

76th FAI/ISC PLENARY MEETING, 24-25 FEBRUARY 2026, RIYADH KSA

<i>SUBJECT:</i>	ISC President's Report to the ISC Plenary	<i>AGENDA #</i>	4.1
<i>AUTHOR:</i>	Alberto Martin Paracuellos, ISC President		
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1 INTRODUCTION

I would like to start my report by thanking the Bureau Members, The Committee Chairs and C'tee Members, and all the Judges and Officials that served ISC during the year. Tamara Koyn and Fay Kimble for their continued work and support. And also thank the Organizers and all the volunteers and suppliers that made our events possible. Without you all there would be no ISC.

As you know, this has been my second year in office and I feel satisfied with the general outcome. We held successful competitions in all our disciplines without any important issues and to me that is the most important thing. All these competitions kept the Bureau busy but it is a very satisfying task.

During the year I had the opportunity to represent the ISC in the Commissions Presidents Meeting in Lausanne and the FAI General Conference in Vantaa Finland, and I was invited to attend the 47th CISM Championship in Qatar.

During the General Conference 3 new Associate Members were approved, The Federation of Skydiving and Aeronautics named after T. B. Sydykov, Kyrgyz Republic Public Foundation, the German Skydiving Association (Deutscher Fallschirmsportverband E.v). and the Mexican Parachuting Federation (Federación Mexicana de Paracaidismo) My warmest welcome to the new members. The next World Games will take place in Karlsruhe, Germany in 2029 and having the German Federation as an FAI Associate member will surely facilitate our participation.

2 BUREAU AND IBDs

During 2025 we had competitions in 9 different locations which increased the normal work load for the Bureau with all supervision required to guarantee the events are run to the standards required. Each event generates a large amount of correspondence and follow up work but I think we managed to handle it all satisfactorily.

As agreed during the Plenary in Rome the Bid to host the Mondial Cup in Brazil 2027 was submitted earlier than usual and shared with the Committee Chairs and the Delegates. Due to the complexity of such a big event it required extra attention and work from the Bureau until the final bid was agreed upon to be ready for plenary voting.

During this year we have issued 12 IBDs they will be dealt with in a separate Annex to the Agenda. Most of the IBDs are rule amendments and procedural but noteworthy is IBD 7 by which the Indoor Para skydiving rules were approved and IBD 9 by which the Organization of the 1st World Cup Indoor Skydiving was approved.

3 RECORDS

This year we claimed in our competition 42 World and Continental Records for a total cost of 3150 CHF. The system implemented last year, thanks to the work done by Gernot Rittenschöber and Christine Rousson, FAI Competitions Manager and Record Officer, to clean up and reorganizer our Records Data Base has worked flawlessly with records claims being ratified most of the times immediately after the Competition had concluded. Mark Szulmayer has developed a template that automatizes the claiming procedure and avoids mistakes, and has made the work of all the juries much easier. It has been used already by some Juries and it works very well.

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Each Competition Committee has appointed a member of the Ctee as point of contact to clarify any possible inquiry, and to facilitate the current Records status to the Jury presidents for use during the Competitions. Having this point of contact speeds up the ratification procedure for all other G-2 Record Claims.

4 COMPETITIONS 2025

Thanks to all the efforts from Volunteers and Organizers we held the World Championships and World Cups for all our Disciplines. These are the events and a short description. More thorough reports will be given by the Competition Committees and all the FAI Controller reports, Jury Reports and Notices and the Chief judges Reports have been uploaded in the ISC Documents page.

