

75th FAI/ISC PLENARY MEETING, 1-2 FEBRUARY 2025, ROME. ITALY

<i>SUBJECT:</i>	ISC President's Report to the ISC Plenary	<i>AGENDA #</i>	4.1
<i>AUTHOR:</i>	Alberto Martin Paracuellos, ISC President		
<i>DATE:</i>	29 November 2024	<i>PAGES:</i>	6

1 INTRODUCTION

As you know, I was elected President at last year's plenary for a two-year term. This has been my first year in office and this will be my first report to the ISC plenary. My intention is to highlight some of the topics that I would like to bring to your attention so that we can further discuss them while in Rome.

Getting up to speed on all of the Presidents Duties has been very interesting and challenging at times and, although I have been around ISC for some time and was previously on the Bureau as Vice President, the number of things that come up on a daily basis has at times been overwhelming. This first year as President has nevertheless been an enjoyable experience despite the steep uphill learning curve.

The year has been quite busy with competitions in all our disciplines which meant a lot of work for the Bureau, but I feel we managed to fulfill all of our obligations. I would like to thank the Bureau, the Committee and Working Group Chairs and members, Judges, Jurors, Volunteers and Organizers, as they are the ones that have made it possible. Thanks for your support and sometimes for your understanding.

2 BUREAU AND IBDs

The Bureau has been busy with the normal managing of the ISC, all the Bulletins are reviewed before publishing and each event generates a large amount of correspondence and follow up work. The Bureau Members have attended all the Competitions in various capacities, as FAI Controller, Jury or forming part of the Judge's panels. This has given us a firsthand view of the events without extra cost to the ISC.

During this year we have issued 15 IBDs, plus one that was issued at the beginning the year by the previous Bureau. Although they will be dealt with in a separate Annex to the Agenda, I would like to bring your attention to the Implementation of the Injury Protocol. The protocol, approved during last year's plenary, was finalised and was implemented via IBD to guarantee the safety of our competitors. It was satisfactorily tested in all the remaining events of the year and now it can be included in our Rules.

3 MEDIA

Elisabet Mikaelsson, Media Working Group Chair, expressed her intention to step down from the position. During the year she has continued to perform the tasks but until we found a suitable solution and replacement I took the initiative and contacted FAI Communications Manager and initiated a collaboration with the FAI Head office. Faustine Carrera has been most helpful, and has provided invaluable guidance and assistance during the year. Thanks to the collaboration and support that we have received, we have increased the visibility of our sport on the FAI web site, the FAI newsletters and through the FAI social media network. We look forward to continuing the promotion of our Sport through the FAI channels. We have used the Event's FAI Mini site as a point of entry for all the information pertaining an event, including links to social media, Flickr and YouTube accounts, organizers web page and social media, and to our results site. This has been possible thanks to the ISC officials at the events, mainly the FAI Controllers who have sent daily reports so that the Communications department could create Journalist style news articles.

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We have also used the ISC mailing lists more frequently sending out all the information available through our mailing lists.

4 RECORDS

Records are a very important part of ISC and FAI, and especially for the competitors. Over the years there have been changes to our Sporting Code Section 5 and we have looked at ways of managing our records in a more efficient manner. It has been an ongoing task over the years where many people have been involved. We have implemented different procedures over the years and different financial schemes.

In short, the current system is that the Jury prepares the record claim. If it is World Record, ISC pays 75 CHF for it, if there is a Continental record attached, which there always is, we would pay 75 CHF more and they are processed, claimed, and ratified. If the record is a continental record alone, all the work to process it is done similarly by the Jury and the FAI Records Officer but pending a payment of 300 CHF from the Competitor/NAC which may or may not be done. This is where the problem lies because most of the time we are doing all the work for nothing. The reason is not that the competitor does not value the achievement but it is because of the price. The situation is clearly unfair to those competitors with less financial support. The final outcome is that a record was achieved but it is not ratified, and this devaluates the continental records altogether. Our FCEs are a good opportunity for our competitors to achieve a G1 record, whether it is a World or a Continental record and this also helps promote our events.

We have reached an agreement with the FAI by which we will claim and process all the G1 and G2 records achieved during our FCEs. We will be invoiced 75 CHF for a World Record and its corresponding Continental record. We will also claim all the continental records and also pay 75 CHF for them. This way any record achieved during our event will be claimed and automatically be ratified.

This year, Gernot Rittenschober took the initiative and, in close collaboration with Christine Rousson – FAI Competitions Manager and Record Officer, has been able to consolidate the existing records Data base and with the supervision of the Competition Committee Chairs has cleaned out and allocated records where they should be. Now the data base is organized and according to SC5 Chapter 3. I would like to thank Gernot for all the work and time invested. And to make it easier for the Jury, Gernot has developed (and tested this year at all the FCEs) a procedure that can be easily implemented that will achieve the goal of efficiently processing our records without creating any extra work for the FAI secretariat, and more on the contrary, simplifying the work load of the FAI secretariat, since all the records would be sent in a single package at the end of the event, after being confirmed by the Competition Committees. The final proposal will be included in the R&R Committee SC5 proposals for approval which I hope will have your support.

