative country speeds using glider performance curves, establishing a universally accepted handicapping system. He held prominent positions, including Chairman of the UK Competitions and Handicapping Committee and UK Delegate to the IGC. In 1993, Ian conducted GPS recorder trials that validated their effectiveness in gliding competitions. He assessed the original CAI Secure Flight recorder and developed the initial version of the IGC ASCII file format, along with drafting rules for the general use of GPS flight recorders. These efforts led to the creation of the GFAC during the 1995 IGC Plenary meeting, with Ian assuming the role of Chairman. Under Ian's leadership, the committee finalized Annex B to the Sporting Code, empowering GFAC to test and evaluate GNSS Flight Recorders. Ian continued to serve as Chairman until 2023, overseeing the approval of 62 types of GNSS Flight Recorders from 21 manufacturers. Ian's contributions have revolutionized flight evaluation and analysis in gliding through the adoption of IGC Secure Flight Recorders which are used by other FAI Air Sport Commission nowadays. In addition to his achievements in gliding, he had an esteemed career as a Wing Commander pilot in the UK Royal Air Force and continues to make significant contributions to aviation training and simulation.

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THE LOUIS BLERIOT MEDAL (STATUES 10.6)

Eligibility. Blériot Medals are awarded to holders of the highest records for speed (i.e., Speed over a 3 Kilometre Course, Speed Over a 15 Kilometer Course, Speed Over a Closed Course), altitude and distance in a straight line established in the previous year by light aircraft of the first three sub-classes, as defined in Section 2 of the Sporting Code

Klaus OHLMANN (GER)

FAI Record file19689: Speed over a closed circuit of 500 km, C-1b Group 6 (electric), 207,65 km/h

THE SABIHA GÖKCEN MEDAL (STATUTES 10.8)

Eligibility. The Medal is reserved for the woman who performs the most outstanding achievement in any FAI air sport activity in the previous year.

Not awarded

THE FAI SILVER MEDAL (STATUTES 10.9)

Eligibility. The Medal is reserved for persons who have occupied high office in FAI or in an aeronautical organisation in one of its member countries, and in the discharge of their duties have shown exceptional powers of leadership and influence, to the benefit of the whole international air sport community.


Željko OVUKA (SRB)

Željko Ovuka has been the General Secretary of the Aeronautical Union of Serbia (NAC Serbia) since 2008 (15 years). He has been the delegate of Serbia in the FAI Commission for Paragliding (CIVL) for many years. In the last years he was in the CIVIL BUREAU as Finance Secretary, currently as Vice-President. He has been a paraglider pilot for over 20 years. At the national level, he represents the driving force of paragliding sports as a competitor, president of the paragliding club, competition organizer, member of the paragliding commission, but also the driving force of the entire aviation sport, as the general secretary of the competent national federation. He participated in an extremely large number of competitions, achieved numerous national records, became national champion, and is a member of the Serbian paragliding team. At the international level, he acted as a delegate of Serbia in the paragliding commission, and then also in the CIVL Bureau. He organized numerous international competitions - European championships, world cups, pre-European championships, etc. He has been to international competitions as an FAI steward or jury member. He is currently the President of the FAI Jury at the Paragliding World Championships in France. A versatile personality, who leads paragliding and aviation sports in Serbia, while also working at the international level, as a member of the FAI and CIVL commissions.

THE DIPLOMA FOR OUTSTANDING AIRMANSHIP (STATUTES 10.10)

Eligibility. It shall be awarded to a person or a group of persons for a feat of outstanding airmanship in sub-orbital flight during one of the previous two years which resulted in the saving of life of others or was carried out with that objective.

Not awarded

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THE PAUL TISSANDIER DIPLOMA (STATUTES 10.11)

Eligibility. It may be awarded to individual persons only who have served the cause of aviation in general and sporting aviation in particular, by their work, initiative, devotion or in other ways.

Martyn WOODHOUSE (AUS)

Martyn Woodhouse has been involved in aerobatics for over 12+ years. Martyn is the national secretary of the Australian Aerobatic Club and has performed this role for some 7+ years. He continues to be an unsung and pivotal member of the Australian Aerobatic Club. In this role Martyn volunteers a significant amount of his personal time to the administration of the club. Throughout this time, he has remained unassuming and committed to developing and promoting the aerobatics in Australia and the national Australian Aerobatic Club in a positive manner. The Australian Aerobatic Club's organisational strength reflects Martyn's effort and drive to improve existing frameworks, IP and corporate knowledge. Martyn is also a competitor in the Intermediate aerobatic category, competing in his DR107 One Design. He has achieved success in several competitions, including becoming the 2018 Queensland Intermediate Aerobatic Champion. Martyn's dedication to the sport of aerobatics in Australia is deserving of recognition and therefore makes him a worthy recipient of the Paul Tissandier Diploma.

Don WHITFORD (AUS)


Don Whitford has willingly and professionally volunteered to support Australian hot air ballooning as the essential meteorologist for the sport since 1993. For over 30 years he has presented at every National Championship with the exception of two, all major Ballooning events held annually and attended the 2004 World Hot Air Ballooning Championship in Mildura, Australia. He has acted as event meteorologist at the annual New Zealand ballooning Waikato Event 2005, 2006 and 2007 and participated at the Saga Balloon Fiesta in Japan. He is the designated Event Meteorologist for the Women's World HAB Championship in Northam Australia, September 2023. Don's contribution to the sport of ballooning is remarkable. Rising at 0300hrs to check weather modules, prepare weather charts and wind data for competitive pilots starts his day. He returns to take on the same responsibilities for scheduled afternoon flights. For those 30 years of his involvement with the sport Don Whitford has proven his worth to the safety of ballooning in Australia. He has done so with grace and good humour. It would be fitting that Don Whitford be acknowledged for his work and devotion to the sport of hot air ballooning.

Franz SINGRABER (AUT)

For several years, Franz has been an FAI judge and in charge of the development and practical use of the Austrian accuracy landing measurement and scoring system. He has also developed and maintains the FAI/ISC World ranking lists for Parachute-Ski. Franz, with his Judging and Scoring Equipment, has served at several FAI World, European, and National Championships, and he continues to support ISC and the Austrian NAC with countless working hours every year. His outstanding work for the ISC qualifies him for any available FAI award. The AUT NAC proposes to award the Paul Tissandier Diploma to Franz Singraber.

Anton TONNINGER (AUT)

Anton Tonninger has been a member of the Austrian Aero Club for over 60 years. He has served as the chairman of SFC Ried for several decades, during which countless national power flying competitions have been held under his leadership. He also organized the European and World Championships in 2003 and 2008 in Ried, Upper Austria. Remarkably, at the age of 85, he continues to actively pilot power aircraft. He has participated in numerous international competitions such as the World Air Games and WPFC (World Precision Flying Championships), and has also worked as an international judge, including at the event in Albi. In Austria, he held the position of head of power flying in Upper Austria for many years. Therefore, we propose him for the Paul Tissandier Diploma.

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[Carlos EDO \(BRA\)](#)


Carlos Edo was revered as an aviator and a true pioneer in air sports and Brazilian aviation. Born on July 7, 1948, he initially owned an important advertising agency but decided to make a significant change in his life to dedicate himself exclusively to aviation. While still working as a publicist, he trained as a pilot, performing acrobatic flights in his own NA T-6 aircraft and skydiving, even jumping from his own DC-3. He owned several other aircraft, including some rare and iconic ones. As a professional in aviation, he established the "Circo Aéreo," which became the first company approved as a Specialized Air Service for airshows in Brazil. Over the course of 30 years, Circo Aéreo conducted more than 1500 performances across the country, showcasing an acrobatic display with 3 NA T-6s, a Beech B-18, ten skydivers, and a hot air balloon. Carlos Edo was also a strong advocate for air sports, creating, organizing, and overseeing some of the largest airshows in the country, as well as championships and national cups in air acrobatics and skydiving. In civil aviation, he owned Extreme Taxi Aéreo, which contributed to the training of aviators who now fly for various companies worldwide. He also established Aerocamp, a maintenance workshop specializing in the restoration of classic and vintage aircraft, fostering a new generation of Brazilian collectors. Carlos Edo was an honorary member of the "Esquadilha da Fumaça" of the Brazilian Air Force and the Phoenix Squadron. He was bestowed the title of Citizen of Campinas, received the Silver Plaque as a collaborator of SENIPA (National Service for the Investigation and Prevention of Aeronautical Accidents), and was honored with the OMA medal "Order of Aeronautical Merit.

[Ricardo DOÑAS \(CHI\)](#)

Ricardo Donas was born in 1951 and obtained his Private Pilot license in December 1976. In 2021, he was awarded a diploma for 45 years of activity, recording 1,053 flight hours. He was a member of the Aereo de Valparaiso and Vina del Mar, Puerto Montt, and Panguipulli air clubs, where he was always recognized as a very participative member. Ricardo carried out all the necessary steps to enable a runway in the fifth region of Chile, which remains active today at SCBL, known as The Future. He served as Director of the Valparaiso and Vina del Mar Air Club for 10 years and was also a Director of Fedach. Ricardo actively participated in activities such as Eaglets of the Air, Precision Landing, and most of the Raids. Notably, his participation in the Raid to Punta Arenas in 2018, flying through national territory, required great efforts and logistics with local and regional authorities. This Raid highlighted the lack of airfields in Punta Arenas, leading to the formation of a work commission to manage the establishment of an airfield in the town of Puerto Eden. This airfield would provide fast and efficient transportation for the inhabitants. These examples demonstrate the passion and commitment that Ricardo showed towards aviation, dedicating his entire life to flight. For all of the above and much more, Mr. Ricardo Donas Echeverria (RIP) deserves this high recognition.