- **St. Johann im Pongau / Alpendorf Austria, 13 - 17 March, 2025. 19th FAI World Parachute-Ski Championships.** The Parachute Ski venues are high up in the mountains with adverse weather conditions which makes it more challenging. In this year's event the weather was perfect for skiing but not so much for jumping. The organizer has offered to host the event in the same location next year. 13 teams from 6 NACs attended, CZE, AUT, ITA, GER, NED, SUI.
- **Charleroi, Belgium. 24 - 27 April, 2025. 5th FAI World Indoor Skydiving Championships of Dynamic Flying and Artistic Events.** The Indoor Skydiving Airspace wind tunnel had already organized a World Championship in the past and they offered a very well organized event providing an excellent competition. With 95 competitors from 20 NACs coming from. AUS, BEL, BRA, CHN, CZE, ESP, FIN, FRA, GBR, GER, ITA, KOR, LAT, LUX, NED, POL, SIN, SUI, SVK, USA.
- **Raeford, North Carolina, U.S.A, 24-27 April 2025. 5th FAI World Indoor Skydiving Championships of Formation Skydiving.** Hosted in the Paraclet XP Indoor Skydiving Wind Tunnel the event ran very smoothly in a modern infrastructure. There were 141 competitors from 17 NACs BEL, BRA, CAN, CHN, CZE, ESP, FRA, GBR, ITA, NED, POL, QAT, SIN, SUI, SWE, THA, USA
- **Klatovy, Czech Republic. 9-13 July, 2025, 8th FAI Junior European Style and Accuracy Landing Championships. 11th FAI European Style and Accuracy Landing Championships.** Very well organized in an ideal location in central Europe. Famous for hosting Big Way Record attempts and the prestigious Canopy Piloting Pink Open. 114 Competitors from 17 NACs attended. AUT, CRO, CZE, ESP, FRA, GBR, GER, HUN, ITA, LTU, NED, POR, ROU, SRB, SUI, SVK, SWE.
- **Prostejov, Czech Republic. 15 - 21 August, 2025. 3rd FAI European Wingsuit Flying Championships, 5th FAI World Cup of Wingsuit Flying,** The team at Skydive Czech Republic under the leadership of Martin Dlouhý has organized many ISC Events improving each time. This event was attended by 61 competitors from 17 NACs, AUS, BEL, CZE, ESP, FIN, FRA, GBR, GER, ITA, IND, IRI, KUW, NED, POL, SRB, SWE, USA.
- **Teuge The Netherlands. August 28 - September 2, 2025, 16th FAI European Formation Skydiving Championships, 24th FAI World Cup of Formation Skydiving, 15th FAI World Championships of Artistic Events.** Organized by the experienced Skydive Teuge team offered an outstanding event which ran flawlessly despite the challenging weather conditions. This was our biggest event of the year with 234 competitors from 17 NACs, AUS, AUT, BEL, CZE, ESP, FRA, GBR, GER, ITA, KGZ, NED, NOR, POL, QAT, SWE, UKR, USA.

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- **Hohenems, Austria. 26 - 29 August, 2025. 5th FAI European Speed Skydiving Championships, 6th FAI World Cup of Speed Skydiving.** One of our relatively recent disciplines continues to grow and setting new records in each competition. In this occasion 23 records were claimed. Very well organized by the local club with a non-commercial mentality and reasonable entry fees. It was attended by 61 competitors from 11 NACs AUS, AUT, ESP, GBR, GER, ITA, NED, POL, SUI, SWE, USA.
- **Eloy, Arizona, USA. 9 - 14 September, 2025, 12th FAI World Cup of Canopy Piloting, 3rd FAI World Cup of Canopy Piloting Freestyle, 6th FAI European Championships of Canopy Piloting, 2nd FAI European Championships of Canopy Piloting Freestyle.** The Skydive Arizona Drop Zone succeeded again in the organization of another CP Championship. It was attended by 55 competitors from 17 NACs AUS, AUT, BUL, CAN, FAI, FIN, FRA, GBR, GER, IND, ISR, ITA, KUW, POR, SWE, UAE, USA.
- **Jiangxi, China. 18-24 October, 2025, 16th FAI Style and Accuracy Landing World Cup and 1st FAI Asian Style and Accuracy Landing Championships.** Very well organized although it was the first time that the organizer hosted an ISC event. The Organizers proved that they are capable of organizing easily a much bigger event. It was attended by 83 competitors from 12 NACs AUS, AUT, CHI, ESP, GER, GBR, INA, MLG, QAT SUI, SWE, UAE.
- **Doha, Qatar. 13-23 November, 2025, 47th CISM World Military Parachuting Championships in Style and Accuracy Landing and Formation Skydiving.** The Qatar Airports Committee hosted this extraordinary event despite the strong desert winds. The event was attended by 28 Countries, ALG, AUT, BEL, BRA, BRN, BUL, CHI, CZE, DEN, ESP, FRA, GER, HUN, ITA, KOR, KUW, LAT, MAR, NED, OMA, POL, QAT, SLO, SRB, SUI, TUN, TUR, UAE.

