



Notes from IGC Bureau meeting, Saturday 12th October and Sunday 13th October 2024

In EASA premises, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, Cologne, Germany

Participants

- Peter Eriksen, president (PE)
- Rick Sheppe, 1st vice-president (RS)
- Frouwke Kuijpers, vice-president (FK)
- Angel Casado, vice-president (AC)
- Mandy Temple, vice-president (MT)
- Christof Geissler, vice president, (CG)
- Brian Spreckley, vice-president (BS)
- Patrick Pauwels, treasurer (PP)
- Vladimir Foltin, secretary (VF)

1. Welcome

The President welcomed the members of the Bureau to the meeting and thanked EASA for providing the IGC with meeting facilities.

2. Bureau Action List

The list has been updated and the vast majority of the actions have been completed.

3. Finance

a. Status 2024

PP provided an update on the state of finances in 2024. There were no unexpected expenses or income. The cost of the WGC in Uvalde is still being finalised as some costs were not known until after the event.

Action – PP to contact the WGC 2024 organisers to request an invoice for accommodation costs for officials.

Post meeting note: Action is now closed; the invoice was received.

b. Draft budget 2025 and 2026

The draft budget has been submitted to the FAI in advance of the FAI GC, in accordance with the budget that was adopted by the 2024 IGC Plenary meeting.

The Bureau discussed the development of IGC reserves and ways to ensure long-term financial sustainability, including central functions at the FAI.

It was agreed that expenses related to Sanctioned Championships should be covered by participants, but that IGC should manage several other things in IGC that should be paid for by members. IGC Bureau will work towards a change of this system.

4. Championship Management



- Actions from Steward and Jury reports

Action - PE to take the lead in exploring the possibility of a more objective penalty system including possible carry over to future events, introduction of a safety marker and remote PAT analysis. These ideas will be forwarded to the Safety Project for further consideration.

Action: MT to ask the Chief Steward of the 2024 JWGC to communicate the concerns raised at the event to the future organisers with a view to improving the quality and safety of the events.

Action: AC and VF to draft the Bureau's proposal for a mandatory traffic warning device for all towing aircraft used at the Championships.

Action: AC to prepare a draft Bureau's proposal to make an external antenna mandatory on gliders for IGC tracking purposes.

- Definition and Junior pilots/date of birth of juniors

Action: MT to prepare a draft Bureau proposal to change the junior pilot birthday period with a changeover date of 31 March instead of the current 31 December.

- Request for 2x20-meter entries per NAC at the 2025 EGC in Hungary

The Bureau noted that this request has already been approved by the Bureau.

- Bids received for all the championships for the 2025 Plenary

Action: Action: MT to contact 2025 bidders for the Championships and offer conflicting bid dates with new options.

- Certification of Championship Sporting Directors

The Bureau made the following comments: Task setting should be covered in the safety section, competition structure and communication (national vs international) in the stewards' section, Annex A should cover options allowed by the Sporting Code or use of Sporting Director judgement.

The Bureau **decided** to hold first round of Championship Management Training will take place in Jan-Feb, the second round in March, with the date of the latter to be announced at the 2025 Plenary.

The training will be open to stewards, jurors and directors of IGC Championships as well as other interested championship managers (primarily those managing international competitions).

Action: PE, RS, FK, MT to prepare the content of the training for their respective parts (PE - Sporting Code - General Section, RS - Annex A, FK - Stewards and related topics, MT - Local Procedures and Organisers Agreement).

- Implementation of Official E-notice board

Decision – The Bureau decided to write a common procedure to allow the use of the online official notice board at IGC Championships.

Action: RS to draft the procedure to allow to allow the use of the online official notice board at IGC Championships.

- Compensation of Official's cost.



Recently, there have been some doubts about the reimbursement of stewards' expenses.

Action: MT to clarify in the Championship Timeline document the local logistics requirements and costs for officials and the need to transport Championship trophies to the venue well in advance of the event (see item 9.a).

- How to ensure that gliding championships become more visible on the FAI channels.