5 COMPETITIONS 2024

Thanks to all the efforts of the Volunteers and the Organisers, all the World Championships and World Cups for our Disciplines were held. We managed to complete all the rounds in all the events this year. Following are the events and a short description:

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- **Macau, China**, 16-20 of April, 1st FAI Asian Indoor Skydiving Championships, 3rd FAI European Indoor Skydiving Championships, 5th FAI World Cup of Indoor Skydiving. These were the first ISC Indoor Championships to be held in Asia and which provided the opportunity for more countries from the region to participate. The event was extraordinarily well organised and we hope to see more events in the region.
- **Szolnok, HUN**, 02-13 Jul 2024, 46th CISM World Military Parachuting Championship. We are fortunate that Parachuting is one of the Sports included in the CISM program (International Military Sports Council) It is a huge organisation comparable to the IOC and whose motto is to enhance mutual respect, solidarity and promoting peace through its various activities. The event was an opportunity for us to continue our collaboration and to benefit from their experience. During the event an innovative live judging and display system for Style was employed, confirming its viability.
- **Prostejov, CZE**, 31 Aug-06 Sep 2024, 12th FAI Junior World Style and Accuracy Landing Championships, 38th FAI World Style and Accuracy Landing Championships, 21st FAI World Canopy Formation Championships. The DZ has organised many Championships in the past, confirming Prostejov as one of the most important Organisers for ISC in Europe. The event attracted a lot of attention on the social media, not only locally but worldwide as well.
- **Pretoria, RSA**, 22 Sep-30 Sep 2024, 10th FAI World Canopy Piloting Championships, 4th FAI World Canopy Piloting Freestyle Championships. Skydive Pretoria has organized Canopy Piloting Championships in the past, always with great success. In this occasion, despite the less than perfect weather, the event was completed with a full program.
- **Beaufort, USA**, 05-11 Oct 2024, 26th FAI World Formation Skydiving Championships, 15th FAI World Artistic Events championships, 5th FAI World Wingsuit Flying Championships, 5th FAI World Speed Skydiving Championships. This was our biggest event of the year. The unique location on the coast of North Carolina proved to be spectacular, however this also presented challenges to the ISC and the organiser. A hurricane which passed nearby affected the rhythm of the events but again, a full program was completed.

In addition, 18 Second category Events (SCE) were held all over the world, in various disciplines. The SCEs provide a unique opportunity for an organiser to hold an event without all of the associated extra costs and requirements of a FCE. It allows organisers to test their procedures and most importantly, it gives the competitors the opportunity to compete in more events and better prepare for the World Championships. SCEs are a window of opportunity for all and care must be taken to continue to promote them without causing rejection. There are many events being held all over the world and it would be good to see more of them become SCEs.

6 COMPETITIONS 2025

For the year 2025 we already have events for all the disciplines, either already approved or as a BID to be approved during the plenary. We anticipate a higher participation in most disciplines and this will allow us to reduce the Sanction fees.

7 FAI CPG CASI

The ISC President is a member of CASI (Air Sport General Commission) and a member of the Commission Presidents Group. Throughout the year, we have been actively working through

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various zoom meetings on common interest that affect all the Committees. It has been very interesting to participate and I think that we can benefit from the experience of other Commissions, and how they manage their sports.

During the year, I have contacted the FAI Secretariat on many occasions and they have always been available and very helpful. Being new, I had many questions and issues that I was ignorant of, and they were always ready to support. I must thank them all without exception, Secretary General Markus Haggene, Christine Rousson, Kamila Vokoun Hájková, Faustine Carrera, Visa-Matti Leinikki, Shivani Hasija, Caitlin Smith and Catherine Hung

Our relationship with the FAI Secretariat has been excellent and we hope it will continue.

8 FAI GENERAL CONFERENCE

In November, the 2024 FAI General Conference took place and a new FAI President was elected. Greg Principato from the USA, will serve for a two-year term. We look forward to this new leadership and we hope to continue our excellent relationship. The meeting was very intense and it was a chance for the ISC to present our sport to the NACs and more importantly to interact with the other Commission Presidents and exchange points of view and challenges that we share.

9 FINANCES

The finances are an important part of our organisation and we have been evaluating our budget during the year. Our Finance Secretary will report in more detail but the bottom line is positive. For 2025 we are going to budget for a reduction of the Sanction Fees, which the competitors pay, since we expect to continue increasing the participation, and at the same time we will also try to keep the expenditures low.

During the summer a Special Reserves Policy was presented and according with the Policy we will be able to use part of our Special Reserves in various development projects. The Committees have forwarded Budget requests and we will vote to approve them. We will have to exercise caution because these funds have been saved with great effort during many years and they must be used wisely for the benefit of our competitors. I know we will make the best decision and that the money will not be misused.

10 WORLD GAMES

As you know the World Games 2025 will take place in China and unfortunately ISC will not participate in this edition, but fortunately the Aeromodelling Commission is participating and is leaving the door open for our return. Our International Federation the FAI is present and this means that we still have a chance to return. I think I don't need to reiterate again the importance of our participation in the WG, not only for our competitors but also for our organisation, the ISC and the FAI. And I am happy to see that at the last FAI GC the German NAC presented a request for Continued support for FAI athletes to compete at World Games, which was almost unanimously approved. It is good to know that the German NAC is planning well ahead of the WG 2029 to be staged in Karlsruhe, Germany and we need to support this initiative and also start to prepare and plan for our participation.

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11 ISC COMMITTEES

According to IR 6.3 the bureau has the power to appoint the Chair and Deputy Chair of a Committee, however we consider that the application of this rule is difficult as we do not know which person or persons are the most qualified to occupy the position and I believe that the committees themselves should be the ones to carry out a generational changeover without external influences from the Bureau. Therefore, and for the moment, no changes will be made by the Bureau, but in any case, the composition of the committees including the Chair and Deputy Chair must be approved by the plenary, and during the Committees Plenary Presentation you will be requested to vote and approve each committee composition.

Thank you for your attention and feel free to contact me or ask any question any time.

Best regards

Alberto Martin Paracuellos

ISC President