



FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

BALLOONING COMMISSION CIA
COMMISSION D'AEROSTATION

CIA Conference

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil 22-23 March 2013

Statutes, By-Laws and Sporting Code WG Minutes

Chairman Mark Sullivan (USA)

Members: JC Weber (LUX)
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Roll call: Mark Sullivan, JC Weber, Hans Akerstedt, Lindsay Muir, Hiropon Soejima

Summary of Recommendations:

1. Procedures for Championship entrants who fail to appear

Present wording:

5.6.6 Procedures for Championship entrants who fail to appear

- 5.6.6.1 An entrant who fails to appear at an FAI Category 1 event is defined as an entrant who, without giving valid reason (force majeure, illness, death) before the start of the General Briefing, is absent at the time of the roll call of the General Briefing of the event. An absent entrant shall be qualified "No-Show" only by decision of the event director confirmed by the International Jury.

New proposed wording:

- 5.6.6.1 An entrant who fails to appear at an FAI World Air Games, World or Continental Regional Championship events defined as an entrant who is absent at the time of the roll call of the General Briefing of the event, without giving valid reason of force majeure (see note) before the time limits stated in 5.6.2.2, and has not been replaced by another competitor from the same NAC. An absent entrant shall be qualified "No-Show" only by decision of the International Jury.**

Note: The event proposed as force majeure must pass three tests:

1. **Externality:** The entrant must have nothing to do with the event's happening
2. **Unpredictability:** If the event could have been foreseen, the entrant is obligated to have prepared for it. Being unprepared for a predictable event leaves the entrant responsible. Lack of resources (equipment, finances, crew, and time) is a typical example of things that can be prepared against, and cannot therefore constitute a valid reason.

3. **Unpreventable:** *The consequences of the event must have been unpreventable (illness is only acceptable if the entrant can prove that his physical condition would have prevented him to exercise his pilot licence privileges during the event).*

Present wording:

- 5.6.6.2 After the roll call of the General Briefing and before publication of the official final entry list, the event director shall present any no-show qualification decision to the Jury President. The event Jury must consider all available information before confirming the event director's decision. The Jury's confirmation must be recorded in a written document to be published on the official notice board and forwarded by the event director to the NAC concerned without delay.

New proposed wording:

- 5.6.6.2. After the roll-call of the General Briefing and before publication of the official final entry list, the event director shall inform the Jury President of any entrant absent at the time of the roll call of the General Briefing of the event. The Jury must consider all available case-relevant information before qualifying an entrant as a "No-Show". The Jury's decision must be recorded in a written declaration to be published on the official notice board. A "No-Show" decision must be forwarded by the event director to the NAC concerned without delay.**

Present wording:

- 5.6.6.3 A no-show entrant shall be prominently mentioned as such on the official entry list published after the General Briefing. He shall not be qualified as a competitor and shall not be considered in the ranking calculations.

New proposed wording:

- 5.6.6.3 A no-show entrant shall be prominently mentioned as such on the official entry list published after the General Briefing, **or in case of a declared "No-Show", after the Jury's decision.** He shall not be qualified as a competitor and shall not be considered in the ranking calculations.

Present wording unchanged:

- 5.6.6.4 A no-show entrant shall be disqualified from participating in any FAI Category 1 event for the rest of that year and an additional period of two calendar years. For the next event of the same type, a no-show's NAC will have its entitlement to entries reduced by the number of its no-shows in the previous event.

2. Proposal to allow selective voting

When voting on a matter that is of interest only to a specific continental region or a specific sub-class of aerostat, the outcome may depend on votes from delegates who actually have no interest in the matter. It does not help to ask delegates from other regions to abstain as we may not reach a majority.

Motion: The wording proposed below to be put in the Internal Regulations

When voting on a matter concerning only one Continental Region or a specific sub-class of aerostats, a preliminary voting round shall be performed where only delegates from the Continental Region concerned, or those who have declared being active in the

concerned sub-class, shall participate.

The result of the preliminary voting round shall thereafter be confirmed by a final voting where all have the right to vote provided that they have voting rights according to BY-LAWS article 3.3.

Note: There is no rule in the FAI Statutes or the FAI By-Laws preventing the proposed procedure.

3. Review of the role of the Event Director

On a suggestion from the Jury Board (March 2011) it was agreed that the Statutes, By-Laws & Sporting Code Working Group would write an educational review of the role of the Event Director and the extent to which he can be expected to be in "overall operational charge" of an event.

