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2011 Style and Accuracy Report

The most important event in 2010 for our committee was the 31st and 5th Junior WPC in Montenegro. I have to admit that when I first visited the proposed WPC site in September 2009 I was very apprehensive. I found what appeared to be a disused grass strip airfield, an old hangar and a couple of outbuildings in need of total refurbishment and hardly anyone with any parachuting experience.

The transformation on my return was phenomenal; the organisers had fulfilled all their promises to me. A brand new tarmac runway had been installed, the hangar and outbuildings renovated and a cafe bar erected.

Despite the bad weather during the competition we did manage to complete all the style jumps and seven rounds of accuracy in everything but junior female. Unfortunately, because of the decision to complete the seventh round and a number of tie-break jumps the closing ceremony and prize-giving was delayed while we waited for the official results but overall this was a successful competition.

Media coverage is a priority at WPC's and this was covered for FAI in Montenegro by 'Flying Aces', an international media promotions company as well as other national broadcasting companies.

During 2009, Bob King of the UK developed a computer programme for accuracy scoring to produce instant results. In addition to the competitor's score being displayed as they landed, the public would see the competitor's ranking during their approach to the target so they would see what score was needed to move ahead, or fall behind, etc. I'm sad to say that I've never seen this programme in use but for the future, in my opinion, this programme or something similar, must be used at Category One Style and Accuracy events to increase spectator appeal.

The committee have been working on updating the IPC document 'standards for a scoring system' and we aim to finalise this document at the 2011 IPC meeting.

Future Competitions

The 6th European and 3rd Junior European Championships will take place in Kikinda, Serbia during the period 18 – 28 August 2011. There are bids on the table for a Mondial to include the 32nd WPC and these will be presented at the 2011 IPC Meeting. Bosnia has also shown some interest in hosting a future competition.

I would like to thank the committee for their support and work in 2010.

John Hitchen
IPC Style and Accuracy Chairman
3 November 2010