

## CIVA mid-year Delegate Free Discussion #2

Notes from Zoom session of 11 September 2022



Present: Nick Buckenham (President), Hanna Riähä (Secretary), Zuzana Danihelová (Secretary), Steinar Ostby (NOR), Mady Delcroix (FRA), Pekka Havbrandt (SWE), Matthieu Roulet (FRA), Pierre Varloteaux (FRA), Hanspeter Rohner (SUI), Carol Holyk (CAN), Edward Waasdorp (NED), Sander van Vliet (NED), Laura Russel (EIR).

### 1. Aerobatic championship Social Media

Various complementary remarks were made regarding the excellent standard achieved, principally by Eric Lentz Gauthier, at all championships so far in the year where timely and well-constructed reports, texts and videos were published via the two CIVA News / World Aerobatics social media channels on the Instagram and Facebook systems. These undoubtedly helped to spread news and reviews of many aspects of these championships as they progressed, and in combination with the CIVA Results updates pages competitors and enthusiasts around the world were able to keep abreast of developments at each event almost in real-time. Congratulations to Eric, who has promised to put together an assessment of his work for review at plenary in Lausanne.

### 2. Matters arising from the WGAC/WAGAC event at Issoudun, France

Pekka Havbrandt and Madelyne Delcroix reported there were a number of technical problems with the HMD system used at these championships. It appears that the robustness of the antenna connection to each device may have been insufficient to survive through the disconnection and reconnection necessary for each individual flight, and the number of usable HMD's was significantly reduced. This eventually led to one or more final programmes being conducted using the tug's FLARM to report the release altitude and then estimation of Low flying purely by the judging panel. Despite these issues five programmes in each category were successfully completed, an excellent achievement.

Pekka Havbrandt was also able to reveal that the Polish 'Red Van HMD System' could be made available for future championships at a fee to be negotiated with the operator Wojciech Krupa, and was requested to report back to the Bureau with information regarding the fee paid this year and the likely fee required by the Red Van operator in 2023.

### 3. Power Intermediate category championships

A lively discussion regarding the future of this category revealed good support for it despite the relatively low level of competitors attracted to each of the four events so far. In fact 98 pilots have competed in four such championships in South Africa (2014), Czech Republic (2019), Romania (2021) and Poland (2022). At each event however the organisers struggled to keep their finances at a good level, and most agree that some other influences must be introduced to encourage a significantly improved entry.

A number of key aspects at these events that could enhance their attractiveness to Intermediate pilots, especially those with 'legacy' aircraft such as Extra-230, Laser-200, Pitts S-1, Yak-55 etc. who may now feel that competing against modern carbon-wing machines is not worthwhile because their perception is that such older aircraft are uncompetitive or perhaps not judged in the same positive manner. Reference was made to the Advanced

category regulations enacted at the start in 1996 or thereabouts which prevented most carbon wing aircraft from competing, some way of creating a more level competition for these older machines in company with EA-330SC types being thought an attractive solution. The prospect of a handicap system was discussed, but considered inappropriate as this would introduce other inequalities that could be tough to resolve. Pierre Varloteaux suggested investigating the French category where use of a minimum and maximum G recorder is mandated and a penalty or even exclusion results if published values (-3.5/+5) are exceeded. Pekka Havbrandt suggested that wider use of the Extra-300L or perhaps a power limit could be of value. The key is clearly to think of the problem from the viewpoint of an eager Intermediate pilot having access only to such a legacy aeroplane. Further work is required, it being agreed that removal of this category from the CIVA system would not be a positive move.

#### **4. The Known figures Assessment Working Group (KAWG)**

As Elena Klimovich (RUS) is now ineligible to run this group Hanspeter Rohner has agreed to take over as chairman. Pekka Havbrandt suggested that amalgamation of this WG with the GAC input to the Free Known figure system for gliders should be made, and this was agreed. The 2023 process to collate, evaluate and present appropriate sets of power and glider figures to plenary for each of the eligible categories was discussed, Hanspeter and Pekka agreeing to combine their efforts under the KAWG banner. The current deadline of 12<sup>th</sup> September should be extended and another request circulated to all delegates updating them of these developments, seeking to encourage receipt of suitable figure sets. The panel of 'experts' will also be re-evaluated to add further suitable names.

#### **5. Preparations for voting at plenary**

It was confirmed that votes at the forthcoming Lausanne plenary would be accepted only from delegates present, including proxy votes that had been established with FAI. A review of voting methods concluded that a show of hands or NAC papers was the appropriate way forward, electronic or online systems being unnecessary. Secret ballots may also be enacted upon request and approval. The system for evaluating successive KAWG figure sets described in the Governance document should also be used. The use of brightly coloured paper voting slips was suggested by Carol Holyk.

Hanspeter Rohner agreed to discuss the method to be adopted to live-stream the conference with the Ibis Crissier hotel. The use of a simple laptop was thought inadequate.

#### **6. The CIVA Travel Allowance system**

It has been agreed between Zuzana Danihelová and Madelyne Delcroix, who has been very effectively operating this system for some years, that the system will be run jointly between them through 2023 with a view to transferring all responsibilities to Zuzana in 2024. It appears there is an FAI available which could be useful, to be checked with Paola Lopez and appropriate advice returned.

#### **7. The 2023 WGAC/WAGAC event in Lithuania**

There has been an indication that a review of the currently approved costs for this event

may need reconsideration. If so the Lithuanian delegate will present his views at plenary.

**8. CIVA Sanction fees**

Nick Buckenham referred to his unsuccessful introduction of this topic at the 2021 plenary conference, being then instructed to register this matter as an official agenda item. The background is that CIVA's financial reserve has steadily declined over many years while the 160 EUR sanction fee per competitor has remained unchanged. A review of this fee in the light of world inflation during recent years is clearly indicated. Nick will seek to add this item to the agenda, though updates and additions to published agenda's may be restricted by FAI statutes – he will investigate this with FAI.

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