It is proposed that the document prepared by WG member Lindsay Muir and approved by the WG, on the role of the Event Director (attached to this report) be discussed in the Rules Sub Committee for possible inclusion the the COH. *Rules Sub-commettee will review this document for possible conflicts with other rules and bring to the 2014 Plearray*

4. To Do List for 2013

Proposal by Hans Akerstedt to develop a new rule in S1 5.6.6 to change the deadlines for the No-Show declarations in order to allow organisers to invite replacement entrants if the concerned NAC does not wish to replace the absent entrant.

5.

There was a suggestion at the 2012 CIA Conference that we should consider offering places to the medal winners of the youth and women's championship to compete in the World and Continental Championship. I agreed to look at this suggestion and come up with a proposal but I have to point out that as the current Women's European Hot Air Balloon Champion my views on this subject may be considered by some as being biased.

Ballooning is one of the very few sports where men and women's can compete against each other on equal terms however currently women only represent only 1-5% of the total number of competitors in a world championship and the percentage of youth competing may be lower still. Like many people I was completely against the introduction of a women's only event however, having been persuaded to compete in the first women's European Championship my viewpoint has completely changed having realized how important this event was to the other competitors. Both the number and quality of the competitors increased at the second Women's European championship in 2012 and hopefully this trend will continue over the next few years.

As to the Youth Championship it appears to be following a similar path to the women's event, i.e. sub-optimal support in the first year but further events may see increased support and enthusiasm

Having had a lot of discussion with people it appears that the criticisms over awarding places to medal winners of the youth and women's in the next Continental or World Championship are varied. Some ask why isn't there a men's only event, others suggest that we should favour the youth but not the women, some suggest that awarding automatic places to the Youth or Women in the equivalent open events degrades that event etc.

For every reason not to award an automatic place to the champion of a Youth or Women's event to compete the next equivalent open event there yes an equally good reason why we should award them a place. Reasons for doing so include the following:

- a) We suggest that only the champion from a Women' or Youth event be offered a place to compete. This means that ONLY 2 additional places are required.
- b) Encouragement of the Youth and Women in International Sporting Events is actively promoted but a number of organisations including the IOC and the FAI.
- c) It gives the Youth and Women something to aspire to.
- d) It gives the opportunity to compete in a high quality events that might normally have taken them years to achieve.
- d) It is good publicity for the sport

We propose that the champion pilot from the Women's and the Youth event be given an automatic place to compete in the next equivalent open event and that Section 1 of the Sporting Code be modified as follows (modification is shown in italics).

Motion: Add rule 5.6.1.2.2

5.6 INVITATION AND ENTRY PROCEDURES FOR WORLD- AND CONTINENTAL REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

5.6.1 INITIAL INVITATION

5.6.1.1 The organising NAC must issue initial invitations to participate to all eligible NACs. Copies of all invitations must be sent to the respective National Balloon Federations and CIA delegates, where these exist, for information.

5.6.1.2 The organising NAC shall issue an invitation for an equal number of at least two competitors to each eligible NAC. The current championship medal holders (top 3), if any, shall be invited in addition through their NACs.

5.6.1.2.1 The current champion (1st place) of the Women's and Youth World or Continental Championship, if any, shall be invited to the next equivalent world or continental general event.

2013/2014 WG members and Chairperson

Chairman: Mark Sullivan (USA)
Members: JC Weber (LUX)
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Hiropon Soejima (JPN)
Lindsay Muir (GER))

Attachment: Review of the role of the Event Director

On a suggestion from the Jury Board (March 2011) it was agreed that the Rules Working Group would write an educational review of role of the Event Director and the extent to which he can be expected to be in “overall operational charge” of an event.

Various documents (Sporting codes, Internal Regulations, UMRs, Competition Operations Handbook etc.) were reviewed to obtain an overall picture of the role and definition of the “Event Director” within competition ballooning.

Having reviewed all the available documents the most important statements from the General Section of the Sporting Code are as follows:

OPERATIONAL OFFICIALS. *The NAC hosting a First Category Event shall appoint an Event Director, a Public Relations Officer (PRO), and any other technical personnel or functionaries as per the requirements of the Air Sport concerned. [GS 4.3.4]*

The Event Director shall be in overall operational charge of the event. He shall have a Deputy Director and Technical Officials to assist him. The Event Director and Deputy shall be approved by the relevant FAI Air Sport Commission. [GS 4.3.4.1.1]

The Event Director is responsible for good management and the smooth and safe running of the event. He shall make operational decisions in accordance with the rules of the Sporting Code and competition rules. He can penalise or disqualify a competitor for misconduct or infringement of the rules. He shall attend meetings of the Jury and give evidence if requested. [GS 4.3.4.1.2]

