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FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

INTERNATIONAL PARACHUTING COMMISSION **ARTISTIC EVENTS COMMITTEE**

OPEN MEETING 2015 VARSHETS, BULGARIA

- Chairman's annual report 2014
- Proposals for changes to competition rules AE 2015
- Proposal for changes competition rules indoor AE 2015
- Future competitions 2015

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT - 2014

A summary of the activities of the IPC Artistic Events Committee (Freestyle Skydiving & Freeflying) in 2014 is laid out hereunder.

Competition Rules

Proposed changes to the competition rules 2013 were discussed and accepted at the IPC Plenary Meeting 2014 in Vienna. There were only few and minor changes, and most of them were clarifications on judging and scoring criteria.

The committee had established a set of competition rules for indoor windtunnel AE events. These rules were accepted at the 2014 Plenary. They were however not received well by the indoor skydiving artistic community. It was expected that they would be in line with the 4way dynamic freeflying rules as currently and mostly used in indoor events. The committee intends to move that way, both for 2-way and 4-way dynamic freeflying. For Freestyle it seems there is no such argument.

10th World Championships, Prostějov, Czech Republic

This competition, August 25 through 31 was very well attended. A total of 32 (!) artistic event teams entered, 18 in Freeflying and 14 in Freestyle Skydiving. This high number is very promising, and rewarding for the committee. The hegemony of France in artistics was interestingly broken in Freeflying by Russia which took away the gold medal. The event was hampered by bad weather for the first two days. It also suffered from power cuts which affected the (posting of) scores. Overall, scoring and publication continues to be cumbersome, and not just in artistics. This must be dealt with in a better and more uniform IPC way, whilst it should be the prime responsibility of an organiser. There was a clear message from IWGA about airports in the 2013 World Games. Otherwise, it was well organised and the committee would like to thank the organisers for hosting this event.

Open meeting: several issues were raised:

- Male/female division again in Freestyle Skydiving.
- Creation of pool of compulsory rounds / more compulsory rounds.
- Rewarding different free routines.
- Changes in Addenda-A: compulsories.
- Clarifications on Addendum-B

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1st World Cup Indoor Skydiving Artistic Events, Austin, USA

Attendance was low for all events. High costs and the rules format seem to be the main causes. The committee will evaluate these aspects and come up with proposals regarding these issues. Costs are related with (IPC) staff and the time they are on site. In other windtunnel events, the time frame is much shorter. For instance, in The Netherlands there is a competition with 55 teams Formation Skydiving which takes place in only one day. So, time should not be an issue. The format of the rules is another matter. As written above, there is a clear preference for the current dynamic 4-way and 2-way rules format, which is quite different from the aerial rules.

One competitor expressed a wish to use music inside the tunnel in order to enhance her performance. Currently there is nothing in the rules that forbids this. However, concerns were voiced that it might influence judges, or other competitors in their concentration. On the other hand, it has potential to render artistic events more attractive, like in gymnastics. In the end, the music was allowed at the Austin event and had a great success and interaction with the public.

Open meeting: an open meeting was held with the competitors, Judges and staff. The results of this meeting have been incorporated in the proposals for changes in the CR's. Issues discussed:

- High entry fee. (lower entry fee for juniors)
- Media attraction value.
- Skydiving licence / sporting licence (currently based on parachuting federation membership)
- Classic Freestyle / Dynamic Freestyle.
- Avoid high speed compulsories.
- Working time / end of performance.
- Music.
- Performance within camera frame / position + angle of camera.
- Freeflying: classic / Dynamic / 2-way VFS (?)

Records

Artistic Events has no record categories as such. However, this year records were set in largest formation sequential head-down, and in largest formation head-up. Whilst strictly speaking they are formation skydiving records, they were performed for a considerable part by artistic skydivers. (records are provisional at time of writing) Therefore they are mentioned here as well:

- Largest formation sequential. head-down, 57 parachutists, 2 formations. (25-10-2014)
- Largest formation sequential. head-down, 33 parachutists, 3 and 4 formations. (26-10-2014)
- Largest formation head-up, 52 parachutists. (22-11-2014)

Teamwork with the Committee

During the year, Martin Kristensen (Denmark) opted to discontinue his work for the committee. I express my thanks for his initial volunteering and work. We have found a very qualified successor in the person of Domitile Kiger (France), ex world champion Freeflying. We will propose to include her as member in the committee.

My appreciation goes to the current members of the AE Committee for their time and work: Deputy Chair Ron Miasnikov (Israel) Elisabet Mikaelsson (Sweden), Ray Williams (Australia), Sylvia Wagner (Austria), Sébastien Chambet (France), Alya Ananina (Russia) and Tamara Koyan (USA). I look forward to continue working with them.

Ronald Overdijk
Chairman IPC Artistic Events Committee

Barendrecht, December 2nd, 2014

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PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES TO COMPETITION RULES 2015

- Facebook questionnaire on competition rules for 2015. (ongoing till IPC meeting)
- Male – female division re-institution for Freestyle. (idea open for discussion)
- 2 new compulsories for each event. Proposals needed.
- New format: resetting scores to 0 after the first 5 rounds. Adding more tension to the competition. This was tried in 2002 and competitors did not like it. However, ample time has passed and maybe it is time.
- Finetuning and clarification on judging criteria for compulsories.

PROPOSALS FOR COMPETITION RULES INDOOR AE 2015

The IPC bureau has suggested to create a separate body for indoor skydiving rules, consisting of members of the FS and AE committees. This would make sense for overall tunnel aspects, but not needly so for the discipline specific issues. As this event is very new,

- Facebook questionnaire on competition rules for 2015. (ongoing till IPC meeting)
- Chose format for Freestyle: classic or dynamic.
- Chose format for FreeflyingD4W, D2W, Freestyle (solo)
- Music would be allowed.
- Deletion of high speed compulsories.
- Possible extension of working time (more attractive) 60 seconds(?)
- Clarification of end of working time. (end of time, or end of performance)
- Total time allowed in chamber, in relation to working time.
- Camera position / angle as per windtunnel – position of performers
- Video standard clarification: 25 fps / 1080p.
- Requested tunnel speed versus set tunnel speed. (official monitoring needed?)
- Competitors in multiple events (AE & FS).
- New format: less rounds (4?), but then different free rounds are obliged. (open to discussion)
- Separate compulsories: High speed and low speed.

FUTURE COMPETITIONS

- Worldcup / EPC 2015, bids.
- World Air Games 2015, Dubai, UAE.
- WPC / Mondial 2016, USA.