

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

<i>SUBJECT:</i>	Canopy Formation Committee Report	<i>AGENDA #</i>	15
<i>AUTHOR:</i>	Pasi Pirrtikoski, Canopy Formation Committee Chair		
<i>DATE:</i>	29 November 2024	<i>PAGES:</i>	Page 1 of 3

**Canopy Formation Committee Report
For ISC Plenary February 2025**

Competitions

The 21st FAI World Canopy Formation Championships took place in Prostějov, Czech Republic at the beginning of September 2024. The interest and participation is summarised below:

Event	Preliminary Registration		Participation	
	No of NACs	No of Teams	No of NACs	No of Teams
2-way Sequential	6	9	8	12
4-way Sequential	4	5	5	7
4-way Rotation	2	3	3	4

Congratulations to the teams from Qatar, who took gold in every event. It was a pleasure to see Sweden and Poland return to the World Championships. The provisions of sending 2 teams per country also provided an opportunity for less experienced athletes to compete on the world stage and increase participant numbers.

This is the second FCE in succession at which fewer than 4 NACs registered 4-way Rotation teams. The Committee continues to believe this reflects the exclusion of athletes from Russia and Belarus. We are saddened that for political rather than sporting reasons they cannot take part in our competitions.

The numbers above don't show that one country which intended to compete in 4-way Rotations, Romania, was unable to attend after all. During 2024 there were teams from 4 active NACs training towards competing in the World Championships as well as the teams in Russia and Belarus.

Section 5 of the FAI Sporting Code provides in 4.10 that an event should be removed as a valid event "if the event has less than 4 NACs participate at two successive FCEs" (S5 4.10 (3) (b)). The Bureau is responsible for reviewing this and obtaining plenary approval for any removal as a valid event.

The Committee recognises that the Bureau is tasked with making this proposal. However, the Committee **strongly recommends that the removal is NOT approved by the plenary.**

Removing 4-way Rotations from the events at World Championships only has *negative* consequences. For athletes, Rotations is a stepping stone into the world competition scene, not requiring the more difficult wing docks. For organisers the fixed costs of hosting a competition will not change. The number of participants who contribute to these costs will just be smaller. The same applies to ISC. The same number of judges are required, whether a further 20 Sanction Fees are received or not.

The situation has arisen solely for world political reasons and a removal would be detrimental to the sport as a whole, i.e. athletes, organisers and the ISC.

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

<i>SUBJECT:</i>	Canopy Formation Committee Report	<i>AGENDA #</i>	15
<i>AUTHOR:</i>	Pasi Pirttikoski, Canopy Formation Committee Chair		
<i>DATE:</i>	29 November 2024	<i>PAGES:</i>	Page 2 of 3

Records

A World Record attempt was held at Lake Wales, FL, USA during November 2024. 128 athletes from 16 countries were invited to take part in the camp. Of these, 65 athletes attempted to build 2 formations for a sequential record. Unfortunately, no record was set. This shows that records are not easy to break.

After the record attempts the athletes did successfully build an 82-way the largest CF formation since the 100-way world record was set.

The event was a great gathering of sportspeople and the objectives of connecting through sport and making friends around the world was met.

Rule changes

At the Competitors' Meeting after the World Championships a number of rule change suggestions were made and debated amongst the athletes present. There remain requests for a mechanism for "super-speed" rounds to become more frequent. The Committee agrees with those athletes who believe it is part of the spirit of a draw for chance to decide whether such a draw arises or not.

The Committee welcomed the suggestion to introduce a record category for "highest average in a competition". This category exists already in other disciplines. This new record category aligns us to the remaining sport.

The rules around how equipment failures on exit are to be treated remains an important topic. Although some athletes favour a re-introduction of the throw-away round, others, including the Committee members would like all performances in a competition to count towards the final score. There remains a need to allow re-jumps if a competitor experiences a malfunction directly on opening. Following discussions at the Competitors' Meeting, revised wording was proposed. This was discussed with athletes at the Record attempt in November. The proposal being made by the Committee reflects this feedback.

The Committee also proposes a change to S5 rules for CF large formation records, to allow simultaneous records by different teams on the same day.

Mathematics and physics dictate that large formations in CF can only be safely built in a diamond formation which requires the number of participants to be a square number. A single stinger can be added onto the bottom of the formation.

This means that the "next size up" from a 64/65-way is an 81/82-way. In FS, after a successful 65-way record, the additional 10 athletes who trained for the record can be added to build a 75-way record. It is not possible to build a 75-way CF diamond. This means that it is impossible for those additional 10 athletes to gain recognition, unless simultaneous records are permitted and they take the place of 10 other athletes to build another 65-way.

All the rule change suggestions are included in a separate rule change document.

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

<i>SUBJECT:</i>	Canopy Formation Committee Report	<i>AGENDA #</i>	15
<i>AUTHOR:</i>	Pasi Pirittikoski, Canopy Formation Committee Chair		
<i>DATE:</i>	29 November 2024	<i>PAGES:</i>	Page 3 of 3

Judging

Following the Judges' Committee's recommendation that currency for Canopy Formation judges be on the same basis as other disciplines, the two committees are working on a mechanism for evaluations to be conducted online. That way judges not selected to judge at an FCE can remain current. This has not progressed as quickly as hoped during the jumping season. It is possible that I can provide a further update at the Plenary.

CF Committee

Current CF Committee Members

Chair: Pasi Pirittikoski (Delegate, Finland)
Deputy Chair: Tash Higman (Delegate, Germany)
Members: Rina Gallo (Delegate, Canada)
Eduardo Guillien (Argentina)
Marylou Laughlin (USA)
Alexandra Petitjean (France)
Peter Pfalzgraf (Germany)

Proposed CF Committee Members

Chair: Tash Higman (Delegate, Germany)
Deputy Chair: Pasi Pirittikoski (Delegate, Finland)
Members: Rina Gallo (Delegate, Canada)
Eduardo Guillien (Argentina)
Marylou Laughlin (USA)
Alexandra Petitjean (France)
Peter Pfalzgraf (Germany)

Pasi Pirittikoski
Chair Canopy Formation Committee