He shall publish the officially accepted entry list prior to the start of the event, issue daily results and the article on the event from the event Public Relations Officer, and send the final entry list, full results and details of protests to his NAC and to the FAI within the specified time limits. [GS 4.3.4.1.3]

These GS rules clearly show that the Event Director is responsible for **all** sports related matters, and that he must make sure that the event is organised and run in accordance with the FAI and CIA standards. The Event Director is appointed by the event organiser, (which for FAI purposes is the local NAC and NOT the local organising body). He must be reasonably qualified and has to be approved by the CIA. The Event Director is approved when the event is sanctioned which is 2 years before the event is staged.

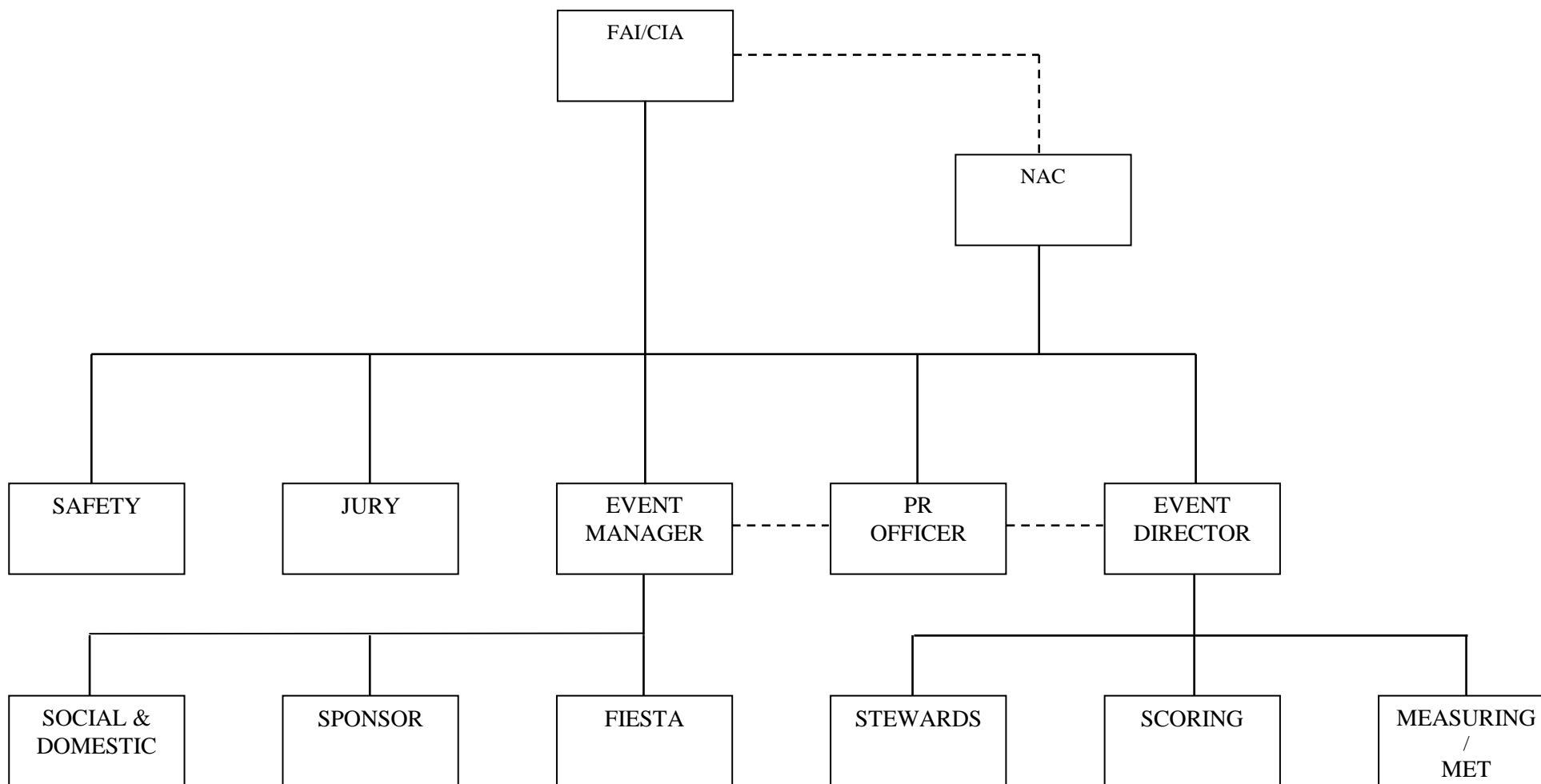
The event organiser may appoint an Event “Manager” or “President” to be responsible for other aspects of the event such as Sponsors, any Fiesta event and social and domestic aspects, but most importantly his role is to make sure that the Event Director has all the means and resources that he requires to organise a successful sporting event in accordance with the FAI and CIA rules.