[Vratislav HLAVATÝ \(CZE\)](#)

At the beginning of the 60s, he began to deal with ballooning. He was one of the founding members of Balonklub Prague in 1965. Together with other members and in cooperation with Polish aeronauts, they advocated the construction of the first post-war Praga 68 gas balloon in our country. On June 30, 1968, with Polish pilot S. Makne and the Praga 68 balloon, he participated as a co-pilot in the first year of the international gas balloon competition for the Hůlka and Wandas Cup in Prague. In March 1971, he received his pilot's licence and became one of the first post-war gas balloon pilots in Czechoslovakia. Thanks to his activities, he soon became an instructor and then an inspector of balloon flying. It was also thanks to him that the first hot air balloon OK-8006 from the Cameron company from England was imported to Czechoslovakia in the summer of 1978, for which he also created the graphic design of its appearance due to his profession as a painter, graphic artist and illustrator. That is why he was then chosen to be retrained as a gas balloon inspector by an Austrian instructor and thus became the first hot air balloon pilot in post war Czechoslovakia. He served as the head of flight operations of the Prague Balloon Club. As an instructor and inspector, he trained a whole generation of other pilots in Czechoslovakia. As a test pilot, on 31 July 1983, after matriculation, he put into operation the first OK-3010 Czech made hot air balloon. He also flew on the first Czechoslovak hot-air airship. He was a successful athlete. He won a number of ballooning competitions at home and abroad. Mr. Hlavatý is nominated for his lifelong work in favour of balloon flying.

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[Jacek KERUM \(CZE\)](#)

He started flying in 1958 and obtained his glider pilot's license in 1960. In 1963 he began attending the School for Meteorologists. It ended his flying career for 20 long years. He started flying again in 1983, in 1988 he met the conditions for obtaining the FAI D gliding badge, in 1993 FAI E and in 2010 the complete 3 diamonds (FAI badge No... 7218). Until today, he has flown 2,001 h 3 m with 4,374 take-offs and 11,081 km on 26 types of gliders. He is qualified as a glider and motor glider instructor, instrument flight instructor, winch operator, multi-tow, car tow. He served for more than 30 years as chairman of the CZE NAC Sporting Commission, is an official observer of the FAI and an international gliding judge. He acts as a meteorologist at many gliding events and is also uniquely involved in the calibration of flight performance recording equipment. Mr. Kerum is nominated for his whole life work for aviation, especially gliding.

[Aline JUSTEAU-MOURIER \(FRA\)](#)


Aline Justeau-Mourier has dedicated her life to her passion for aeronautics. Born in 1922, she obtained her private diploma on 3 September 1951. She was the first woman to take part in the Tour de France aerial race in 1953. She took part in numerous rallies (the Bordeaux wine rally, the Royan rally, the Anjou rally in 1957 and 1961, the Flers and Avranches rallies in 1957, the Annecy rally in 1958 and 1961 (longest distance cup), the Flers rally in 1961 and 1962 (precision cup), the Roanne rally in 1959 and 1961 and the Besançon rally in 1961 and 1962. At the same time, she obtained her glider pilot's licence in April 1954 (B, C, D), totalling 436 hours and taking a training course in aircraft towing gliders. That same year, she became an assistant instructor. In 1956, she was qualified as an instructor. She taught at several flying clubs in France, Mauritania and Laos. She carried out medical evacuations during the Laos war on behalf of the French Embassy. On her return to France, she continued training pilots and became chief pilot. Mrs Aline Justeau-Mourier was an instructor for 50 years, founded two flying clubs, logged 11,000 flying hours and trained 420 pilots, all on a voluntary basis. She is a chevalier of the Légion d'Honneur (highest French distinction rewarding the most deserving citizens in all areas of activity) and holds the Honorary Diploma of the Aéro-Club de France. This is why the Aéro-Club de France wishes to highlight this woman who is little known to the general public.

[Jocky SANDERSON \(GBR\)](#)

Jocky Sanderson's name is synonymous with the sport of paragliding, whether it be participation at the international level, coaching, safety, or guiding, or simply as one of the sport's most well-known ambassadors. He is also involved with Flyability, the BHPA's initiative to enable the participation of pilots with disabilities and is a regular Competition Director at the British Championships. Jocky is also a well-respected author and filmmaker, having created four instructional DVDs, a YouTube channel with more than sixty videos (and 8,000 subscribers), and a number of books on paragliding. In 2017, he was honoured with the RAeC Ann Welch Award. Jocky began flying in 1989, at the age of twenty-one, and achieved National Team status in only five years. He earned a bronze medal at the 1995 World Championships and continued to compete at the highest level for many years, receiving numerous accolades and awards. Jocky is widely acknowledged as one of the most gifted and accomplished pilots of his generation. His dedication to the sport is most evident in his accomplishments in mentoring, safety, and training. Jocky is well-known for his innovative teaching methods and safety initiatives in SIV (simulated incidents in flight), where he has trained thousands of pilots. His years of service to the British team as a pilot and, more recently, as team manager contributed to their success at the most recent World Championships. Jocky is a true example of a selfless ambassador and is thoroughly deserving of this award for his accomplishments to date.

[Peter LIVANOS \(GRE\)](#)

In recognition for the outstanding contribution in the preservation of Hellenic Aviation History. Mr. Livanos is the founder and significant contributor of the Not-for-Profit Organization "Ikaros", which has already restored in flying status the Hellenic Spitfire MJ755 and plans to create a unit of vintage aircrafts with the ongoing restoration of a Dacota DC-3, Harvard and Hellfire in flying status.

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[István SIPOS \(HUN\)](#)

He has been a member of the Hungarian Parachuting Association for more than two decades and will serve his second term as President from 2020. He has represented Hungary in the FAI International Skydiving Commission since 2011 and has been Vice-Chairman of the Technical and Safety Committee since 2016 and was elected its President in 2023. He has been a member of the Hungarian Parachutists' Association since 2002, serving as Secretary and then as a member of the Board. In 2020 he was elected President of the MEBSZ Budapest Member Organisation, in 2022 Vice President of the MEBSZ. He played an active role in the organisation and management of the European Parachutists Union (Union Européenne des Parachutistes) conferences held in Hungary in 2009 and 2018.

[Ubaldo Roberto GIANAROLI \(ITA\)](#)

Ubaldo Roberto Gianaroli is an Italian PPL holder, president of one of the major Italian aeroclub, Aeroclub Pavullo, an important venue for national and international competitions. Thanks to his extraordinary empathetic, strategic, organisational and operational skills, Roberto has managed to bring his flagship club to the use of disabled pilots, who find a welcoming and safe environment to carry out flying activities, both powered and gliding and acrobatic. The Pavullo club also regularly hosts groups from primary and secondary schools, with the aim of bringing the younger generations closer to aeronautical disciplines. Recently, Roberto was elected Vice President of the Regional Olympic Committee with the functions of delegate of the province of Modena. In his professional life, Roberto is the owner of a marketing and communication agency, which deals with consultancy and definition and application of marketing strategies, and verification of operating results.

[Peppino VILLELLA \(ITA\)](#)


Thanks to his foresight and determination, Peppino Vilella, diversifying his production over the years, has transformed a small artisan company into a structure of excellence in the vertical construction of welded structures and components, creating highly qualified products for the civil and military aeronautical industry. O.V.S. Vilella has obtained awards from the most important aeronautical companies in the world, with which it maintains working relationships, such as Leonardo Company Thales Alenia Space, Liebherr for France, Dornier Seawings (Germany), Agusta Westland Philadelphia Corporation and Lockheed Martin (USA). Since 2014 it has been collaborating directly with Boeing Defense and Space Division (BDS) for the creation of kits and assemblies of components for the retrofit of military aircraft. For his contribution to the development of the aeronautical sector, the Italian Aeroclub believes that Mr. Vilella is a worthy recipient of this FAI award.

[Kazuhiro HIROTA \(JPN\)](#)

From 2006 to 2011, he served as a board member of the Japan Balloon Federation, has also served as a member of the Safety Committee since 1999 and as chairman of the Committee since 2004. In particular, he has made great strides to revise the pilot and instructor systems to be equivalent or better than international standards as chairman of the Safety Committee and has contributed to the promotion of hot air ballooning in Japan by leading safety activities through examiner meetings and instructor training sessions. He also has been working hard to train the younger generations as instructors and examiners for many years. Through these activities he has contributed to the development of ballooning activities in Japan.

[Harunobu HIROSE \(JPN\)](#)

From 2013 to 2019, he served as chairman of the board directors of the Japan Model Aeronautic Federation and has also served as Japan delegate of the FAI Aeromodelling Commission (CIAM) from 2007 to 2019. He also served as a member of the CIAM F3 RC Aerobatics Subcommittee from 1999 to 2019. In particular, he has served as a judge and jury member at both national and international competitions since 1997. In 2015, he also had made efforts to play a leading role representing aeromodelling enthusiasts in the revision of the Civil Aeronautics Law regarding unmanned aerial vehicles (drones), which led to the deregulation of the law. Through these activities he has contributed to the development of aeromodelling activities in Japan.

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[Koichi SUZUKI \(JPN\)](#)

From 1996 to 2008, he served as a head coach of the Tokyo University of Science and from 1999 to 2006, served not only as a director of the Japan Soaring Association (JSA) but also as a managing director from 2012 to 2016. In particular, he has spearheaded efforts to lead the establishment and sound operation of the Airmen Training Facility designated by the Minister of Land, Infrastructure at the JSA, which has produced many glider pilots. He also has been working hard to train the younger generations as an instructor and head coach for many years. Through these activities he has contributed to the development of gliding activities in Japan.