We also held **18 Second category Events (SCE)** in AUS, AUT, BIH, CRO, CZE, GER, GBR, FRA, ITA, USA all in various disciplines. There are many events happening all over the world and we want to continue encouraging organizers to apply for SCEs. And to that end a new SCE ISC procedure has been implemented simplifying the uploading of results into our results site automatically, if an approved scoring system is connected, or uploaded manually as a signed results sheet in a pdf format.

During the year we also held 4 Judges training course for the proposed candidates.

Speed Skydiving Training Course. Moruya, Australia 5 April - 12 April, 2025
Wingsuit Flying Training Course. Moruya, Australia 5 April - 12 April, 2025
Dynamic Flying Evaluation Charleroi, Belgium 20 April - 23 April, 2025
Canopy Piloting Training Course/Evaluation, Klatovy, Czech Republic, 5 August - 10 August, 2025.

5 COMPETITIONS 2026

During our plenary meeting in Rome last year we approved bids to host events for all our disciplines during 2026.

13-15 March 2026 Parachute Ski in St. Johann, Austria
11-4 April 2026 Indoor Skydiving Artistic Events and Dynamic in Marseille, France
9-11 April 2026 Indoor Skydiving Formation Skydiving and Indoor Para Skydiving in Lille, France
29-4 September 2026 Style and Accuracy Landing in Spiska Nova Ves, Slovakia
8-14 October 2026 Canopy Formation and Wingsuit Flying in Elsinore, USA

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18-24 October 2026 Formation Skydiving, Artistic Events and Speed Skydiving in Eloy, USA

Preparations are already undergoing and Bulletin 1 for Parachute Ski in St. Johann im Pongau Austria, Indoor Artistic Events and Dynamic Flying in Marseille France and Indoor Formation Skydiving and Para Skydiving in Lille France have been published.

6 COMPETITIONS 2027

For 2027 we have Bids to approve for all our disciplines. We have the Mondial Bid from Brazil that includes all our disciplines except Parachute Ski, the Indoor events and Canopy Piloting. We also have a bid from Germany to host the Indoor competitions and a bid from Denmark to host the CP Competitions. We have a few Continental Championships and some bids that did not meet the 1st of October deadline specified in or FCEAD to submit a bid, so we expect that they will be added to the agenda if they have 2/3 majority support.

We even have a bid for 2028 which shows that we are on the right track and that our support to organizers has helped to encourage bidding.

7 FAI CPG CASI

The ISC President is a member of CASI (Air Sport General Commission) and a member of the Commission Presidents Group. Throughout the year, we have been actively working through various zoom meetings on common interest that affect all the Committees, and actively communicating through the Basecamp platform. Most of the commission share the same challenges and concerns and It has been very interesting to participate and share our point of view and experience. I think that we can benefit from the continued collaboration with other Commissions.

During the year, I have contacted the FAI Secretariat on many occasions and they have always been available and very helpful. I must thank them all without exception, Secretary General Markus Hageney, Christine Rousson, Kamila Vokoun Hájková, Faustine Carrera, Visa-Matti Leinikki, Paola Lopez, Catherine Hung and Caitlin Smith.

Our relationship with the FAI Secretariat has been excellent and we hope it will continue.