Action: Action: BS to make a proposal to the Bureau for communication about IGC Cat 1 events.

5. Update from Annex A

RS referred to a written report circulated prior to the meeting.

The Bureau **decided** to draft a proposal to remove the Energy Control at Start (SC3A 7.4.3.5) procedure from Annex A.

Action: RS to draft a proposal to delete the procedure for energy control at start (SC3A 7.4.3.5).

Airspace Format Report - The Bureau did not discuss the report due to the short time available to study this complex issue. However, the report presented goes beyond what was expected by the Bureau. The terms of reference for this task need to be reformulated.

6. Sporting Code Annex B

- Simplified means of calibration of flight recorders

GFAC proposal - The Bureau can support the approach outlined in the report in principle but recommends improving the current wording which may lead to unintended outcomes. At the request of GFAC, AC has implemented a calibration SW developed by one of the GFAC members which is ready to be made available on the FAI server.

Action: PE to inform GFAC of the Bureau's detailed feedback to be used in finalising the proposal for the IGC Plenary.

The Bureau discussed the future of flight recording and the need to investigate new solutions and technologies. A short report on this issue will be presented to the next IGC Plenary.

The Bureau **decided** to establish a new Working Group on Future Flight Recording and appointed AC as its Chair.

7. Proximity Analysis Tool - Uvalde Status and Lessons Learned

The tool was successfully used in 11 competitions in 2024 (including WGC and EGC). There were some problems with the results website (due to very high interest) or minor problems with passwords (user accounts with own profile are now implemented). These were quickly resolved. Work continues in the following areas:

- Encounters to be grouped by level of danger (traffic light system) - analysis to be done by trained experts
- Team flights to be filtered (incl. from different teams)
- Radius of encounter bubble to depend on relative velocities



- Discussion with OSTIV - Master thesis on the topic in progress
- Self-contained version for local testing.
- Data anonymisation is required before any distribution of results.
- Further rounds of PAT seminars to be organised in 2024 - 2025.

IGC would like to thank Angel Casado and John Wharington for their great contribution and dedication to this project as volunteers.

8. Definition of “Glider” in the Sporting code

PE updated the Bureau on the status of this discussion. OSTIV is expected to make an interim report on this at the Plenary, but finalisation of the work may take longer. PE will discuss the matter with the OSTIV President at the FAI General Conference.

9. Challenge Cups process

a. How to assure Cups are present at championships

The Bureau took note of the situation at the 2024 Championships. There is an action recorded under agenda item 4.

b. Process for the IGC Champion Pilot of the Year

The Bureau **decided** to investigate the creation of a smaller version of the trophy, which would be easier to transport and could be kept by the winning pilots. The aim is to bring the award ceremony back to the plenary session of the IGC, as this would be the optimum solution in terms of logistics and timing.

10. Sailplane Grand Prix

BS updated the meeting on the latest developments. The website is now managed internally by the core team. The SGP event in Aalen was successful in its aim to attract younger competition pilots to fly SGP and to test the competition format for teams flying two seat gliders.

11. E-glide

The Bureau discussed the future development of the E-Glide competition concept and expressed its appreciation for the efforts of the Working Group to date in developing the initial rules and procedures for this new competition format. However, the Bureau concluded that despite the good work done by many parties, it is now necessary to reflect on the future of this project. The Bureau will present the recommended way forward to the IGC Plenary.

Action: BS to inform the Working Group of the Bureau's feedback and ask for their input on the way forward to be presented to the IGC Plenary.

12. Virtual Gliding

a. Contract

The parties have recently exchanged views on the draft contract (mainly clarifications). The Bureau expects the contract to be signed in 2024.

b. Virtual Gliding Championships



The FAI intends to submit a bid to the International Olympic Committee for Virtual Gliding (and Drone Racing) Championships to be held as part of the 2025 Olympic Esports Games. The IGC has been invited to present the concept to the Olympic Committee.

Action: PE and BS to meet with SkyRace Ltd to discuss the strategy for Virtual Gliding.