[Sam Ok KOO \(KOR\)](#)


The nominee was introduced to aero-modelling in 1971 with a control-line (U/C) model airplane, and in 1978, when he was a sophomore at university, he founded a model aircraft club on campus and mentored his peers and junior students. In 1979, he began radio-controlled (R/C) model airplanes and has been a member of the Korean Aero Model Association (KAMA), serving as an instructor pilot. Since 2000, he has contributed as an expert in the field of model aircraft as well as aeronautical engineering by serving as a judge for various association-organized or related competitions, including the National Collegiate Model Aircraft Design Competition, which was co-organized by the KAMA, and by continuing to provide model aircraft technology and safety seminar at the annual KAMA Instructor Pilot Meeting, contributing to improving the safety of model air sports activities. Please provide at least one high resolution picture of the nominated person / group / project, if possible, in action.

[Donatas PAUZUOLIS \(LTU\)](#)

We would like to nominate Donatas Pauzuolis for this award in recognition of his achievements in world championships, active involvement in children's education, and active participation in aviation activities. This year, Donatas Pauzuolis achieved remarkable success by becoming a champion in the 2023 FAI F3P Indoor Aerobatic Model World Championship held from March 19th to 25th at the Jonava Sports Arena. As a representative of Lithuania, Donatas Pauzuolis demonstrated his exceptional skills and dedication, earning both the gold and silver medals in the competition. Donatas Pauzuolis is an exceptionally talented athlete who has achieved tremendous results in world championships. His consistent hard work, high determination, and ability to push his limits have become an example for others. In world championships, Donatas has showcased his exceptional talent by competing against the best aeromodellers from around the globe. His performances have consistently placed him among the top contenders, and his achievements in these prestigious competitions speak volumes about his commitment to the sport. Donatas Pauzuolis' exceptional teaching abilities, combined with his profound knowledge and experience in aeromodelling, make him a truly remarkable teacher. He has made a significant impact on the lives of his students, nurturing their talents and inspiring their passion for aviation. Therefore, we wholeheartedly nominate Donatas Pauzuolis for this award in recognition of his remarkable accomplishments in world and European championships as an aeromodeller.

[Ross GADDES \(NZL\)](#)

Ross Gaddes has been gliding for about thirty years, as a gliding instructor, an accomplished competition pilot and task-setter. At national level, Ross has been a very active member of the Gliding New Zealand Sailplane Racing Committee for ten of the last sixteen years, including Chairman for two of those years. This Committee promotes and supports competition flying within a framework of fair and safe rules. At a local level, Ross was the instigator and primary organiser of a new 'enterprise' style of gliding competition at his club. This was instantly popular for its soaring enjoyment and social interaction. A well run and well sponsored event that has been running for several years now as the biggest event on the calendar with entries from all over New Zealand. It is a measure of Ross's skills in bringing a large club team together for a common purpose. Ross is also well known for his engineering technical skills, having owned and operated the main gliding maintenance and repair business in New Zealand for nearly twenty years. On a personal level, Ross is very well liked and has a reputation for always wanting to help solve technical problems. Ever since taking up gliding, Ross Gaddes has enthusiastically served the sport in so many ways and surely will continue to do so.

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[Marja OSINGA-MEEK \(NED\)](#)


Marja Osinga-Meek played, and still plays, a very important role in aviation medicine for air sports as well on national as international level. In 2004 she initiated the medical committee of the Royal Dutch Aviation Association and became chairman. Immediately she started negotiations with the Dutch government to deregulate the non-motorized aviation. She convinced the government and by changing the law, the RDAA became authorized to deliver medical certificates for gliding and balloon pilots conform ICAO regulations. In 2006 it became clear that the aviation legislation would become European. She realized that reasonable medical requirements for air sport pilots should be necessary. This is still a goal in her work. She participated in the discussions in European Airports. Because of her driving force, her diplomacy, her integrity, and accuracy she was selected to represent EAS in the EASA rule making groups and medical expert groups where she could influence indirectly the EASA medical requirements for pilots. Her work has been well appreciated by the other members of that committee and by EASA. Around 2006 she became the RDAA delegate for the FAI-CIMP. And soon after she became one of the vice-presidents of the CIMP. In 2019, she was designed as the new President of the CIMP, being the first woman in this role. She has achieved this function because of her competence and because of her charming, engaging, and dignified persona. There are several subjects in aviation medicine where she pays attention to. For example, to fly with diabetes type 1. The use of testosterone for transgender pilots. Encouraging to sample statistical data from air sports organizations, in order to define the level of acceptable risks for pilots. For the individual pilots she is always available for consultation. Marja Osinga-Meek, a glider pilot, and a physician is a very modest person. Motivating and inspiring the members of the committees she chairs, is her force. She is the leading lady in aviation medicine for air sports. Or better "the mother" of aviation medicine for air sports.

[Aleksandar GODIĆ \(SRB\)](#)

The name of the pilot Aleksandar Godić in the sports aviation of Serbia and as it is known for years, in different ways of participating in aviation life. His successes in general aviation are especially noteworthy, where he recorded victories at national championships in air rally and precision flying, where he is a member of the Serbian national team in this aviation sport and has been awarded the best athlete in general aviation as many as 20 times. Aviation is also his profession in the Directorate of Civil Aviation of the Republic of Serbia, where he works in the position of assistant director in the Sector for traffic activity, airworthiness and aviation personnel. A man who combined work and sport - pleasure. He currently holds a professional pilot's license, authorization to fly single-engine and multi-engine airplanes, authorization to fly in instrument conditions, as well as the title of flight instructor. He also holds an examiner certificate, and often conducts in-flight exams with candidates taking exams for one of his licenses. A few years ago, he entered the world of the so-called business aviation and obtained the authorization to fly on the aircraft type Cessna Citation 560XL/XLS. He works professionally on the creation and adoption of aviation regulations, which are easily applicable and useful for all participants, with the desire to be the best and most operational aviation authority in Europe. He points out that the main task of all of us is to carry out aviation activities safely and without any problems. It is often not easy to reconcile all the wishes of the athletes with the rules and recommended international practice, but he is working to overcome those differences with the desire that air sports take place smoothly, and above all safely.

[Felix ANDRES \(SUI\)](#)

Felix Andres dedicated himself to Aerobatic Model Aircraft in the F3A category already at a young age and has been active for over 5 decades. He has won many awards in countless competitions in Switzerland and abroad. In addition to his family and job, he has always been exceptionally committed to the sport of aeromodelling in Switzerland in the Breitenbach model flying group. One of his main concerns was and still is the promotion of young talents. He organised countless beginners' courses and training days, where he was also able to impart theory to the young pilots with his extensive knowledge. In this regard, in earlier years only group and regional aerobatic championships were held regionally. Felix Andres therefore created his own competition - the 'Challenge Cup!' To date, this has been held for the 25th time in Switzerland. As competitions cannot be held without judges, Felix Andres has also become involved in this area. For many years, he has been the head judge for F3 in the

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Northwest Regional Model Flying Association and regularly organises courses for judges. Beyond the region of Northwest Switzerland, he is also involved as a member of the 'modell flugsport' foundation board. The purpose of the foundation is the promotion of aeromodelling, in particular the support of youth work as well as cooperation among aeromodelling pilots in Switzerland through regular information. The publication of the magazine 'modell flugsport' serves this purpose in particular. This summary of Felix Andres' many years of activity shows his extraordinary commitment and his extensive knowledge, which he is always happy to provide.

[Peter SUTTER \(SUI\)](#)


The magazine "modell flugsport" has been informing model pilots in Switzerland about current affairs and trends in model flying for over 50 years. It also serves as the official publication of the Swiss Model Aviation Association (SMV) and contains technical articles in three national languages. For 21 years, the magazine has been managed by a foundation bearing the same name. Peter Sutter has led the Foundation as President for the past 21 years. His legal training has benefited the Foundation time and again. Especially when the Foundation was being built up, numerous legal contracts had to be drawn up with the editors and the responsible publishing house. The credo of the magazine "From model pilots for model pilots" was always very important to Peter. He always supported the long-standing editorial director and founder Emil Giezendanner in taking into account all model aviation disciplines on the one hand, and in presenting the demanding and creative self-construction on the other. In addition to his career and the foundation, Peter himself is an active model builder and pilot. He is particularly fascinated by large scale models with turbine engines, as well as scale helicopters. With a deft hand, he builds his models from scratch himself in his wonderfully equipped workshop. At the end of 2023, Peter Sutter will resign as president of the modell flugsport foundation. The aeromodelling pilots of Switzerland have a lot to thank him for.

[Peter THOMA \(SUI\)](#)

Peter Thoma started his flying career back in 1968 on a Boelkow on the Lommis Airfield. In 1972, he achieved fighter wing status of the Swiss Air Force flying the Buecker Jungmann, Vampire DH-100 and DH 115 and Venom DH 112, later the Pilatus PC-6 and the rotorcrafts Alouette II and III. He served as adjutant sergeant in the Swiss Air Force squadrons 7 and 4. As a civil pilot, he became a flight instructor and commanded different types of civil aircrafts helicopters as well as the Beech KingAir and the Cessna Citation. In 1979, he became partner and shareholder of the newly founded Horizon Swiss Flight Academy which he left after a successful incubation period to further develop his agency business. Very well versed and connected with aviation in Switzerland, he supported the foundation of the only Swiss Flying Museum in 1994/1995 with much devotion. As a founding member, he was shareholder and board of director, setting up, designing, and financing the renowned, one of a kind «Classic Air», an airline company operating Douglas DC-3. Whenever something had to be tackled or resolved, regardless of what it was and who needed support, Peter was ready, willing and able to support in a solution-oriented, devoted and caring manner. His aviation knowhow, leadership skills and charismatic aura made Peter a sought-after aviation and business expert. His natural curiosity, lifelong-learning attitude, and can-do/sleeves-up mentality let him always find solutions and explore new facets of aviation. He has been a repeated initiator, creator, coach and mentor, inspiring young and old, small and large audiences in both civil and military aviation.