8 FAI GENERAL CONFERENCE

The 2025 FAI General Conference took place from the 22th to the 24th of October, in Vantaa Finland with a new meeting format. The usual President report was presented and included in the agenda but was not presented to the delegates. The new format included Forums of discussion which made the meeting more interesting for the delegates. The meeting provides an excellent opportunity to liaise directly with NAC delegates and offer them the support they need to promote our sport in their respective countries.

9 FINANCES

I want to thank our Finance Secretary Natasha Higman for all her work during the year processing all the expense claims in a very professional way and always as quick as possible. At the same time she has processed and supervised all the Performance bonds and the Sanction fees from all the competitions, which I believe is even more time consuming. The ISC expense

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claim is an example to other commissions and we have to acknowledge that the ISC officials are using it correctly.

The Special Reserves Policy was implemented during the year and the Committees were able to carry out their development projects and will be able to continue investing in our sport if more projects are envisioned. The Policy worked very well and from our +/- 214.000 Special reserves we used this year +/-40.000 which is less than 19%. We now have access to the funds but we must act wisely and carefully to develop our sport without misusing the funds and eventually running out of reserves.

This year we had a much lower participation than expected. We were hoping for a recovery in the participation from the tendency of the past years but it did not materialize. In total we had 978 competitors attending competitions which is 33% less than we had expected. Despite this we still have a small gross profit which allows us to cover our operating expenditures without using any of our operational reserves.

The reasons behind the continued decline in participation are purely speculative, but one can infer that the high entry fee and associated costs of transportation and accommodation have played an important role. We should continue to work with the organizers and encourage them to work together with us to reduce the entry fee. And we need to continue encouraging more bidders and take advantage of a true Competitive Bidding Process.

We were fortunate that the Judges expenses were also lower than expected which ended out balancing our budget. We can and should continue to reduce the sanction fee paid by our competitors if we moderate expenses, and in any case, in a year with extremely low participation, we could always resort to our operational reserves. In this regard, we should also consider changing the selection process for judges and juries so that proximity to the event site is always taken into account. We should also be able to be more flexible with our Judges panel size rules and be able to quickly adapt to a low participation.

There is a proposal to reduce the Jury on site by half if we move the FAI controller to a Jury Member position.

10 MEDIA

First of all, I'd like to say that last year, I failed to explain clearly what the intention and vision behind the media working group was, and the reaction during the MWG plenary presentation surprised me and caught me off guard. It was suggested that I had a hidden agenda and that the person who had volunteered was not to the liking of some people. I want to make it very clear that I have no hidden agenda, I have no secret gender agenda, nor do I have any need to engage in any kind of sport washing.

My only agenda is the ISC, and as your president, I try to do what I believe is best for the sport, including its promotion.

Promoting who we are and what we do, our activities (events, records, etc) to our community and the general public is very important to highlight the work of our volunteers, organisers, officials and athletes, and also potentially find new ways of funding and inspire more people to get into the sport, then compete at ISC events, break records and even organise events or become officials.

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ISC is at crossroads and we need to take the opportunity of the plenary to discuss and agree on fundamental principles, goals and vision, in order to elect the right people who have the skills to create a corresponding strategy and implement it.

This year, a specific session has been scheduled for the MWR during the open sessions. This will allow us to have a detailed, relaxed, and calm discussion in which we can decide what we want to do with the MWG and where we want to focus the promotion of our sport and the use we want to make of social media and who has the appropriate skills to take on this position.

History and context

- What happened previously

In the past (2018-9-2024), the ISC has had a business relationship with The Edge. This firm does good work and is not in question.

However, the Contract with the Edge was never signed and the invoices were just paid year after year.

The "IPC Social Media Strategy", dating from 2019, was never approved by the plenary and it is The Edge's strategy for promoting the ISC, not ISC's policy. The Edge didn't cover many of our activities. For example, our events, which are our flagship moments, the occasions where athletes, officials, Commissions and the Secretariat are engaged together. They are our main showcase opportunity to present air sports to the world, attract new audiences, and demonstrate value to our stakeholders.

