

THE ROYAL AERO CLUB

OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Coordinating Body of British Airsport Organisations

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

President: His Royal Highness The Duke of York, KG, KCVO, ADC



Radford Barn
Radford Semele
Leamington Spa
Warwickshire CV 31 1UT

Tel 01926 332713

Fax 01926 335206

email secretary@royalaeroclub.org

2 July 2007

Dear Delegates,

Proposal for amendments to the FAI annual questionnaire concerning aeronautical activities in member countries

Background

The FAI requires all member NACs to complete and submit an Annual Return, providing information on member numbers and a range of other information about activities in each country. This information is used for various purposes, including representation of air sports to external authorities and a general indication of the size of activity and membership in each country for the purposes of subscriptions and other matters.

Rationale

The experience in the UK is that it is difficult and, in some instances, impossible, to obtain the information required because of the detailed nature of it. Some of the information is collected by the subsidiary air sport organisations, who are then able to supply it at the FAI's request. However a significant proportion of the information is not collected and is unlikely, for reasons of practicality, to be available. The knowledge required to complete the form is held by individual pilots, who are under no obligation to inform the NAC or their immediate air sport governing body of the extent of their activities.

The difficulty of completing the forms in full tends to result in subsidiary organisations failing to complete any part of the form except after numerous reminders – which increases the administrative burden on the NAC.

Proposal

It is therefore proposed that the forms be reviewed and redrafted so that only information that is truly necessary and useful is requested. In order to decide what should be included, it is suggested that a mechanism be adopted of checking

- (1) whether the NACs have in general been able to supply the information and
- (2) whether any use has been made of the information during the year.

As a starting point for discussion purposes, it is suggested that the items listed in the Annex to this Proposal should be strongly considered for removal from future questionnaires.

British Aerobatic Association
British Balloon and Airship Club
British Gliding Association
British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association

British Microlight Aircraft Association
British Model Flying Association
British Parachute Association
British Precision Pilots Association

Formula Air Racing Association
Helicopter Club of Great Britain
Popular Flying Association
RAeC Records, Racing and Rally Association



Member of the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale

Royal Aero Club Limited, A company limited by guarantee. Registered in England No. 1093859
Registered Office: Kimberley House, Vaughan Way, Leicester LE1 4SE

Member of Europe Airsports



Annex

Proposed Items for removal from Annual Questionnaires

Ballooning

Number of hours

Number of flights

Aerobatics

Number of participating aircraft

Hang Gliding and Paragliding

Number of flights

Number of competitors at national level events (i.e. those not requiring an FAI Sporting Licence)

All disciplines

Breakdown of ages and gender

Number of flights and Number of hours stated by several disciplines are clearly only a guess.