[Hans FOLKESSON \(SWE\)](#)

Hans has received the Svenska Flygsportförbundets gold medal award, and in 2020, he was also honored with the Royal Medal for his achievements in air sports. He has been an active gliding instructor since 1977. Additionally, he has served as a board member for several clubs, primarily as president in both gliding and GA (General Aviation) clubs, for a total of 30 years. He also held the position of president for the Swedish Gliding Federation for three years.

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[Arne NYLÉN \(SWE\)](#)

Arne has been a GA (General Aviation) instructor since 1970. He is likely the person who has trained and certified the highest number of new instructors, a pursuit he has been engaged in since the 1980s. He has served as a competition director in several national, Nordic, and world championships, including the year 2000. In 1979, he won the precision flying category in a world championship and has been the team captain for the Swedish team on multiple occasions (more than 10 times). Arne has also contributed to enhancing safety by creating the Swedish Svenska Flygfält (Swedish airfield) encyclopaedia. Apart from these achievements, he has held positions in various club-level boards. In 2004, he was awarded the Svenska Flygsportförbundets gold medal, and in June 2023, he will receive the royal medal.

[Mehmet ARSLAN \(TUR\)](#)

He was born in 1977 in Kütahya. He started working at the THK Model Aircraft School Directorate in 1996 and trained many students in the Model Aircraft Branch. He took on active roles in the 1996 World Air Games Test Competition and the 1997 1st World Air Games Organization. He served as Competition Director in many national and international competition organizations and as the Competition Field Coordinator and Technical Director. Since 2009, he has been serving as the FAI Model Aircraft Delegate, FAI Competition Referee, and more. Furthermore, after receiving Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Training, he established the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Training School and continues to train students in this field. He assumed the position of Model Aircraft School Manager in 2013 and has been organizing National/International competitions related to the Model Aircraft Branch, training students in the field, and promoting the branch to wider audiences during his tenure at THK.

[Kristan MAYNARD \(USA\)](#)


Kristan Maynard was appointed to the National Aeronautic Association's Contest and Records Board in 2004. For nearly 20 years, he has played an active role by taking on many record-related projects for the board. Most recently, he has spearheaded the effort to utilize ADS-B data in place of more traditional data sources used for documenting records. He has also overseen numerous record attempts as Official Observer, including flying aboard the Boeing 787 Dreamliner that set records for Distance and Speed Around the World, Eastbound, shortly after the aircraft entered service in 2011. Mr. Maynard is a lifelong, accomplished pilot and holds a Commercial Pilot Certificate with Airplane & Seaplane Single Engine Land ratings, Instrument rating, and Glider rating; a Flight Instructor Certificate with Airplane and Glider ratings; and a Remote Pilot Certificate with sUAS rating. He has set several U.S. National and World records for Aeroplane Efficiency, Transcontinental Speed, and Speed Over a Recognized Course, all with his Aviat Husky A-1A taildragger. Mr. Maynard's dedication and long-term service to NAA and its members through his contributions to the Contest and Records Board make him a most deserving recipient of the Paul Tissandier Diploma.

THE FAI GROUP DIPLOMA OF HONOUR (STATUTES 10.13)

Eligibility. An FAI Group Diploma of Honour may be awarded to a group (design offices, scientific bodies, aeronautical publications, etc.) that has contributed significantly to the progress of Aeronautics or Astronautics during the previous year or years.

[Australian Transport Safety Bureau \(AUS\)](#)

From 1927, Australian aviation accidents, both civil and military, were initially investigated by the Air Accident Investigation Committee. During the 1950s, the Air Safety Investigation Branch (ASIB) was formed, later becoming the Bureau of Air Safety Investigation in 1982. The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) was formed on 1 July 1999. It combined the Bureau of Air Safety Investigation, Marine Incident Investigation Unit and parts of the Federal Office of Road Safety. The ATSB is governed by a Commission and is entirely separate from transport regulators, policy makers and service providers. This separation ensures the independence of ATSB investigations, thereby avoiding external influence

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and conflicts of interest. The ATSB's function is to improve safety and public confidence in the aviation, marine and rail modes of transport through excellence in:

- independent investigation of transport accidents and other safety occurrences.
- safety data recording, analysis and research; and
- fostering safety awareness, knowledge and action.
-

The ATSB's contribution to transport safety, and in particular aviation safety, is achieved through independently investigating, analysing and openly reporting on transport safety matters. Investigations are focused on learning from accidents and incidents and, encouraging safety action by government and industry. The ATSB is now so experienced in aircraft accident investigations that they are now specifically called upon by international aviation safety agencies and governments to assist with complex, technical and significant investigations. Throughout its 95 year history, the ATSB and its predecessors, have made a substantial contribution to aviation safety both internationally and within Australia.

[HpH Sailplanes Ltd. \(CZE\)](#)


HpH Sailplanes Ltd. is a long-established company in the aviation industry. HpH has gained a reputation for exceptional engineering build quality and attention to detail. In 1997, the HpH company succeeded in acquiring the technology and production documentation for the original Glasflügel 304. Production began in 1997 with an updated version of the Glasflügel 304, called the HpH 304CZ, which proved to be very successful both with customers and in competitions. Following that, HpH filled a gap in the market by producing the HpH304C Wasp, an affordable FAI Standard Class version of the 304CZ, and both models have received high praise in the gliding community. The company was divided into two successful sections: HpH Sailplanes and HpH Models. HpH Sailplanes has leveraged all of this knowledge, design, and manufacturing expertise to produce a highly competitive sailplane called the 'all-new' HpH Shark series. Introducing new dimensions to gliding and providing a refreshing alternative to established competition, HpH has already shipped over 240 Shark gliders to customers worldwide. HpH's latest venture is the HpH Twin Shark, the first Czech composite two-seat glider designed for competitive flying in the 20m class. In 2022, the Polish crew achieved second place with it at the World Championship in the 20m class, making the Twin Shark the most successful glider of Czech and Czechoslovakian construction in history. After the discontinuation of activities by historical Czech manufacturers, HpH took over the type certificates and ensures the continued operation of many historical gliders in compliance with regulations. It is no exaggeration to say that HpH Sailplanes Ltd. represents the history and future of glider manufacturing in the Czech Republic."

[Open Glider Network – \(FRA, GBR, ESP\)](#)


The Open Glider Network (OGN) history goes back to 2008 when, at ZAR (Poland), a small group of friends and glider pilots started a tracking project with the aim of creating a low-cost and working solution for the upcoming Sailplane Grand Prix event. The OGN is a community project. It is based on software, hardware, receivers and other contributions from individuals and the open-source community. The OGN provides a unified tracking platform for gliders, GA aircraft, paragliders, drones and other small airborne objects. The OGN platform also helps to reduce mid-air collision risks by connecting information from a range of iConspicuity devices and support Search and Rescue operations involving general aviation aircraft in a growing number of countries. It also enables an easier provision of weather information directly into the cockpit to help pilots to cope with changing conditions. The objective of the Open Glider Network is to create and maintain a unified tracking platform for gliders, drones and other aircraft. Focused on tracking aircraft equipped with FLARM and OGN trackers, OGN is also open for integrating of other data sources (e.g. PilotAware, SPOT, FANET (paragliders), Spidertracks, ...) The tracking data is freely available to anyone as long as they follow OGN data usage rules.

[Aero-club Trstenik \(SRB\)](#)

Aero-club Trstenik (President Mr.Goran Boskovic), since its foundation in 1954, is a very important school center for pilot training in Serbia. Many generations have mastered the skill of flying gliders and

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sports planes in this aero club. Every year the club trains at least 10 new glider pilots. Almost no club in Serbia trains pilots like AK Trstenik. Also, numerous active and veteran pilots received their training 50 and more years ago in this club. Aero club Trstenik has very successful pilots, who are trophy winners at state championships in general aviation, glider pilots and aeromodellers. The club is the organizer of numerous domestic competitions, and all aviators are always happy to go to the Trstenik airport, which is one of the few in central and southern Serbia that functions flawlessly.

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2 FAI AWARDS FOR INDIVIDUAL DISCIPLINES

AWARDS FOR BALLOONING (BY LAWS 7.2)

THE MONTGOLFIER BALLOONING DIPLOMAS (BY LAWS 7.2.1)

Eligibility, Frequency and Number. Four Montgolfier Diplomas may be awarded annually, one to recognise each of the following:

the best sporting performance in the previous Montgolfier year in [Gas Ballooning](#)

[Benjamin EIMERS \(GER\)](#)

Benjamin Eimers (36 years old) is nominated for the Montgolfier Diploma (Gas Ballooning), for his extraordinary performance at the Coupe Gordon Bennett Race 2022, in St. Gallen, Switzerland. Father and son Wilhelm and Benjamin Eimers won the Gordon Bennett race 2022. They flew 1572 km in 60 hours 45 minutes. Surrounded by restricted areas, rain, clouds and temperatures of minus 10 degrees Celsius at over 18.000 feet after three nights, the journey led shortly before the end 60 km over the Black Sea to land back to Bulgaria close to the coast. After Benjamin himself managed his father's control centre for the toughest gas balloon race in the world for over 15 years, he was able to put together an excellent team, which played a large part in the success. For the first time in the history of the Gordon Bennett race, a father and son duo took the title. Benjamin was able to win three podium places in five Gordon Bennett participations also holds several national records in hot air and gas ballooning.

the best sporting performance in the previous Montgolfier year in [Hot Air Ballooning](#)

[Henk BROEDERS \(NED\)](#)

Henk Broeders has been intrigued by Hot air ballooning since he first laid his eyes on a balloon when he was a young boy. Chasing the balloons on his bike in the area where he lived. He made his first balloon flight in 1973 with Simon Faithful and in 1986 he became a hot air balloon pilot and has never stopped flying since. He has flown more than 6000 flights all over the world, is holder of various national (distance, height and durance) records and holder of the FAI / CIA golden badge with 3 diamonds He flew his first competition in 1987 And has competed in 35 national championships and has been representing the Netherlands in every Cat1 event he was eligible for. The technological developments haven't always been easy for Henk, but he has found a way to work with it and still score well. So well that this year Henk managed to become National Champion again for the 20th time. We believe the accomplishment of winning a national title for 20 times deserves the recognition of a Montgolfier diploma.

the best sporting performance in the previous Montgolfier year in [Roziere Ballooning](#)

Not awarded.


a major contribution to the development of the sport of [Ballooning in general](#)

[Peter BLASER \(SUI\)](#)

In short:

- Driver behind a lot of innovation for buliding light weight and competition ballons
- Ambassadoe for balloning. First ballon flight in Maynmar, Uzbekistan and Madagaskar
- Ambassador respectful interaction with the environment
- Consultant supporter of the balloning community

While the name of his company is probably known to everybody in the sport, his name and contribution might not be so well known. But without his curiosity, his determination to improve the technology, his

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financial commitments to work with manufacturers and build prototypes, his thinking outside the box, his passionate contribution to the sport, today's light weight and competition balloons would not be where they are today.

