

Subject:	Canopy Piloting Annual Report 2003			Annex:	23
Author(s):	Thomas Tuominen			Agenda ref.:	
Authors representing:	Chair, CP Working Group			Doc. nr:	1
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INTERNATIONAL PARACHUTE COMMISSION

CANOPY PILOTING TEMPORARY WORKING GROUP

Annual Report – 2003

After the Plenary in Fortaleza the Working Group worked actively to make some critical corrections to the approved rules. The corrections involved mainly safety and Section 5 related issues. This work was finally finished and corrected rules were published at the IPC website. The next attention was on the coming World Cup in Perris Valley, California.

The 1st WC in Perris

The IPC Go Fast World Cup of Canopy Piloting was held in Parris Valley, California, USA Sept. 24th – Sept. 28th 2003. The judges started with a Judges training course, which was necessary since the judging of this 1st event involved judges from both the IPC and the ProSwoop tour. The event itself was very well organized and showed that the organizers had the required routine to organize an event of this magnitude as they promised at the plenary in Brazil. Perris Valley proved to be a functional setting for the competition with good and plentiful facilities and a nearly perfect, big pond to run the competition at. The competitors and spectators were well taken care of by good ledgers, packing tents and a speaker who knew the sport well.

The competition started with the qualification rounds; 51 competitors qualified for Ultra class and 7 for Standard.

The weather in Perris proved to be windy starting noon, which was well taken in consideration in the planning. All competition days started early when the winds were low. The winds grew strong during the day, so the competition was held on wind holds and continued in the evenings. The organizer was strict in safety issues especially concerning winds and the rounds were all jumped in only moderate winds. The safety issues at an event like this were well taken in consideration by the organizer, and the competition ran very safely. The final event, Accuracy, which went off on Saturday proved to be a real highlight of a new and spectacular spectator event.

The final rounds were finished at noon and were followed by an open discussion forum for the competitors about possible changes and adjustments to the rules for the next IPC meeting in Portugal. It was very pleasing to see how interested the competitors were in the work, over 30 competitors were present at the meeting, which was limited to 1,5 hours due to the continuing of judging. The working group members and the other IPC representatives present received very valuable comments from the competitors to add to their own findings on how to adjust the rules. US competitor Christopher Ian Bobo was interested in working with the working group on the rules and was welcomed to join in.

The competition finished with the prize giving ceremonies later on Saturday evening at a banquet organized by the pool at the Perris Valley Skydiving Dropzone.

IPC Judging Committee deputy chairman Barry McAuley organized a Section 5 and General section test for the judges present in preparation for developing future IPC Canopy Piloting judges.

The working group members and the IPC Controller Dr. Exi Hoenle were all pleased with the way the World Cup was organized, managed and run by the organization and the meet director, Scott Smith.

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After the competition the working group continues with the work on the rules.

Since present at the competition, and actively involved there, the chair of the Working Group asked, and was granted the help of Richard "Buzz" Bennett, Rainer "Exi" Hoenle, Marylou Laughlin, Barry McAuley and Silvia Wagner in making the adjustments and standardizations to the rules. The CR will be finished after the Open and Closed sessions at the next IPC meeting in Lisbon.

I want to thank the members and advisors in the Canopy Piloting working group who worked actively with this new and spectacular event during the year.

Members: Graeme Windsor
Liam McNulty
Knut M. Ekerhovd
Doris Merz-Hunziker

Advisors: Marylou Laughlin
Scott Smith
Lyle Presse
Jim Slaton

I would also like to thank the judges at the 1st WC of canopy piloting and Richard Bennett, Exi Hoenle, Marylou Laughlin, Barry McAuley and Silvia Wagner for their invaluable efforts and help with Canopy Piloting rules.

Thomas Tuominen
Chairman
CP temporary working group

Helsinki
10th November 2003