January 2014

Report from IGC President to the 2014 Plenary

I hope the New Year has been good to you all. I am looking forward very much to seeing everyone again in Varese for our Plenary meeting. I have heard many wonderful things about this area of Italy. I am grateful to Marina GALLETTO, Margherita ACQUADERNI CARAFFINI and all of the members of the gliding club in Varese for hosting our 2014 session.

The year 2014 will bring a new Secretary General to FAI. After many years of service former Secretary General Jean-Marc BADAN announced in fall of 2013 that he was leaving to pursue other interests.

Sporting Code - SC3 Simplification

At the meeting in Varese the delegates will be asked to consider the recommendations of the Sporting Code Committee for simplifying SC3. Ross Macintyre and his committee are to be commended for the thoroughness of their work and the manner in which they sought input from interested individuals and NAC's. I ask all of the delegates to study the recommendations carefully, consult with the responsible person(s) in your NAC, and come prepared to the meeting. It is our intention to manage the debate very carefully at the Plenary.

Breitling

Breitling, the Global Partner of the FAI, has selected the 2014 Sailplane Grand Prix – Final in Sisteron, France to be one of the four main events on the 2014 FAI Competition Calendar that will receive major branding status. We are currently receiving more information as to what this branding involves. I see this opportunity as a big step forward in the long-term plan that we have for making the Sailplane Grand Prix series a major part of increasing the exposure of Gliding to both the public and potential partners. Brian SPRECKLEY will make more details available at the meeting in Varese.

Pilot Ranking List

The top three pilots on the IGC Ranking List (as of 16 January, 2014) are, interestingly enough, the same three pilots that headed the list ast this time in 2013. They are:

1st
Zbigniew Nieradka (POL)

2nd
Sebastian Kawa (POL)

3rd
Michael Sommer (GER)

2013 FAI/IGC Championships, Competitions and Records

Our World Champions from the 7th FAI Women's World Gliding Championships held in Issoudun, France are:

Club Class - 1st
Sue KUSSBACH (GER)

15 Meter – 1st
Christine GROTE (GER)

STANDARD – 1st
Anne DUCAROUGE (FRA)

Our World Champions from the 8TH FAI Junior World Gliding Championships held in Leszno, Poland are:

Standard Class - 1st
Peter MILLENAR (NED)

Club Class – 1st
Valentin GRIT (FRA)

The Champions from the 17th FAI European Gliding Championships (15m, 18m, Open) held in Vinon, France are:

15 Meter Class- 1st
Louis BOUDERLIQUE (FRA)

18 Meter Class – 1st
Sebastian KAWA (POL)

Open – 1st
Michael SOMMER (GER)

The Champions from the 17th FAI European Gliding Championships (Club, Standard, 20m Multi Seat) held in Ostrow, Poland are:

Club Class - 1st
Roman MRACEK (CZE)

Standard Class – 1st
Sebastian KAWA (POL)

20 Meter Multi Seat – 1st
Wolfgang JANOWITCZ, Andreas LUTZ (AUT)

IGC- OLC World League- 2013

The OLC concluded its 2013 season with 2108 km per participant with the average flight being 266 km. Total activity for the OLC in 2013 had 14,191 participants (an increase of 0.80% from 2012) claiming 112,377 flights (an increase of 2.33% from 2012) and achieving a total distance of 29,796,011 kilometres (an increase of 0.87% from 2012). The statistics were taken from the OLC website (www.onlinecontest.org)

The 2013 season of The IGC-OLC World League saw entries from 1079 Clubs and gliding organisations. Congratulations to the top three placed clubs for 2013:

1st Hole in the Wall (USA)
2nd Albuquerque Soaring (USA)
3rd Southern Sierra (USA)

World Record Claims – 2013

SUB-CLASS	TYPE OF RECORD	PERFORMANCE	DATE	CLAIMANT
DO	Speed over a triangular course of 1,000 km - Female	138.03 km/h	2013-12-31	Anja Kohlrausch (GER)
DO	Speed over a triangular course of 1,000 km - Female	132.49 km/h	2013-12-31	Susanne Schödel (GER)
DO	Free triangle distance - Female	1110.4 km	2013-12-31	Susanne Schödel (GER)
DO	Distance using up to 3 turn points - Female	1118.4 km	2013-12-31	Susanne Schödel (GER)
DO	Triangle Distance - Female	1107 km	2013-12-31	Susanne Schödel (GER)
DO	Speed over a triangular course of 1,000 km - Female	129.61 km/h	2013-12-30	Anja Kohlrausch (GER)
DO	Free triangle distance - Female	1075.27 km	2013-12-30	Anja Kohlrausch (GER)
DO	Triangle Distance - Female	1075.27 km	2013-12-30	Anja Kohlrausch (GER)
D15	Speed over an out-and-return course of 500 km	224.00 km/h	2013-12-29	Diether Memmert (GER)
D15	Triangle Distance - Female	1026.80 km	2013-12-20	Lisa Trotter (AUS)
DW	Free Distance - Female	405.1 km	2013-06-03	Ghislaine Facon (FRA)
DW	Straight Distance to a Goal - Female	402.00 km	2013-06-03	Ghislaine Facon (FRA)

In closing, I would again like to thank the many volunteers that contribute so unselfishly of their time to do the work necessary to make the IGC an organization that meets the needs of its constituency. From our very capable and valuable Bureau members, our committee chairpersons, committee members, delegates, IGC officials at our competitions, organizations such as the OLC, OSTIV, EGU, National Aero Clubs, local gliding clubs, commercial gliding centers make valuable contributions to growing our sport.

Respectfully submitted,

President, IGC