[THE SANTOS-DUMONT GOLD AIRSHIP MEDAL \(BY LAWS 7.2.2\)](#)

Eligibility, Frequency and Number. One Santos-Dumont Gold Airship Medal may be awarded annually to recognise:

- the best sporting performance in the previous Montgolfier year in airships,
or
- a major contribution to the development of the sport of Airship flying in general.

Not awarded.

AWARDS FOR GENERAL AVIATION (BY LAWS 7.3)


[THE CHARLES LINDBERGH GENERAL AVIATION DIPLOMA \(BY LAWS 7.3.1\)](#)

Eligibility. The Lindbergh Diploma may be awarded annually to:

- individuals or organisations that have contributed significantly over a period of not less than ten years to the progress and success of General Aviation in either air sport or transportation, or in the work of international bodies concerned with General Aviation ; or
- to recognise technical breakthroughs in the field of General Aviation as an incentive toward general progress, and for the purpose of stimulating research and development of new concepts and equipment contributing to operational efficiency and flight safety.

[Ján ŠABL'A \(SVK\)](#)

Mr. Jan Sabra is since 1992 continuously competitor in all International World or Continental Precision or Rally Flying Championships, as well as Air navigation Race for Slovak National Flying Team. He was competing in World Air Games in Antalya and Cordoba. Jan was Chief Judge, Contest Director as well as competitor during many Slovak General Aviation Events in all 3 categories Rally Flying, Precision Flying and Air Navigation Race, where he become multiple Slovak Champion. He is still active pilot and Flight instructor with more than 8 thousand flying hours on several types of power engine airplanes listed in his Log Book. Since graduating from the University of Transport and Communications, he has been through a number of functions from single-engine piston pilot to CPL. He has held important positions in various organizations and institutions such as Flight instructor, CAA inspector and examiner. He has been 16 years president of Aeroclub Spisska Nova Ves and is active member of Slovak General aviation commission. He raised a lot of young pilots.

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AWARDS FOR GLIDING (BY LAWS 7.4)

THE LILIENTHAL GLIDING MEDAL (BY LAWS 7.4.1)

Eligibility. It may be awarded for a particularly remarkable gliding performance, or eminent services to gliding, to a currently active glider pilot who has:

- established an international record during the past year; or
- made a pioneer flight (defined as a flight which has opened new possibilities for gliding and/or gliding techniques) ; or
- rendered eminent service to the sport of gliding over a significant period of time

Jana VEPREKOVA (CZE)

Gliding training began in 1975 at the airport Dvůr Králové n. L. and works here to this day. She was nominated to the gliding representation of the Czech Republic on the basis of the results of the Czechoslovak Championships in 1981. She competed in her first international competition in 1983 at the Competition of Socialist Countries in Shumen, Bulgaria, where she was the youngest participant to win the women's competition. Although she eventually gave birth to two children, she has since participated in all 11 World Women's Gliding Championships and 8 of the 11 European Women's Gliding Championships. She has the highest number of World Championships and European Championships in the history of women's gliding, which will probably not be surpassed. She brought 10 medals at world and European Women's Gliding Championships. Considering that these races are held once every two years, this is an incredible 50% success rate in 40 years Her name is listed on a plaque in the museum in Mladá Boleslav, where she was selected in a poll among the 100 greatest aviation personalities of Czech and Czechoslovak aviation in the last 100 years. In addition to cosmonaut Remek, Czech Battle of Britain RAF pilots etc. So far, she has totally flown 5305 hours, 2344 starts and 253 935 km


THE PELAGIA MAJEWSKA GLIDING MEDAL (BY LAWS 7.4.2)

The Pelagia Majewska Medal may be awarded annually to a female glider pilot to reward:

- a particularly remarkable performance in gliding during the past year, or
- eminent services to gliding over a long period of time.

Elizabeth SPARROW (GBR)

Elizabeth (Liz) Sparrow is one of the founder members and driving force behind the UK organisation 'Women Gliding'. An international glider pilot herself, who came 4th in the Women's World Gliding Championship in 2020 in Australia, Liz has dedicated the last four years to bringing the 11th Women's World Gliding Championship to the UK. In leading the preparation for the championship, Liz had to contend with COVID restrictions preventing face to face meetings of the team for almost two years, an associated postponement of the championship, and all the attendant frustrations and extra workload that this entailed. Throughout, Liz managed the team effectively and patiently to deliver an outstanding competition with many associated public-facing events. In addition, determined to leave a lasting legacy from the competition, Liz has taken every opportunity to engage with business, government, education professionals and aviation stakeholders to promote aviation career awareness and personal development activities through gliding. Liz continues to support and develop dedicated training opportunities for women pilots and the British Team Squad.

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THE PIRAT GEHRIGER DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.4.3)

Eligibility. It may be awarded annually for eminent services to international gliding

[Dirk CORPORAAL \(NED\)](#)

Dirk Corporaal, teacher by profession, has used his talents to clearly explain the theory for gliding from pre-solo student to glider pilot's license candidates. His first booklet for basic training was published in 1995. Since then he has always been working to improve, expand and make his work EASA compliant. From books to the current online version. This has already been translated into 4 European languages, including two of the leading major glider countries, the UK and Germany, which proves the high quality of this. He chooses an informal style to guide students through their first steps in what he hopes will be a long and enjoyable gliding career. What makes it even more special is that Dirk never wanted any compensation for his efforts. The only condition for using his material is that it may never be used for commercial purposes. It must be offered as accessible as possible so that everyone can use his work. A real old school volunteer!

AWARDS FOR ROTORCRAFT (BY LAWS 7.5)

THE FAI GOLD ROTORCRAFT MEDAL (BY LAWS 7.5.1)

Eligibility. The medal is to reward a particularly remarkable achievement in rotorcraft including use as a sporting vehicle, or eminent services to the development of rotorcraft over an extended period of time.

Not awarded.

AWARDS FOR PARACHUTING (BY LAWS 7.6)

THE FAI GOLD PARACHUTING MEDAL (BY LAWS 7.6.1)

Eligibility. The Medal may be awarded annually for an outstanding accomplishment in connection with parachuting. This may be in the realm of sport, safety, or, at the option of the Commission, an invention. It cannot be awarded to delegates to the FAI Parachuting Commission.

Not awarded.


THE LEONARDO DA VINCI PARACHUTING DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.6.2)

Eligibility. One Diploma may be awarded each year to a person who has achieved one of the following criteria:

Been at least twice an Individual Champion or a Member of a Champion Team at a First Category Event

- Established at least three World Parachuting Records;
- Have been at least three times an FAI/IPC Official at a First Category Event (Chief Judge, FAI Parachuting Judge, FAI Controller, International Jury Member or any combination thereof)
- Have been at least three times a Competition Director at a First Category Event
- Have been for at least six years the Chair of an IPC Committee (IPC Internal Regulations 6.7) or an IPC Bureau Member or any combination thereof.

Not awarded.

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[FAUST VRANCIC MEDAL \(BY LAWS 7.6.3\)](#)

Eligibility. The Medal may be awarded, on the decision of the FAI Parachuting Commission, for technical innovation or achievement in parachuting. It cannot be awarded to Delegates to the FAI Parachuting Commission.

Not awarded.

[AWARDS FOR AEROMODELLING \(BY LAWS 7.7\)](#)

[THE FAI AEROMODELLING GOLD MEDAL \(BY LAWS 7.7.1\)](#)

Eligibility. It may be awarded annually to an aeromodeller of an FAI Member for outstanding merit in organisation activities. The recipient shall have:

- fulfilled at least twice the function of Competition Director or a similar function at World or Continental Championships ; or
- fulfilled at least three times the function of an FAI jury member at World or Continental Championships ; or
- fulfilled at least five times the function of a judge or a similar function at World or Continental Championships ; or
- served at least three years as a delegate to the FAI Aeromodelling Commission, or served another function therein; or
- shown outstanding merits in developing aeromodelling by organizational activities.

[Zdravko TODOROSKI \(MKD\)](#)

Zdravko Todoroski has, as only a few others, largely contributed to the popularization of Aeromodelling. In the last decades, Zdravko can be considered "a true organizer" of events of any kind. During his long and fruitful career, he managed and organized over forty category one and two events. Zdravko founded the famous "Prilep Cup" World Cup event in 2000, which has now a long and successful tradition for more than two decades, always highly visited. Continued with the "Macedonia Cup" which is equally famous to the Prilep Cup since 2012. He managed to successfully organize several World and European Championships, thus always delivering extraordinary competitions matching the highest standards. Not only active in free flight, but as well in drone sports Zdravko is the main organizer in Southern Europe of the "Phoenix Drone Racing" event running since 2017. His activities as delegate and Education S/C member are actively contributing to the education of many young people not only in his home country, but in the whole region and the whole Aeromodelling community.

