

## **Minutes of AX Working Group Meeting**

15<sup>th</sup> March 2017, Hong Kong

### **1. Roll call**

Uwe Schneider	GER	Delegate, Chairman
Mathijs de Bruijn	NED	alt. Delegate
Claude Weber	LUX	Delegate
David Bareford	GBR	alt. Delegate
Maury Sullivan	USA	Expert

#### **Observers:**

Erwin Pellegrom NED, Sanne Haarhuis NED, Bengt Stener SWE, Marc Andre SUI, Yury Mityagin RUS, Sam Parks, USA, Andy Baird USA, Gerald Sturzlinger AUT, Hiromori Soejima JPN, Hiromi Furukawa JPN, Tom Dragan Miklousic CRO, Steve Ireland AUS, Debbie Spaeth USA, Markus Kalousdian BRA, Branco Ambrosic SLO, Eun\_Young Roh, KOR

### **2. Check of 2017 rules for Cat 1 events**

#### **20<sup>th</sup> FAI Europeans Hot Air Balloon Championship 2017, Brissac, France**

Rules received, Section II incomplete

#### **4<sup>th</sup> FAI Women's Europeans Hot Air Balloon Championship 2017 - Lezno, Poland**

No rules received

#### **Proposal:**

Rules with the adaptations to AXMER2017 will be checked by AX-WG and proposed to RSC for final approval. Bureau delegates power to approve the rules to RSC.

### **3. AXMER Review**

The following rules changes and definitions have been worked out and are proposed to the plenary:

- proposed cancellation of the tasks of a flight if less than 50% of the competitors take off

## **8.2 VALID TASK (S1 5.9.1)**

8.2.1 A VALID TASK IS DEFINED AS ONE IN WHICH ALL ENTERED COMPETITORS WERE GIVEN A FAIR OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A VALID TAKE-OFF, UNLESS THEY HAD WITHDRAWN OR HAD BEEN DISQUALIFIED.

8.2.2 The Director has the authority to cancel a task(s) for safety reasons at any time before the official status task scores are published.

### **8.2.3 Tasks are not valid if less than 50% of the competitors take off.**

- proposed setting of a default minimum distance from ILP to targets:

## **8.8 TASK DATA**

8.8.1 At task briefings the task data, preferably in writing, shall be given to competitors. They shall contain flight data related to all tasks and individual task data.

8.8.2 Flight data:

- a. date
- b. official sunrise/sunset
- c. PZs in force
- d. launch area
- e. minimum distance from ILP to all goals/targets set by the director (if applicable)
- f. launch period
- g. provisional time and place of next briefing
- h. solo flight (if directed)
- i. search period
- j. QNH (if needed for logger scoring)

~~8.4.7 If not otherwise stated in the Task Data, the minimum distance from the launch point to a goal/target applies as well to all other goals/targets set by the Director on that flight.~~

## **15.4 FLY IN (FIN)**

15.4.2 Task data:

- a. position of set goal/target
- ~~b. minimum and maximum distances from ILP to the goal/target.~~

- proposed change of ground contact penalty from competition to task points

## **11.4 GROUND CONTACT 1**

After passing over the boundary of any launch area, no part of the balloon or anything attached to it may make contact with the ground or water surface or

anything resting on or attached to the ground, until the last task has been completed. Penalty for each contact is 100 ~~competition task~~ points if light or 200 ~~competition task~~ points if solid. Note: A contact is solid if, as a result, a change of motion of the basket or the envelope is observed.

#### 11.5 GROUND CONTACT 2

No part of the balloon or anything attached to it may make contact with the ground or water surface or anything resting on or attached to the ground (marker excepted), within the Marker Measuring Area, if set, or within 200 meters of any goal/target set by the Director or selected by the competitor. Penalty for each contact is 100 ~~competition task~~ points if light or 500-~~competition task~~ points if solid. The penalty is applied to the task of the goal/target involved. Note: A contact is solid if, as a result, a change of motion of the basket or the envelope is observed.

- proposed wording alteration for additional medals

#### 1.2 DEFINITION OF A CHAMPION (S1 5.8)

1.2.1 THE WINNING COMPETITOR SHALL BE THE COMPETITOR WITH THE HIGHEST AGGREGATE SCORE AT THE END OF THE EVENT.

1.2.2 The winning nation shall be the NAC with the best Nation Score at the end of the event.

#### 14.9 NATION SCORES

14.9.1 Nations will be ranked according to the average score of all competitors of a NAC.

14.9.2 The minimum number of competitors in the Nation Score is 2.

S1 WG encouraged to change the wording of 5.8.2 or add a new paragraph dealing with Nation Scoring.

5.8.2 Team competition may be allowed upon decision by the CIA for each event as it does not fit 100% to Nation Scoring.

#### **Motion:**

Medals and diplomas to be awarded to the top NAC competitors and a diploma for the winning NACs in Nation Ranking in WAG, World- and Continental Championships.

#### **Motion:**

Medals and diplomas to be created for Nation Ranking in WAG, World- and Continental Championships.

**Motion:** that the **AXMER** are approved as presented

#### **4. Input of other WG and SC or plenary**

none

#### **5. Business 2016/2017**

- Adapt AXMER to the new sporting code
- Together with S&SC WG to study new SC GS for “director”.  
S1 WG encouraged to find a wording to reflect the topic that in some countries the responsible for the entire event cannot be the same person responsible for the competition.  
e.g. The Event director may delegate the competition part to a competition director. In this case the “Director” in the MER relates to competition director. (after that rewording of AXMER 4.1.3)
- Investigate deleting copies from GS and S1, where not needed  
no deletions proposed
- Investigate ban of balloons with cylinders outside the basket  
Safety Officer should publish rules on safe balloon (sharp edges on the basket, camera attachment outside of the basket, inflation cylinders in the basket, gas hoses covered and strapped, etc.) before the general briefing, so pilots can come with prepared equipment. Pilots are encouraged to read the appendix 3 in the safety handbook.  
Pilots may be penalized for not complying with the Safety Officers instructions under 2.11 Responsibility or 13.2 Unspecified Penalty.
- Ability for the director to use alternate maximum points achievable in a task (together with ScWG) -> no rules change, if weather is not competitive: award prize money, set a task which is unachievable, so all flying pilots get the same score.
- "additional medals" in WAG  
(Nation Score as rules proposal, Proposals: Winners of multitask flights (3 tasks or

more), best dropper of physical markers

## 6. Recommendation to other WG and SC

**S1 WG encouraged to change the wording of 5.8.2 or add a new paragraph dealing with Nation Scoring.**

5.8.2 Team competition may be allowed upon decision by the CIA for each event as it does not fit 100% to Nation Scoring.

## 7. Business for 2017/2018

- Severity of time penalty to be discussed during next year. (100 TP per minute)

### Summary of Motions to the plenary:

#### **Motion:**

Medals and diplomas to be awarded to the top NAC competitors and a diploma for the winning NACs in Nation Ranking in WAG, World- and Continental Championships.

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### Proposed 2017/2018 Working Group Members and Chairperson

Uwe Schneider	GER	Delegate, Chairman
Claude Weber	LUX	Delegate
David Bareford	GBR	alt. Delegate
Maury Sullivan	USA	Expert
Sanne Haarhuis	NED	Delegate