

FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

BALLOONING COMMISSION (CIA)
COMMISSION D'AEROSTATION

CIA Plenary
Lausanne, Switzerland
13-16 March 2024



CIA New Technology Subcommittee Minutes 2024

Present:

Claude Weber (LUX, chairman), Steve Ireland (AUS, member), Erwin Pellegrom, (NED, member), Marc Andre (SUI, member), Bengt Stener (SWE, member)

Observers: David Strasmann (SUI), Niclas More (SWE), Imochaoba Singh (IND), David Glead (CAN), Andy Baird (USA), Benoit Pelard (FRA), Eric Decellières (FRA, David Bareford (GBR), Zydrunas Kazlauskas (LTU), Witold Filus (POL), Arkadiusz Iwanski (POL), Sylvia Meinel (GER), Mike Meinel (GER)

An update was given about the Balloon Live financial status. The project is financially very sound and generates roughly 10kCHF of benefit a year to the FAI Ballooning Commission. This revenue supports the overall budget of the commission and many other expenses over the year.

Rather than lowering fees, the profit should be used for other projects or further developments that are in the interest of the sport and the community. The fees (pilot fee or organizer fee) are indeed low and generally accepted.

Watchmefly receives updates and new features on a regular basis. The most recent feature, pilot registration, is being used more and more in the USA. Other countries now also start using it.

The Balloon Live app is quite stable and being updated regularly to further optimize it and eliminate small bugs. The framework used to develop the app is deprecated soon. Therefore, the app needs to be ported to a new framework, which means a lot of development work. This is scheduled for winter 2024/2025. A small update to name goals A, B, C.. instead of 1, 2, 3... will be integrated as well at that moment. It was agreed to assign a higher budget to maintenance work as the system grew over the last years and the software maintenance also needs more attention. The scoring system is being used in most events to score task by task. Only the Worlds 2022 used a feature to score pilot by pilot. As this will most probably only be used every 2 years at the Worlds, the further development of this feature is questionable and the scoring process of such big events will need rethinking. The scoring team of the Worlds 2024 have already started working on it.

The World Ranking List (WRL) is integrated in WatchMeFly and updated every 3 months. As there are only very few changes, it was decided to reduce the updates to once per year, on April 1st, with an additional update after the Worlds or World Air Games.

Motion:

To update the WRL only on 1st April and within 2 weeks after a World Championship or World Air Games.

The new features of the online sanction application management in WatchMeFly have briefly been demoed.

Other items:

- There is an idea to develop a short questionnaire for event organisers or scorers to give their feedback on the use of Balloon Live and WatchMeFly after each event.
- PMR took up the work to create Legends-website. This should be integrated in WatchMeFly.
- The use of the FAI cloud for document storage has been voted on last year and a budget has been allocated to buy licenses of Mountain Duck, a cloud sync client for all SC or WG members. Everything is set up and ready to use

Therefore NTSC moves:

To migrate all relevant documents to the FAI cloud by May 1st and start working exclusively with this new document storage as of the same date.

- A proposal was made to create a WatchMeFly and Balloon Live newsletter to inform scorers and other users of the systems about updates and new features as they get released.

Proposed members for 2024-2025:

Claude Weber, Luxembourg (chairman)
Steve Ireland, Australia (member)
Erwin Pellegrom, The Netherlands (member)
Marc Andre, Switzerland (member)
Bengt Stener, Sweden (member)
Mike Meintl, Germany (member)

March 14th, 2024

Claude Weber, New Technology Subcommittee Chairman