

ANNEX A TO THE AGENDA
FOR THE CASI PLENARY MEETING
11 OCTOBER 2005 IN PARIS

SPORTING CODE GENERAL SECTION - YEAR 2006 EDITION

Sporting Code section covering "Solar-powered Aeroplanes".

This item is carried over from Item 10 in the agenda for the May 2005 Plenary. The minutes of the May Plenary state: 'Pierluigi Duranti, President of the FAI Technical Commission CIACA, had made proposals about solar powered aircraft in an email to casi-com@fai.org dated 10 May 2005. (*From the GS Glossary: CIACA is the Commission Internationale des Amateurs Constructeurs d'Aéronefs, the FAI Amateur-built and Experimental Aircraft Commission*). These proposals included a draft of a complete new Sporting Code devoted only to this type of aircraft and to be the responsibility of CIACA. The CASI President ruled that no further discussion could take place because Mr Duranti was not present to make the case for his proposals.

The Secretary pointed out that Statute 5.7 made no provision for Technical Commissions to be responsible for Sporting Codes whereas 5.6.2.2 for Air Sport Commissions made specific reference to this responsibility. (*In accordance with GS 1.4, at present, solar and electric powered aircraft are the responsibility of CASI but could be transferred to another Air Sport Commission at an appropriate time*)."

GS 8.1.3.6.1. The 3-year rule, appeal by Italian Aero Club.

The Aero Club d'Italia has made a formal appeal to FAI against the decision of CASI at the May Plenary on the "three year rule" about changing the nation of representation in FAI events. They point out that if, in "year 3", a regular annual Championship has its dates brought forward by, say, a month, a pilot who wishes to change National representation will have to wait four years and not three. There is also the possibility of a Championship being held in the Northern Hemisphere one year and in the Southern Hemisphere in the next year. The Aero Club d'Italia has a particular situation with a member of their Parachuting team, but the point is general. It is understood that the Italian position would be satisfied by something similar to the alternative wording that was in the agenda for the May Plenary that, according to the Secretary General, also reflects how these situations have been dealt with before.

In addition, the present wording in 8.1.3.6.1 refers only to persons with Multiple Nationality rather than allowing also for persons who wish to change the NAC that they represent.

The following proposed wording takes both points into account: "8.1.3.6.1. A citizen (8.1.3.1.1) or resident (8.1.3.1.2) of a country may be issued with a FAI Sporting Licence by the NAC of that country to represent that NAC in FAI Sporting Events (3.1) and to take part in other FAI activities that require a Sporting Licence. However, if a person wishes to represent a different NAC in any FAI activity, the new NAC shall not be represented until 1 January of the third year in number after that in which the previous NAC had been represented."

For the record, the minutes of the last Plenary, para 12, state: "IPC had asked for clarification on the "three year rule" in GS 8.1.3.6.1 for persons changing countries and NACs. The IPC Bureau had proposed a period of 1095 days (three years of 365 days each) and other wording was also on the agenda that allowed participation in the third year rather than after a fixed

number of days. After discussion, it was agreed that a fixed period would apply but because of difficulties over leap-years, the three year period would be taken from the day of the closing ceremony of the first competition to the day of the opening ceremony of the second."

GS 8.1.3.6. Citizenship, Residence, Multiple Nationality.

The Secretary General said that in 8.1.3.6, a distinction was made between citizens and residents and also activities and events (*"activities" include everything including records, "events" include competitions and other organised events, see GS Chapter 3*). There was also the matter of persons with dual nationality. It was decided that this would be looked at more closely for the next meeting and more detailed proposals were invited that took these distinctions into account."

In August, CIVL revised their position as follows: CIVL would like to withdraw their earlier proposal for paragraphs 8.1.3.6.1 and 8.1.3.6.2 but strongly recommends to change the mentioned paragraphs to a clearer ruling to avoid different interpretation of this important subject.

UK Proposals for the 2006 edition of the General Section of the Sporting Code

The UK is concerned that many proposals for amending the General Section that were in the agenda, were not discussed by the last CASI Plenary. This was because a back-log had developed due to the unusually long time between the last two Plenaries and there was not enough time to cover them all.

The following proposals that were not considered by the last Plenary are thought to have particular merit and are therefore put forward for discussion on 11 October. Many are concerned with the application of GPS and similar systems to air sports. It is suggested that the General Section should reflect the application of such technology to air sports and should show that FAI is up-to-date in these matters.

Our view is that the General Section should be a "living document" and we should not hesitate to update it. If we keep it up-to-date by regular, relatively small, amendments, this will avoid the need for a major and possibly contentious complete re-write at a later date. In the past, a major re-write had to be made in 1995, the new 1996 version of the GS forming the basis of the current GS together with annual amendments since that date. It is suggested that this policy should continue.

In this spirit, the following proposals are made for GS 2006:

7.1 Units. There is no reference to the geographical co-ordinates that are used in measuring distances. Also, it is important to state somewhere in the GS that for valid distances to be calculated, the same Earth Model must be used for all co-ordinates used in the calculations; unless this is done, the resulting distances will be wrong. The following addition is suggested: "Latitude and Longitude - Degrees, Minutes and Decimal Minutes, or Degrees, Minutes, Seconds (and Decimal Seconds if necessary), referenced to the same Earth Model (Geodetic Datum) for all positions used in a claim, such as the World Geodetic System 84 (WGS84). The number of decimal places should be specified by the ASC depending on the accuracy required for the performance concerned."

