



## Notes from the IGC Bureau Zoom meeting, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025

### 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)
- Patrick Pauwels, treasurer (PP)
- Vladimir Foltin, secretary (VF)

### Apologies

- Brian Spreckley, vice-president (BS)

### Welcome

The President welcomed the members of the Bureau to the online meeting.

#### 1. Bureau Action List

The list has been updated and several actions have been marked as completed. Preparations for the 2025 IGC Plenary are on track.

**Action:** MT to ask the stewards of the EGC 2024 to share their views with the Bureau on the Czech proposal to increase the maximum number of entries at the WGC 2025.

#### 2. Finance

PP reported on the ongoing efforts at the FAI to recover from the administrative backlog due to staff departures at the end of 2024. The actual financial results of the 2024 IGC are slightly better than expected due to lower than budgeted costs for the Toulouse meeting, travel and IT. A final overview will be available for the plenary. The 2025 budget will be based on the 2024 budget with 3% indexation. For the 2026-2027 budget, any significant operational investments will have to be added. The All-FAI real-time scoring project was mentioned in this context. PP also explained that the annual indexation is based on average consumer costs (3% was used for 2025), but these costs increased less last year (by 2.2-2.5%). It is up to the IGC to decide whether this change is necessary. It was recommended that a 2.5% index be used from 2026.

**Decision:** The Bureau decided to use 2.5% annual indexation for the 2026 and 2027 budgets.

**Decision:** PP to allocate €10,000 budget from 2026 for a new flight recording concept project, involving other Air Sport Commissions, possibly including a real time scoring system.

#### 3. Championship Management Committee (MT)

MT briefed the Bureau about the latest developments. The Committee reviewed the overview of bids, one conflict of dates still needs to be resolved. Local Procedures for WGC 2025 in Tabor and JEGC 2025 in Prievidza are almost ready for publication. Training for the CDs will be different to PAT



training (the later to be open to a wider audience e.g. to directors of national GCs that want to use the tool).

#### 4. Approval of 2024 Annex B

There were no further comments on the latest proposed amendment to Annex B. The recent discussions on the change to Annex B highlighted the need for greater clarity on the approval process for changes to the IGC Sporting Codes and related documents.

**Action:** RS to draft a procedure in the IGC Regulations to describe which IGC documents/information require IGC approval, and which do not.

*Post-meeting note: The version provided to the Secretary seems to be an old version. PE took an action to verify it.*

#### 5. Scoring of tasks with the Start Cylinder

AC confirmed there was no progress on this matter since the last meeting. So far, there is no version of the scoring program capable of processing this starting method according to the rules. SSWG has accepted responsibility for approving the software.

#### Annex D - rounding of decimals and ties

The IGC has recently received an enquiry about the recent recalculation of the IGC ranking list.

RS had a detailed discussion with the Chair of the Annex D Committee, which identified and confirmed two issues that require IGC attention:

- In the Ranking List calculation, the rounding of intermediate results is inconsistent with the rounding of final results, creating the possibility of discrepancies in the final pilot rating points.
- The method of breaking ties could be improved.

The Annex D Committee is willing to assist the Bureau in resolving the above issues in a timely manner.

**Decision:** The Bureau decided to submit two separate proposals, one to correct the rounding design error in the script, including recalculation of 2024 scores, and another to resolve ties in Annex D.

**Action:** PE and RS to contact the Annex D Committee to ask for their assistance in drafting the two proposals.

#### 6. Request from the UK Aircraft Accident Investigation Board (AAIB).

PE informed the Bureau of the request for technical details on the .igc file format and associated analysis tools. RS will take the lead in responding and any subsequent discussion. The IGC format is publicly available. At this point, IGC does not intend to adapt the file format because of this request. UK AAIB staff could be invited to attend relevant IGC training sessions to gain a better understanding of the tools available.

#### 7. Championship Sporting Director Training



PE spoke about the preparations. The invitation will go out this week. The training will be presented twice (2 and 15 February, both around noon UTC). The detailed presentations are under development. Participation is not limited, but CD and Sporting Directors of upcoming Championships are required to attend.

#### 8. Meeting with EASA and EGU on Gliding Safety

VF informed the Bureau of the recent informal discussion between EASA and EGU on the safety of sailplanes, to which the IGC was also invited. As a result of the meeting, EASA will attend the forthcoming EGU Congress in Malmö, Sweden, where the details and next steps for future cooperation will be discussed. The IGC will be invited and represented by PE.

#### 9. Status Plenary meeting preparations.

The following items were discussed:

- Award Nominations - The IGC Bureau intends to make a nomination for at least one of the IGC Awards.
- IGC Champion Pilot of the Year - The ceremony will take place in Celje during the IGC dinner on Friday 7 March. CG is in contact with the winning pilot to confirm availability for the ceremony.
- Discussion on new technology in the cockpit and how we can prepare for it - The aim is to have an open discussion to learn about upcoming technology and its potential impact on IGC rules. The discussion will be in a mini-conference format with a panel of IGC experts and industry representatives. PE will make an opening statement and set the scene for the topic "Broadband Internet in the cockpit". The panel discussion will be moderated by VF. The final set-up will be developed through email correspondence and finalised at the face-to-face Bureau meeting in Celje.
- General programme of the meeting - The Bureau will meet on Wednesday 14:00 - 18:00 and on Thursday morning 9:00 - 12:00. Thursday afternoon will be reserved for side meetings and other related discussions. A visit to the centre of Celje is planned for Thursday evening. The dinners on Friday and Saturday have been kindly sponsored by the local gliding industry and the organisers. VF and PE are working on finalising the agenda.
- Transport to/from Ljubljana airport - The Bureau members arriving on Wednesday morning will organise transport by hire car to Celje.

VF provided information on the three discussion papers prepared by Hungary for consideration by the IGC Plenary. The papers will be included in the agenda of the meeting under the most appropriate agenda items.

#### 10. AOB

The Bureau has received a query as to whether a broadband internet connection is permitted in flight. The Bureau's interpretation of the current rules is that, as the hardware is not covered by the rules, such connectivity is currently allowed, provided that the information received in flight is publicly available.