

Continental Records Proposal

1. Introduction

Only one other Air Sport Commission (the IPC) currently has rules for continental records; the others (including CIVL) have just world and national records with the FAI only handling homologation of world records. However it is understood that, like CIVL, the IGC is considering introducing them.

The FAI Secretariat is prepared to handle this extra workload - although concern has been expressed that we do not make it complicated or retrospective.

2. Proposal

It is proposed that Continental Records be introduced as a means of providing FAI acknowledgement of the very best of hang glider and paraglider pilots' achievements when flying in their own continent. To achieve this rules outlined below will be incorporated into Section 7D (Records and Badges) of the FAI Sporting Code. The actual rules proposed are in bold typeface and any explanatory comments are shown in italic font.

- a. **Record homologation is to be carried out by the FAI Secretariat** - *CIVL does not have the authority or resources to manage this.*
- b. **The time limits, process and proofs required for record claims shall be the same as is currently the case for World Records** - *this will avoid unnecessary complication for pilot, NAC and the FAI Secretariat.*
- c. **Fees should be set by the FAI Secretariat in line with those currently charged for world records.**
- d. **Continental Records shall be available for the same categories and types of flight performance as currently exist for world records.**
- e. **The appeals process for dealing with record disputes should be the same as for World Records** - *i.e. through the NAC to CASI.*
- f. **Only pilots who have an FAI Sporting Licence issued by a nation which is a part of a particular continental region may set a Continental Record for that continental region** - *this is in line with the rule introduced by the IPC and it is considered appropriate for CIVL to do the same. We all know that some continents are stronger than others in particular disciplines and to decide otherwise might encourage "record tourism" rather than encouraging native pilots to aim for their own continental records.*
- g. **Continental Records may only be claimed for flights which start within the continental region for which the record is claimed and the majority of the flight is made within that continental region** - *this is in line with the IPC and with IGC proposals.*
- h. **Continental Records shall only be permitted for the continental regions specified in the General Section 3.5.4 (3.5.4.1 through to 3.5.4.6)** - *this is also in line with IPC rules.*
- i. **Claims for Continental Records may not be made retrospectively for flights made prior to the authorisation of such records by the CIVL Plenary. The first date on which continental records may be set is 1st May 2009** - *this was also the IPC decision made on the basis that Continental Records did not exist before the date on which the plenary authorised them and cannot therefore have been set previously. There is no capacity in the FAI Secretariat to*

re-examine previously homologated records to see if they would also have met the specified criteria for Continental Records.

- j. **The claim process for Continental Records shall be the same as the current procedure for claiming World Records** – *i.e. Continental Records must be claimed by the pilot concerned, through the appropriate NAC, and that there is no obligation on the Secretariat to check each new World Record to see whether the flight performance also qualifies for a Continental Record.*
- k. **The FAI should be asked to produce Continental Record Diplomas in similar format and style to those currently awarded for World Records** - *This follows the principle of keeping things simple and also avoids any branding issues as the FAI corporate image is already used.*
- l. **Minimum flight performance for the initial continental record in any category or type shall be:**
 - i. Where a world record has been previously homologated in any continental region by a pilot from that region the minimum flight performance for any subsequent record must exceed that of the previously homologated world record.
 - ii. Above the flight performance level of any existing national record set in a continent before the introduction of continental records. In order to establish this baseline NACs are requested to submit details to record@fai.org by 1st April 2009 of national records established in their own continent.
 - iii. Where no performance is recorded for a given record category and type, the CIVL Bureau may set a minimum level.