The Event Director and the Event Manager / President are both under the responsibility of the event organiser. The CIA has the power to withdraw the approval of the CIA approved persons, and the event sanction. However the CIA cannot change personnel appointed or approved exclusively by the NAC/organiser.

The Event Director’s “mission” officially starts as soon as he is approved by the CIA. However, the Event Director should be involved in many aspects of the bid preparation and therefore needs to be appointed by the organisers many months before the bid is required to be delivered. It is good practice that the proposed Event Director should also be involved in any test events at the proposed venues, so as to get familiar with the terrain and metrological conditions.

The Event Director’s position within the organisation of the event can be seen in the chart below.

ORGANISATION CHART



Event Director Responsibilities

Typical tasks required of the Event Director prior to the bid submission are:

Advise the organiser on:

- Suitability of location / venue.
- Number of competition officials required, dependant on type of event (observer or logger), maximum number competitors.
- Nominating the CIA approved officials. – Deputy Director, 6 Jury members, Stewards and Safety Officer.
- Nominating other senior officials. – Chief Scorer, Chief Observer (if required), Chief Debriefing
- Program / briefings. – How many and where.
- Invitation process. – Closing entry date, how many invitation rounds.
- Equipment requirements. – Targets, Flags, Markers, Measuring tapes / EDM, Photocopiers. Stationary.

Note: The Event Director and Deputy Event Director, will be approved at the CIA Plenary meeting sanctioning the event. The Safety Officer, Jury President and Jury Members will be appointed by the CIA at the CIA Plenary meeting prior to the event.

Typical tasks required of the Event Director prior to the event are:

- Rules publication: Submission to CIA for approval 60 days before CIA meeting in the year of the event.
- Distribution of the approved rules to competitors and officials at least 90 days prior to the General Briefing
- Invitation process: NAC invitations, First Round invitations, Second Round invitations
- Deadlines: Ensuring CIA deadlines are met. Closing Entry date (First Round), Final entry date 45 / 60 days before General Briefing. Reserve list updates and application.
- Pilot information: Website open, Map files, Goal list (if required), PZ list, Safety information, Airspace information.
- Registration process: Pre-check in with required documents. Final check in and documentation checks.
- Safety issues: Local hazards. Propane and refuelling instructions in conjunction with the Safety Officer. Emergency plan.
- Competition planning: Goals / targets, Out of Bounds, Competition area
- Location: Competition Centre, Launch fields, refuelling
- Venue:

- Event personnel: All additional personnel not listed in sanction application. Chief Meteorological Officer, Chief Measuring Officer, Chief Logger Handler, Chief Launchmaster etc. (Including all team members).

Typical Event Director tasks during the event are:

- Ensure all equipment is available and functioning
- Ensure re-imbursement of travel expenses is available for all officials and Jury Members.
- Meeting with Jury to confirm check list items.
- Officials meeting. – Introductions and welcome.
- General briefing arrangements.
- Declaring any No-Show entrants to the Jury and confirming action required, publishing Official Entry List.
- Assessing the metrological conditions with the weather chief
- Task setting.
- Task briefings
- Supplementary briefings.
- Launching decisions. – In conjunction with Safety Officer and Metrological chief.
- Liaising with senior officials. - monitor workloads, scoring backlogs, safety issues.
- Liaising with Event Manager – To ensure the organiser, sponsors and public are kept informed of what is happening
- Publishing results. – In conjunction with Chief Scorer so as to understand / confirm penalties.
- Ensuring all FAI/CIA Protocols are adhered to. - Opening/ Closing Ceremony, flags etc.

Note: The Event Director would be expected to be present onsite at least 5 days prior to the General Briefing. All Senior Officials should be present 3 days before the General Briefing. All other staff including the Jury should be present 24 hours before the General Briefing.

Typical Event Director tasks after the event are:

- Ensuring Final Results and Public Relations Officer report is delivered to FAI within 8 days of the Closing Ceremony.

Additional Notes:

- It is recommended that the term “Competition Director” should not be used.
- The same person should not be nominated as Event Director for 2 opposing bids to host a championship.