[THE ANDREI TUPOLEV AEROMODELLING MEDAL \(BY LAWS 7.7.2\)](#)


Eligibility. It may be awarded to any aeromodeller who in the same year wins the World and National Aeromodelling Championships in the same class of models.

[Michal ŽITNAN jr. \(SVK\)](#)

World Championship during which the World Champion title was obtained:

- Championship name: 2016 FAI World Championships for Space Models
- Championship dates : 22nd – 30th August
- Championship place: Lviv, Ukraine
- Class of Model in which the modeller competed : S1A

National Championship during which the National Champion title was obtained:

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- Championship name: Andritz Space Cup 2016
- Championship dates : 10th -12th June 2016
- Championship place: Kamenica nad Cirochou, Slovak Republic
- Class of Model in which the modeller competed: S1A

THE ALPHONSE PENAUD AEROMODELLING DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.7.3)

Eligibility. The Diploma may be awarded to an aeromodeller of a FAI Member who has:

- obtained at least three times consecutively the title of national champion; or
- obtained at least once the title of world champion; or
- established at least three world records; or
- other outstanding sporting achievements

Igor BURGER (SVK)

at least three times consecutively the title of National Champion :

- dates : 2019, 2021,2022 -> the 2020 Nationals were not held due to Corona.

at least the title of World Champion :

- date : August 8 – 13, 2022 WC : 2022 FAI F2 World Championships for Control Line models, Wloclawek, Poland, Champion in F2B
- date : August 9 – 14, 2014 WC : 2014 FAI F2 World Championships for Control Line models, Wloclawek, Poland, Champion in F2B
- date : August 25 – September 1, 2012 WC : 2012 FAI F2 World Championships for Control Line models, Wloclawek, Poland, Champion in F2B

2x World Vice-Champion F2B:

- 2016 (Perth, Australia)
- 2008 (Landres, France)

5x European Champion in F2B:


- 2019 (Pazardzhik, Bulgaria)
- 2017 (Bekeszaba, Hungary)
- 2015 (Pazardzhik, Bulgaria)
- 2013 (Bekeszaba, Hungary)
- 2011 (Czestochowa, Poland)

THE ANTONOV AEROMODELLING DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.7.4)

Eligibility. This Diploma may be awarded to an aeromodeller of an FAI Member for technical innovations in aeromodelling. The Antonov Diploma may be granted more than once to the same person for different technical innovations made in different years.

Zoran PELAGIC (SVK)

Dr. Zoran M. PELAGIC, by profession a software engineer for computer simulations, devoted his life to Space Models from an early age. After taking a break as competitor from 2011, as International Judge and Space Subcommittee member he worked and developed several program tools, which were, and still are widely used to judge Space Scale models at Category one and two events. Beside programs, he actively led in 2016-2019 the scale working group and developed templates for Scale model data and judging logistics which considerably improved the quality of judging, saving time at competitions.

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List of innovations:

- Led several working groups and developed easy-to-use program tools for scale judging/ results processing for competitions,
- Set standards to scale data packs and created template for usage,
- Improved competition logistics at Spacemodelling competitions by introducing online registrations, thus lowering paperwork to competitors and judges,
- Automatized the process of creation of Scale judging protocols,
- Contributed to the creation of scoring standards.

Outside this, he is the author of many articles, mostly concentrated for Scale models and model rocket techniques in general.

[THE ANDREI TUPOLEV AEROMODELLING DIPLOMA \(7.7.5\)](#)

Eligibility. It may be awarded annually to an aeromodeller of an FAI Member for an outstanding record performance in aeromodelling.

Not awarded.

[THE FRANK EHLING DIPLOMA \(BY LAWS 7.7.6\)](#)

Eligibility. The Diploma may be awarded annually for outstanding accomplishment, by an organisation or individual, in connection with the promotion of aviation through the use of flying models.

[Arthur H. "Trip" BARBER \(USA\)](#)

Arthur H. "Trip" Barber, a retired naval officer is one of the leading personalities in US spacemodelling. Active for more than fifty years, Trip achieved many successes and medals on international level, having several individual and team medals from World Championships in spacemodelling. During this time he also actively helped to introduce the electronic altimeters in spacemodelling and was one of the authors of the first EDIC rules for such kind of device. He always actively participated in FAI spacemodelling activities and currently is leading the Safety in spacemodelling working group, where under his guidance new improved safety rules were included into the Sporting Code. Beside technical activities, Trip has organized several national and international competitions where he introduced several hundreds of young people into the spacemodelling sport. His effort and devotion helped that in the USA and Canada new people started building model rockets. Trips active presentations of his current technical achievements at national and international meetings and online videos are for many people a big inspiration and help to start with the spacemodelling sport. Trip was never hesitating to share his knowledge, always willing to help. His activities and leadership helped to get a better international cooperation within people. His current activities include an general safety training for current and future FAI Range Safety Officers (RSO's), which is planned for the end of the year


[THE CIAM LEGENDS MEDAL \(BY LAWS 7.7.7\)](#)

Eligibility: The medal is reserved for those who have, in the past, obtained at least three (3) times the title of FAI World Champion in any Aeromodelling or Space Models class. The World Champion title may be gained in different classes. This medal is for individuals only. Proposals may cover any period of time up to 31st December of the preceding year.

[Chris CALLOW \(AUS\)](#)

World Champions 6x:

- Aeromodelling - F3D
- Years: 2001, 2003, 2005, 2011, 2013, 2019

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[Kevin CALLOW \(AUS\)](#)

World Champions 6x:

Aeromodelling - F3D
 Years: 2001, 2003, 2005, 2011, 2013, 2019

[Gernot BRUCKMANN \(AUT\)](#)

World Champion 5x:

- Aeromodelling - F3P
- Years: 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2023

[Rudolf FREUDENTHALER \(AUT\)](#)

World Champion 4x:

- Aeromodelling - F5B
- Years: 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992

[Hanno PRETTNER \(AUT\)](#)

World Champion 7x:

- Aeromodelling - F3A
- Years: 1977, 1981, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1993

[Jordan PAVLOV \(BUL\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Spacemodelling- SM-S4, SM-S6
- Years: 1980, 1983, 1985

[Xinping HAN \(CHN\)](#)

World Champion 5x:

- Aeromodelling - F2B
- Years: 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002

[Arijan HUCALJUK \(CRO\)](#)


World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F3J
- Years: 2016, 2018, 2019

[Jiri TABORSKY \(CZE\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

Spacemodelling - SM-S1, SM-S4, SM-S3
 Years: 1974, 1983, 1985

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[Thomas KOSTER \(DEN\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling – F1B, F1C, F1A
- Years: 1965, 1977, 1979

[Luis PARRAMON \(ESP\)](#)

World Champion 8x:

- Aeromodelling - F2A
- Years: 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2012

[Christophe PAYSANT LE ROUX \(FRA\)](#)

World Champion 9x:

- Aeromodelling - F3A
- Years: 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2019

[Martin HERRIG \(GER\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F3B
- Years: 2007, 2009, 2015

[Max MERCKENSCHLAGER \(GER\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F4C
- Years: 1986, 1996, 2010

[Franz WEISSGERBER \(GER\)](#)

World Champion 5x:

- Aeromodelling - F5B, SM-S8
- Years: 1996, 1996, 2000, 2002, 2006

[Robert WIMMER \(GER\)](#)


World Champions 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F3B-F3E
- Years: 1998, 2000, 2002

[Jens BARTELS \(GER\)](#)

World Champions 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F3B-F3E
- Years: 1998, 2000, 2002

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[Wolf FICKENSCHER \(GER\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F5B
- Years: 2004, 2006, 2012

[Antonio MAZZARACCHIO \(ITA\)](#)

World Champion 7x:

- Spacemodelling - SM-S1, SM-S3, SM-S9
- Years: 2004, 2006, 2010, 2010, 2014, 2014, 2023

[Manabu HASHIMOTO \(JPN\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F3C
- Years: 1997, 1999, 2003

[Hiroki ITO \(JPN\)](#)

World Champion 6x:

- Aeromodelling - F3C
- Years: 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2015, 2019

[Maksim TIMOFEJEV \(LTU\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Spacemodelling - SMJ-S9, SM-S9, SM-S1
- Years: 2002, 2008, 2012

[Joe WURTS \(NZL\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F3B, F3J, F3K
- Years: 1991, 1998, 2011

[Marian KAZIROD \(POL\)](#)


World Champion 6x:

- Aeromodelling - F4B
- Years: 1992, 1994, 1996, 2002, 2004, 2008

[Michal KUMOR \(POL\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Spacemodelling - SMJ-S9, SMJ-S6
- Years: 2004, 2006, 2006

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[Leszek MALMYGA \(POL\)](#)

World Champion 4x:

- Spacemodelling - SM-S6, SM-S9
- Years: 2006, 2012, 2014, 2021

[Krzysztof PRZYBYTEK \(POL\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Spacemodelling - SMJ-S7, SMJ-S8
- Years: 2002, 2002, 2004

[Wojciech KOSZELSKI \(POL\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Spacemodelling - SMJ-S7, SMJ-S8
- Years: 2016, 2018, 2021

[Sergei ANDREEV \(RUS\)](#)

World Champions 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F2C
- Years: 2012, 2014, 2018

[Oleg VOROBYEV \(RUS\)](#)

World Champions 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F2C
- Years: 2012, 2014, 2018

[Vlacheslav BELIAEV \(RUS\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F2D
- Years: 1990, 1992, 1996

[Alexey KORIAPIN \(RUS\)](#)


World Champion 3x:

- Spacemodelling - SM-S1
- Years: 1985, 1990, 1994

[Alexander LEVYKH \(RUS\)](#)

World Champion 5x:

- Spacemodelling - SM-S7
- Years: 1998, 2004, 2006, 2010, 2012

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[Vladimir MENSHIKOV \(RUS\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Spacemodelling - SM-S4, SM-S1
- Years: 1996, 1998, 2006

[Igor TRIFONOV \(RUS\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F2D
- Years: 2004, 2006, 2010

[Andreas BOHLEN \(SUI\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F3B
- Years: 2003, 2005, 2019

[Andreas LUTHI \(SUI\)](#)

World Champion 9x:

- Aeromodelling - F4C
- Years: 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2012, 2016, 2018, 2022

[Igor BURGER \(SVK\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F2B
- Years: 2012, 2014, 2022

[Jan KOTUHA \(SVK\)](#)

World Champion 4x:

- Spacemodelling -: SM-S5, SM-S7
- Years: 1987, 1994, 1996, 2000

[Stefan MOKRAN \(SVK\)](#)


World Champion 3x:

- Spacemodelling - SM-S4, SM-S8
- Years: 1974, 1994, 2004

[Ivan TREGER \(SVK\)](#)

World Champion 5x:

- Aeromodelling - F1D, F1E
- Years: 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2017

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[Michal ZITNAN sr \(SVK\)](#)

World Champion 5x:

- Spacemodelling - SM-S4, SM-S3, SM-S9
- Years: 2000, 2002, 2006, 2018, 2023

[Michal ZITNAN jr \(SVK\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Spacemodelling - SMJ-S1, SMJ-S5
- Years: 2016, 2016, 2018

[Anton REPA \(SVK\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Spacemodelling - SM-S6, SM-S3
- Years: 1978, 1983, 1985

[Che- Huan KO\(TPE\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling – F3N
- Years: 2017, 2019, 2023

[Alexander ANDRIUKOV \(UKR\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F1B
- Years: 1991, 1993, 1997

[Oleg KULAKOVSKY \(UKR\)](#)

World Champion 4x:

- Aeromodelling - F1B
- Years: 1999, 2001, 2005, 2009

[Yevhen VERBITSKY \(UKR\)](#)


World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F1C
- Years: 1987, 1997, 2011

[Volodymyr SURAYEV\(UKR\)](#)

World Champions 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F2C
- Years: 1976, 1986, 1988

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[Victor BARKOV \(UKR\)](#)

World Champions 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F2C
- Years: 1976, 1986, 1988

[Vladimir FEDOSOV \(URS\)](#)

World Champion 4x:

- Aeromodelling - F4B
- Years: 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990

[Robert BIEDRON \(USA\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Spacemodelling - SM-S7, SM-S5
- Years: 1992, 1994, 1998

[Steve BROWN \(USA\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F1D
- Years: 1994, 1996, 1998

[Chris FLANIGAN \(USA\)](#)

World Champion 4x:

- Spacemodelling - SM-S2, SM-S5, SM-S4
- Years: 1980, 1980, 2021, 2023

[Les MCDONALD \(USA\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F2B
- Years: 1976, 1980, 1982

[Daryl PERKINS \(USA\)](#)


World Champion 5x:

- Aeromodelling - F3J, F3B
- Years: 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2010

[James RICHMOND \(USA\)](#)

World Champion 8x:

- Aeromodelling - F1D
- Years: 1968, 1978, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990, 2002, 2004

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[David SHADEL \(USA\)](#)

World Champions 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F3D
- Years: 1987, 1989, 1995

[Jim SHINOHARA \(USA\)](#)

World Champions 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F3D
- Years: 1987, 1989, 1995
-

[William WERWAGE \(USA\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F2B
- Years: 1970, 1972, 2004

[Curtis YOUNGBLOOD \(USA\)](#)

World Champion 3x:

- Aeromodelling - F3C
- Years: 1987, 1993, 2001


AWARDS FOR AEROBATICS (BY LAWS 7.8)

THE LEON BIANCOTTO AEROBATICS DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.8.1)

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

[Manfred ECHTER \(GER\)](#)

Glider Aerobatics cannot be imagined without him in the last decades. Manfred was born in a dark period, in 1940. Obviously, this influenced him in many ways. Firstly, in the insight that countries, that values, that conviction must be defended, Manfred served in the German Airforce, flying jets such as Fouga Magister, F84, F86, and finally the F4 Phantom II. Manfred left the air force with the rank of colonel. Secondly, Manfred is deeply convinced that sports unites people across borders, over iron curtains and political systems. Especially today we might once realize that this was, is and will be an essential task for us as sportsmen, and why we need people like Manfred. Beside his military carrier, Manfred enjoyed glider aerobatics in his free time, starting with Lo100, Salto, and later certainly planes we use until now, such as Swift and Fox. As recent as 2021, with more than 80 years, Manfred instructed pilots in aerobatics, and introduced them to the singularities of the Fox. His last participation as a member of the German National Team was 1989. Until 2019 he was active flying as a participant in the Swiss National Championship. When Manfred started serving in FAI and CIVA, and over the decades he did, he exactly knew what he was talking about. Because he did not just talk about... he did it.

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AWARDS FOR ASTRONAUTICS (BY LAWS 7.9)

THE Yu. A. GAGARIN GOLD MEDAL (BY LAWS 7.9.1)

Eligibility. The Yu. A. Gagarin Gold Medal may be awarded to an astronaut who, in the previous year, is considered to have made the greatest achievement in Man's conquest of Space.

Not awarded.

THE V. M. KOMAROV DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.9.2)

Eligibility. This Diploma may be awarded to astronauts, members of multi-seater crews, for outstanding achievements in the field of exploration of outer space in the previous year.

Samantha CRISTOFORETTI (ITA)

Samantha Cristoforetti has demonstrated throughout her second long duration space mission, Minerva on board the International Space Station, her outstanding professional qualities and performance already shown during her first mission. During her second spaceflight in 2022, Samantha Cristoforetti became the first European female astronaut to:

- perform an Extra-Vehicular Activity (spacewalk),
- be assigned the commandship of a spacecraft (the International Space Station),
- cumulate more than a year in space when adding respectively 199 and 169 days in the course of her two spaceflights,
- use the Russian Orlan spacesuit.

Samantha Cristoforetti was the first astronaut to operate the RHEALTH ONE, space's most powerful biomedical analyzer to date, which successful operation paves the way for understanding and treating spaceflight medical conditions including circadian rhythm disturbances, bone loss, ionizing radiation exposure, kidney stones, among others. Through TV broadcast and social networks she has also been very active in the course of her Minerva mission to promote the importance for young women to get engaged in challenging technical and operational fields while still having a happy family life.

THE KOROLEV DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.9.3)


Eligibility. It may be awarded to technicians or engineers having worked in orbit or on a celestial body in building structures and/or their equipment, or in a non-planned restoration or repair of a broken device to make possible the continuation of a mission, and, on this occasion, having demonstrated human work in space.

Not awarded.

THE ODYSSEY DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.9.4)

Eligibility. It may be awarded to a person or a group of persons whose actions, achievements, or works on earth, in space, or on a celestial body have safeguarded or may safeguard human life in space.

Not awarded.

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THE DIPLOMA FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN ASTRONAUTICS (BY LAWS 7.9.5)

Eligibility. It may be awarded to astronauts working as professionals (i.e. Government funded or perhaps as crew members of companies such as SpaceX) for their outstanding performance in exceeding the Karman Line. Whatever their role, they would have undergone a rigorous selection and training process after many years in prior fields of work and so their achievement would be among the high points of their career.

Not awarded.

AWARDS FOR HANG-GLIDING AND PARAGLIDING (BY LAWS 7.10)

THE PEPE LOPES MEDAL (BY LAWS 7.10.1)

Eligibility. The medal may be awarded for outstanding contributions to sportsmanship or international understanding in the sport of hang-gliding and paragliding. The medal will only be awarded for truly significant acts or services and will not necessarily be awarded every year.

Róbert EXNER (HUN)


He carried out gigantic landscaping to maintain the possibility of education on Hármashatár-hegy, the famous Hungarian paragliding paradise, therefore, a high-quality background for Hungarian paragliding training is ensured."

THE FAI HANG-GLIDING AND PARAGLIDING DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.10.2)

Eligibility. It may be awarded to an individual who is considered to have made an outstanding contribution to the development of hang-gliding and/or paragliding by his or her initiative, work or leadership in flight achievement.

Martin SCHEEL (SUI)

Martin Scheel was born in 1960 in Zurich, Switzerland. From the beginning of his life, he was attracted by the mountains. In his youth he started with rock climbing and opened some of the most difficult routes of the time. He is still known in the climbing world for his challenging routes which are still classics - even 40 years later. After a successful climbing career, he started paragliding in 1987. Soon after, he became a competition pilot and started to design paragliders for Swing. Since 1996 Martin is the coach of the Swiss league. During his time as a coach, he brought many young pilots to the top of the sport and the Swiss team won several world championships. Martin is married and father of two kids. When he is not working, he is still going out for climbing, ski touring or paragliding. Martin is leading the Swiss team now for more than 25 years. He is also involved in the paragliding World Cup Committee and represented Switzerland at the CIVL as a delegate for many years. Part of his work goes also into organizing international paragliding events like the Disentis Open, which is a massive contribution to the attractiveness of paragliding. Martin's dedication to the sport is simply outstanding and he pushes the development of the sport for many years now.

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AWARDS FOR MICROLIGHT AND PARAMOTOR AVIATION (BY LAWS 7.11)

THE COLIBRI DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.11.1)

Eligibility. It may be awarded each year to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the development of microlight or paramotor aircraft.

[Zara RUTHERFORD \(BEL\)](#)

For becoming the youngest female pilot to circumnavigate the world solo. Zara raised funds herself, borrowed a microlight, spent 8 months doing it (16 when she started).