7.3.1.2 Time and speed There is no mention of the accurate time that is part of a recorded GPS fix, now in common use in air sports that use GPS recorders. Also, speed is not mentioned at all and is fundamental to most air sports. If the GS is to reflect what is already happening "in the field", the following revision is suggested: "Measurement of time may be by clocks, chronometers, the accurate time that is part of a recorded GNSS fix, or other time recording equipment approved by the relevant FAI Air Sport Commission. Calculation of speed shall be by dividing the appropriate distance by elapsed time, distance being obtained from Latitudes and Longitudes (7.1) that use the same Earth model (Geodetic Datum) for all legs of a course (7.3.1.1)."

8.1.2 Sporting Licences. In a recent world record, there was uncertainty over the status of crew members in a multi-seater. The following re-draft is suggested and reflects current FAI policy. It also avoids the gender that is in the present wording: "8.1.2 HOLDER'S RESPONSIBILITY. The sporting licence shall be signed by the holder. In doing so, the holder certifies knowledge and understanding of the relevant sections of the FAI Sporting Code and agrees to abide by their provisions. Only holders of a valid FAI Sporting Licence as defined in 8.1.5 are permitted to compete in FAI sporting events and to have records validated by FAI as pilot-in-command (or equivalent). In the case of multi-crew performances, the pilot-in-command (or equivalent) must be named, and for other crew members FAI will only name individuals who hold a valid Sporting Licence."

ANNEX A TO THE GS

This annex is advisory and is published as a guide for new air sports, or, for relatively new technologies such as GPS or for new concepts used in one or more air sports, for consideration by other ASCs. The following are suggested:

A7.3. Free (undeclared) flights. This type of flight is in use in gliding and maybe in other Air Sports. An example should be in Annex A so that other sports can consider it. This is suggested to be one of the useful functions of Annex A. The following addition is proposed: "A7.3 Free Course. A course selected by the pilot after flight for the purpose of submitting a claim. *Where such "free flights" are allowed by the relevant ASC, this enables a pilot while in flight to exploit the weather and other conditions to maximise the Performance that can be claimed.* "

A8.4.1 Start Lines. Using GPS evidence instead of human Observation, the exact time and place of crossing can be measured very accurately. Start lines longer than 1 km are already used in several air sports. The following addition is suggested: "or, for start lines longer than 1 km, from the point of crossing the line such as by the use of evidence from a GNSS recorder". A similar change to A8.4 should then be made in A12.4 for Finish Lines.

A13.1 Observation Zones. There is a need to allow for the circular zones that are used with GPS evidence in some air sports such as gliding and hang gliding. Add: "A circular Observation Zone may also be used, of a radius decided by the ASC concerned and centred on the Point. In this case, distances claimed shall be the distance to and from the Point minus the Observation Zone radius." A diagram should also be added to those already attached to this paragraph.

GLOSSARY

Para headed "Other Documents", between Numerical and Alphabetical. After "FAI Distance Calculations" add: "assuming a Spherical Earth Model". Factual correction.

FAI Sphere. Add at the beginning "This is an approximation, the WGS84 Ellipsoid is a more accurate earth model (GS7.3.1.1)." Also, second sentence from the end, add after "Calculations": "for a Spherical Earth Model". Finally, last words to read: " Y from the FAI web site" (reason: fact).

Add: Galileo - "The future European GNSS system, equivalent to the Russian GLONASS and the US GPS satellite navigation systems."

GNSS, add Galileo. To read: " ... such as the European Galileo, Russian GLONASS and US GPS systems."

Add: "Good standing - An FAI member (NAC) in good standing is one that has fulfilled its obligations to FAI. Obligations are listed in FAI Statute 2.4.2.2." Reason: This is the case, but at the moment is not clearly stated in Statutes, By-laws or the GS.

The term "Waypoint" is used in Gliding and maybe other airports. Add: WP, Waypoint. A generic term for either a start, turn, control or finish point claimed as part of a flight performance.

EDITORIAL ITEMS

These are relatively minor changes of wording with no policy implications. The aim is to improve clarity and use better wording than at present.

3.2.1 Terminology. For consistency with the rest of the para, the last word should be changed from "applicants" to "entrants".

4.2.4.2 Witnesses. In line 2, replace "of" by "or" (factual correction). The first sentence is very long, make a full-stop after "competence it is.", and continue: "Such witnesses should be asked to give their names, addresses and other contact details and to state in writing the information required by the relevant section of the Sporting Code."

4.3.2.2, Representative Jury. Change "governing" to "relevant to" to remove any ambiguity between the role of the organisers, NAC and ASC. Also, change "pertinent" to "relevant" for consistency with the other paras in the GS.

4.3.2.4. Jury President. The last two sentences are not about the President and should be transferred to the end of 4.3.2.1. Also, the last words to read: " ... that entry fees be returned, partially returned, or not returned." Reason, clarification.

4.3.2.5. Jury Members. First sentence after "Codes", add "(General Section and the relevant Specialist Section(s))", reason, clarification. Second sentence to end: " .. from FAI, if its procedures are relevant to the ASC concerned.", reason, better English.

4.3.2.6.2. Recording of Jury Evidence. In line 2, add the word "Jury" before "President". Reason, clarification, there are several other President positions in FAI.

4.3.3.1. Terminology. The last words should read: "in the relevant section of the Sporting Code." Reason: same terminology as in 4.3.2.

4.3.4.1.1. Terminology. In the second sentence, delete the word "Technical". Reason: If we are to use the term "Technical Official", it should be defined. The word "Technical" does not seem to be necessary.

7.3.1.1. Distances on the earth's surface. Change the last words in this para to read: " Y is available through the FAI web site." Reason, factual correction.

10.1. Amendments. Better wording: "The General Section is maintained and amended by the FAI Air Sport General Commission (CASI). Each of the numbered Sections of the Sporting Code (1.4) is maintained and amended by the appropriate FAI Air Sport Commission."

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