And the result so far has been, more Engagement rates more followers and more likes, more shares, comments, reach, but what benefit did it have for ISC? No sponsorships has been found, no major investments from the industry have been secured, and above all, the participation of competitors in our events continues to decline.

It is also worth mentioning that for the past 6 years, the MWG functioned without any Terms of Reference, they were removed from our IR and the MWG functioned without them.

- What happened the previous year (2024)

In February 2024, Elisabet Mikaelsson, previous Media Working Group Chair, expressed her intention to step down from the position. For 6 years she also held the 1st Vice President Position at the same time. When requested, she could not advise of any person for the MWG Chair Position.

During the year 2024 I assumed some of what I considered to be the responsibilities of the MWG and managed to report on all the ISC FCE that took place. This was done thanks to the FAI Controllers or Juries on site, who reported and provided access to images of the events and the FAI Secretariat who published the content and created news and press releases.

At the end of the year 2024 I found a volunteer who is an expert in web design, graphic design, and social media. Elisabet agreed to this suitable replacement.

On November 8, 2024, IBD 16 was issued, appointing her as deputy chair so that she could begin her work. Please reread the IBD, there was nothing secret there.

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The first challenge was to access the ISC SM accounts since the contracted company was in possession of the access codes. With a lot of difficulties, It was possible to regain access, and now the ownership of the ISC's social media accounts is with the FAI, which should have been the case from the beginning.

- What happened this year

You can check our events mini sites you will wonder why some events received media coverage and support while others did not. The mini-sites are our port of entry to an event. It is the place where one can find all the information regarding that event. Bulletins, pictures, news articles, results everything should be on the dedicated mini-site. Otherwise it is very difficult, even for a knowledgeable user, to navigate through the FAI web looking for all the information.

On April 4 2025, and April 9 2025 an unauthorized change of the ISC Instagram Account followed by unauthorized attempts to regain control of the ISC Instagram was detected. The confirmation email was in Danish language.

Following this, FAI filled an INCIDENT REPORT pointing at the chair of the MWG. Following a review of the situation, the Bureau decided that there was not enough evidence and that anyone could have attempted to change the access passwords.

During this year the MWG has sent a Request for Proposal to the FAI Secretariat seeking the possibility of signing a contract between FAI and the Edge. The request did not comply with FAI requirements and no new version was sent to FAI secretariat from May until October 9th, which finally does meet the terms of the FAI.

What to do now

We have been with The Edge for six years, and here we are. We can continue or look for other options. If the MWG does not feel capable of meeting our needs and decides to outsource, fair enough, but last year, as recorded in the minutes, it was said that a selection process should be carried out and that decision should be made by the plenary and not by the MWG alone. There are many options, and the proposals should come from the MWG, but it should be the plenary that decides which one to choose, which way to go.

I think we should cover all our activities, such as our competitions and the athletes who participate in them. The records that are constantly being achieved and broken. And the volunteers who sustain the entire system. The promotion of sport in general is already being done by many individual people and on business social media accounts.

In my opinion, reposting what others do should not be our main course of action. We should work better with the organizers and content creators to generate our own posts with our own voice.

We should have a clear Terms of Reference for the MWG, and a clear strategy should be created, approved and implemented.

How to do it, by whom

When the person I proposed at the Plenary this year was rejected, another person was quickly sought among those present, and perhaps the choice was a bit rushed. Despite her enthusiasm

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and good will, her experience is limited, she has only been in the ISC for 3 years, and in my opinion, many years in the sport are required to be able to promote it properly. We need to know where we come from in order to explain where we are and where we should be going.

It is essential to choose volunteers with relevant competence, skills, and knowledge with a track record of good performances in the field of Social Media management, willing to learn and to collaborate with the FAI Secretariat in a constructive manner.

What we should also decide whether we want an MWG that simply formalizes a contract with an external company or whether we want a working group that changes the way we promote our sport and gets involved in the task. Whatever option is chosen, the MWG must have the skills to understand the strategy, the goals and guide the external people or agency chosen.