13. Proposals received for 2025 Plenary

The following indicative new proposals received were screened. Except as noted under Actions, the Bureau had no substantive comments.

SC3

- 20 Metre Multi-seat Class Definition (Hungary) - also affects SC3, Annex A 3.4.3 f

Annex A

- Change the age requirement for Junior Championships (IGC) – see item 4.
- Adding the FAI Sector to the turn point Observation zone for Racing task (France)
- Adding the FAI Sector to the turn point Observation zone for Racing task (Germany)
- Introduction of Contest Sunset (USA)
- Remove adjustment for winglets from Club Class Handicap List (France)
Action: CG to present the technical opinion of the Handicap Sub-Committee at the 2025 Plenary.
- Change of Cumulative Scores and Final Scores calculation (Hungary)
- Introduction of maximum task time for Assigned Area Task (Hungary)
- Increased number of entries (crews) in the 20 Metre Multi-seat Class (Hungary)
- Introduction of pilot's responsibility to ensure compliance with the Maximum certificated take-off mass (Hungary)
Action: VF to inform Hungary of the feedback from the Bureau and ask for clarification of the objective.
- Modification of the requirement for configuration of the collision avoidance transceivers (Hungary)
- Introduction of a computer-based examination for certain Championship organisers (Hungary)
Action: VF to inform Hungary about current implementation in the Annex A and clarify the objective of an additional requirement.
- Modification of rules for Virtual Outlandings (Hungary)
- Requirement for an external antenna for IGC tracking device (IGC) - see item 4.
- Requirement for mandatory traffic warning device for all towplanes used at the championships (IGC) – see item 4.

Annex B

- Simplified GNSS FR calibration (IGC)

Annex D

- Equal score for Pilot 1 and Pilot 2 for Cat 1 events in 20m Two-Seat Class (France)



Other

- Requirement for training for Sporting Directors (IGC)
- Increased number of entries at the WGC 2025 (Czechia)
Action: VF to recommend that the organisers provide justifications as part of their final bid in accordance with the notes from the previous meeting.
- Simplified means of calibration of GNSS Flight Recorder calibration (IGC)
- Championships schedule for preferred treatment of bids from outside of Europe (IGC)
IGC **decided** to make a proposal for revised Championships schedule for preferred treatment of bids from outside of Europe.
Action: MT to draft a proposal for new Championships schedule including new preferred treatment of bids from outside of Europe

The IGC and its committees and experts are available to help delegates finalise their proposals.

The following Year 1 proposals, adopted by the IGC Plenary in 2024 and not yet applicable, are expected to be submitted as Year 2 proposals in 2025:

Annex A

- GNSS Flight Recorder ID check (Germany)
- Change the Earth Model used in Scoring (IGC)

14. Planning of the 2025 Plenary

The Bureau **decided** that the dates of next Plenary meeting are 7 and 8 March. The Bureau will hold a face-to-face meeting on 5 March (from 13:00) and 6 March (until 12:00). Thursday afternoon will be available for side meetings and other initiatives.

The Bureau is in contact with Slovenia to assist them in finalising their bid to host the 2025 IGC Plenary. Final financial details are expected soon.

Action: PE and VF to clarify outstanding items with Slovenia.

Action: AC to organise a meeting with Naviter and LXNav in the margins of the 2025 IGC Plenary to discuss the implementation of the cylinder start option (original proposal from Poland).

Action: MT and AC to inform organisers of the future Championships about need to have their scoring software validated by the Scoring SW Working Group before using the cylinder start option at IGC Championships.

15. Next Bureau meeting

The next Bureau online meeting is scheduled for 10 December 2024 at 12:00 UTC.

16. AOB

- The Bureau discussed how to improve information about venues and dates of future IGC Championships.



Action: PE to ask the FAI Secretariat to inform the IGC (MT, PE and VF) of any gliding related changes or additions to the FAI calendar.

Action: BS to link the championship planning document managed by MT to the Gliding News and IGC Ranking List websites.