THE ANN WELCH DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.11.2)

Eligibility. Diplomas may be awarded each year to the pilot or crew of a Microlight or Paramotor who, in the opinion of CIMA, made the most meritorious flight which resulted in a Microlight or Paramotor World record claim ratified in the year in question.

Paramotor

[Ramón MORILLAS SALMERÓN \(ESP\)](#)

for setting two world records in one flight: Time to climb to a height of 6000m (new record) and Altitude of 7334m, in RPL1T.

Microlight

[Krisztian DOLHAI \(HUN\)](#)

for a world record of Distance in a Straight Line without Engine Power, of 151.3km, in RAL2T.

AWARDS FOR AMATEUR-BUILT AIRCRAFT (BY LAWS 7.12)


THE PHOENIX DIPLOMA AND GROUP DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.12.1)

Eligibility. They may each be awarded for the best reconstruction or restoration of a vintage (more than 30-year-old) aircraft achieved by an individual amateur in the case of the Phoenix Diploma and by a group of any size or description (e.g. museum, sponsored group, society, company) in the case of the Phoenix Group Diploma.

Phoenix Diploma

[Stephen SLATER \(GBR\)](#)

Currie Wot aircraft. G-APNT 'Airymouse', The Currie Wot was one of the earliest light aircraft designs to be developed after WW2 in the United Kingdom. It was one of the contributors to the creation of the Popular Flying Association, which in turn developed into the Light Aircraft Association today. A total of around 16 aircraft have been built since, but only 4 or 5 are flying today. 'Airymouse' is a Currie Wot single-seat sports biplane built in 1958 to the original 1930s drawings by former WW1 pilot and engineer Joe Currie. It was one of the first designs to be adopted by the then PFA, forerunner to the LAA today. This aircraft has a particular history in that it was built by the Hampshire Aeroplane Club in the Supermarine factory at Eastleigh in Hampshire. It was subsequently owned by Westlands' chief test pilot Harald Penrose, who wrote the book 'Airymouse' about his flying the open-cockpit biplane, already an anachronism, over the English countryside in the 1960s. The book became a surprise best-seller and helped drive interest in vintage flying in the UK. The aircraft has been owned

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since late 2017 by Stephen Slater. After an initial restoration to flight in 2018 following a period in storage, it has just completed a more comprehensive rebuild started in April 2022 by Stephen and friends, working at evenings and weekend, bringing it back to its former glory while maintaining its original 'patina' and history.

Phoenix Group Diploma

[The Lakes Flying Company \(represented by Anne Hughes\) \(GBR\)](#)

The Lakes Flying Company for "Waterbird" replica. G-WRBD. In June 2022, the "Waterbird", an authentic replica of the first seaplane to fly in the United Kingdom in 1911, made its maiden flights at Windermere in the English Lake District, at the same location its predecessor had flown 111 years before. The aircraft is an authentic replica of the original 'Waterbird' hydro-aeroplane, which was commissioned by Edward Wakefield in 1911 and built using amended Curtiss bi-plane plans. First flown at Brooklands as a landplane, the Waterbird was adapted with a single two-stepped float, making the first successful hydro-aeroplane flight in Britain on Windermere on 25th November 1911. Following further flights, Wakefield set up The Lakes Flying Company which operated Waterbird, Waterhen and Seabird aircraft until the outbreak of war in 1914. The modern Waterbird is faithful to the original design. As far as possible the same materials, including bamboo, were used. The only exceptions were replacing the 50hp Gnome rotary with a Rotec 2800 radial engine and the use of diatex for fabric on the wings instead of linen. As did the original, the reproduction first flew as a landplane, constructed by Gerry Cooper. The float was produced by boat-builder Hamish Patterson, fd naval architect Jack Gifford and overseen for the Lakes Flying Company by Professor Paul Wrobel. Negotiations are underway for a permanent home for Waterbird to be constructed at Windermere to provide an innovative interpretation of the floatplane, along with its history.


THE HENRI MIGNET DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.12.2)

Eligibility. This diploma may be awarded to an amateur aircraft builder or a group of builders, who have developed an aircraft of any category (including microlights) which has one or more of the following characteristics:

- Low cost of operation and of building,
- Simple design (use of non-sophisticated design practices and techniques),
- Ease of construction and maintenance,
- Outstanding flying characteristics,
- Special features and innovative concept.

[Ivan SHAW \(GBR\)](#)

Ivan Shaw for his personal aircraft design, the ISA 180 Seeker. Ivan Shaw, the designer and developer of the Europa kit aircraft (an award winner in 1993), has developed and created his own personal aerial transport design, which was unveiled at the LAA Rally in 2019. In 2022, the aircraft completed its flight testing and has now gained its LAA Permit to Fly. Constructed from light weight carbon fibre pre-impregnated composites which Shaw produced in his own, self made autoclave ovens, the aircraft has a twin-boom pusher design and will carry a pilot who is up to 2m tall, weighing 112kg, plus a full-size folding bicycle, a tent and personal baggage, at a 180kt cruise. Powered by the latest highly efficient Rotax 912iS - at 180kt cruise it burns 17 litres/hour, but at a more modest 'super economy' cruise of 120kt that reduces to just 7 litres/hour. Shaw also wanted the aircraft to be inexpensive to hangar, so he designed quick fold wings, they fold single-handedly in under a minute, incorporating electrically operated 'shoot bolts' and automatically connecting flaperon control surfaces. The aircraft will then fit into a standard-sized garage, a trailer or a 20ft shipping container, which makes a secure, affordable hangar. As an example of innovative and efficient design it is worthy of the Henri Mignet Diploma.

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THE DAVID FAULKNER BRYANT DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.12.3)

Eligibility: This diploma may be awarded to an amateur aircraft builder or a group of amateur aircraft builders who have built a plan-built or a kit-built aircraft of any category. It does not apply to new design. The aircraft shall have received its certificate of airworthiness or equivalent and the builder(s) shall have been recognised in the applicant's country for best craftsmanship in the year before the award.

Stephen MARKHAM (GBR)

At the 2022 LAA annual fly-in, Steve Markham was awarded the Association's RAA Canada Trophy for Best Kitbuilt Aircraft, for both the exceptional high quality of build and the complexity of construction, of Mk26 Spitfire. G-CIXM, finished in a historically accurate and distinctive 'PR blue' livery. The Spitfire Mark 26 is an 80 percent scale replica of the famous WW2 fighter aircraft. Steve Markham bought the airframe kit in 2006 and additionally sourced and modified an Isuzu V6 engine to fit under the Spitfire's slender cowling. Steve described the aircraft as "a complicated beast to put together", with many parts requiring a high level of hand finishing. Steve and his wife Kay spent over 16 years and around 12,000 hours building the aircraft. The aircraft first flew in 2017 but a significant amount of flight testing and delays were forced by Covid lockdowns before Steve was able to gain a full Permit to Fly in 2022. Steve's Spitfire carries the distinctive 'PR blue' colour used by photographic reconnaissance Spitfires during WW2. The paint scheme acted as a camouflage at high altitude for the unarmed aircraft, which used altitude and speed to evade interception. It carries the livery of PL793, which flew in 1944 from RAF Odiham, just a few miles from his Hampshire home. Steve has maintained a close link with the RAF base and when he first finished the replica, he hosted a roll-out party where 200 people attended, raising £4,000 for the RAF Benevolent Fund.

AWARDS FOR ENVIROMENT (BY LAWS 7.13)

THE ANGELO D'ARRIGO DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.13.1)

Eligibility: It may be awarded to individuals or organisations that have contributed significantly to the defence of and respect for the environment affected by air sports. The activities may include scientific research, private, public or commercial events or activities, developed or promoted directly by Pilots, sport flying Clubs, NACs or Public or Private bodies as Small and Medium Enterprises.


Not awarded.

AWARDS FOR EDUCATION (BY LAWS 7.14)

THE NILE GOLD MEDAL (BY LAWS 7.14.1)

Eligibility. This medal may be awarded to a person, group of persons or organization to reward distinguished work in the field of aviation and space education, particularly during the year preceding its award.

Not awarded.

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AWARDS FOR MEDICO- PHYSIOLOGICAL (BY LAWS 7.15)

DR. PETER SAUNDBY DIPLOMA (BY LAWS 7.15.1)

Eligibility: This FAI Diploma may be awarded annually, on the recommendation of the FAI CIMP sub-committee, to individuals, groups or organisations that have contributed significantly to flight safety and sport pilot performance in a broad sense. For example, but not limited to: human factors concepts, training facilities, scientific research, medical fitness and assessments, limited capabilities at air sport pilots, anti-doping, air sport rulemaking, work in FAI Commissions and related activities.

Antony SEGAL (GBR)

Dr Segal started gliding in 1956, the year he qualified in medicine, and worked as a family doctor in UK for 30 years. After retirement he started to work on safety in gliding using the technical support and facilities of the centre for Human Sciences Qinetiq at Farnborough. Dr. Segal was a member of Ostiv's Sailplane Development Panel for many years.

During his time there he devoted most of his life to improving the crash resistance of gliders including work on full size glider crashworthiness impact testing, the use in aviation of energy absorbing seating foam, dynamic testing of highly damped seating foam, anthropometry in glider cockpit design and static and dynamic testing of four and five point glider seat harnesses.

Homage to the work of Dr. Antony M. Segal was published in 2008 in a double issue of the Ostiv Journal. Technical Soaring, which completely devoted the issue to his very valuable contribution to the safety of gliding.

In 2021 Dr Segal offered free copies of his bound compendium of much of his work, entitled Glider Pilot Safety and Cockpit Crashworthiness. This was in the hope of furthering improvements in safety by making more easily and widely available what he had shown in this field so that his work could be continued and improved.

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