Collaboration with the FAI Secretariat and ISC within the broader FAI context

Collaborating closely with the FAI Secretariat is crucial for us to reach out to people outside of our community and to the general public.

For your information and consideration, the FAI is developing a FAI Social Media Policy for Category 1 Events all public-facing communication about Category 1 events will be published on the FAI's main channels The FAI seeks to unify its social media presence to improve the promotion of air sports. Currently, a few Commissions (including ISC) cover their events on separate Commission channels, which leads to fragmentation, reduces the visibility of events, and limits sponsorship potential. To resolve this, all public-facing communication about Category 1 events will be published on the FAI's main channels, ensuring uniform coverage, greater reach, and better opportunities for cross-promotion between sports. Commissions would be able to share these posts and maintain their own channels for internal communication. Category 2 events may also be promoted on the main channels when they are relevant or have attractive content. Implementation will be collaborative and tailored to each Commission, with support from the FAI Secretariat and workshops to align best practices. The proposed document will be shared in the meeting cloud.

The ISC would benefit greatly by an accelerated growth by pooling audiences from all Air sports into one hub. Secretariat oversight ensures professional standards in tone, visuals, and accuracy. It would unify the brand, one look, one voice, reinforcing FAI's credibility worldwide. It would increase sponsor value because stronger FAI main channels offer scale, reliability, and broader exposure.

I think this is the way forward for ISC regarding Media and Promotion. The ISC would benefit greatly by securing visibility for all air sports under one unified voice, the policy reinforces FAI's brand, increases the value of Membership, and enhances the Federation's role and image as the global organization promoting air sports. Secretariat oversight ensures professional standards in tone, visuals, and accuracy Corporate image is a fundamental element for any organization, as it represents how the public perceives its identity, values, and professionalism. A solid, consistent, and well-managed image builds trust, sets the organization apart from other institutions, and strengthens its long-term reputation. In an increasingly visual and digital environment, having a clear and unified presence is essential to project credibility and attract new stakeholders, competitors, organizers and sponsors.

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In this context, promoting the ISC/FAI on social media becomes a powerful strategic tool. Social networks allow for direct, dynamic, and close communication, giving visibility to the institution's achievements, activities, projects, and services. Through engaging content, well-planned campaigns, and constant interaction with the community, the ISC/FAI can strengthen its positioning, increase its recognition, and build lasting relationships with our stakeholders.

In Summary

I insist on the importance of making the right decisions and appointing the right people to manage our MWG and I leave it now to the Plenary to make the best decision for our sport and for the future of the ISC.

11 ISC ELECTION YEAR

This year we hold our ISC Bureau Elections and I will be standing for reelection. When I stood two years ago in Orlando I said that I would be willing to serve for 2 terms and then I would stand down. I believe that 2 terms is good enough and that we should not remain in any position indefinitely and that four years is sufficient time of service. Offices should be renewed more frequently so that new blood can fill management positions and innovate with new ideas and proposals. In my opinion remaining in a position beyond four years is hindering the progress of the institution. Our Internal Regulations allow for longer terms, and although leaving a position does not necessarily mean completely disassociating oneself from the ISC, there should be a more frequent rotation in all the roles.

At the same time 2 years seem a bit too short, by the time you settle in it is election year again and that means that I should not suggest any important changes that could affect a new Bureau, if I am not elected.

If I do have the support of the plenary, I will serve for another two years, and if not, I will make a true transition with the new president, facilitating the handover and advising and reporting on everything I have learned over the past two years.

If I were to remain as president, the plenary should start considering who could be our next president and nominate that person to fill the position of Vice President so that the transition process is easier and there is no unnecessary interruption that does not benefit the ISC.

I want to finish my report by thanking the Bureau that has worked with me these two years, Vera, Tash, Rina, Omar and Jim, their warm, open, and friendly attitude has made the work very enjoyable and pleasant.

Best regards

Alberto Martin Paracuellos

ISC President