

**Competitors Sub Committee (CSC) Agenda  
2017 Meeting -- Hong Kong**

**Members**

Andrew Baird	USA	Chair
Paolo Oggioni	ITA	
Gerald Sturzlinger	AUT	
Uwe Schneider	GER	
Maury Sullivan	USA	
Tadas Gegevicus	LTU	
Hiromori Soejima	JPN	
Sam Parks	USA	
David Strassmann	GER	
Sylvia Meini	GER	
Markus Kalousdian	BRA	
Tom Miklousic	CRO	

**World Ranking List Keepers**

- Gerald Sturzlinger (AUT) - [Gerald.Stuerzlinger@rzl.at](mailto:Gerald.Stuerzlinger@rzl.at)
- Uwe Schneider (GER) - [u.schneider@dfsv.de](mailto:u.schneider@dfsv.de)

**1. Roll call, accounting for absences**

- *Present: Baird, Oggioni, Sturzlinger, Sullivan, Soejima, Parks, Meini, Kalousdian, Miklousic*
- *Absent: Schneider, Gegevicus, Strassman*
- *Observers Present:*
  - Laslo MERAPOL HUN
  - Sabu ICHIYOSHI JAP
  - Mathijs de BRUIJN NED
  - Eun Young ROH KOR
  - Sanne HARHUIS NED
  - Martine BESNAINOU FRA
  - David BAREFORD UK
  - Lindsay MUIR UK
  - Hiromi FURUKAWA JPN
  - Yuri MITYAGIN RUS
  - Mary Anne STEVENS (FAI)
  - Debbie SPAETH USA
  - Michael SUCHY CZR

**2. World Ranking List update**

- There have been no changes to the scoring formula
- 14 National Ranking reports update, and 3-5 still pending

**3. Discussion and Review of 2016 Events**

1. Jury Reports
  - No items for CSC action
2. Rules

- No items for CSC action

### 3. Scoring

- No items for CSC action

### 4. Safety

- No items for CSC action

### 5. Other

- Discussion about need for more information from organizers regarding licensing / Airworthiness issues. For example, it would be helpful if an organizer could alert competitors to any special requirement for license validation/conversion, restrictions on experimental aircraft, or other non-ICAO compliant issues.
- It was agreed that this is a very difficult subject that cannot be solved at this meeting. However, until further guidance is developed, CSC would like EDS to encourage organizers to at least provide a contact within their country who can answer these types of questions if needed.
- More study of this issue is needed

## 4. EDS: Invitation to chairman of EDS to speak to CSC regarding event issues

- No report given, but EDS issues discussed via other joint EDS/CSC Members. Specific EDS issues discussed under other CSC Agenda items

## 5. Bidding Procedures

### 1. Consideration of bids that have not met the deadline

- A discussion about the bid process was held, and summarized as follows:
  - Bids should not be thrown out purely for a minor technical reason – such as submission after the deadline. For example, late bids may be acceptable if submitted by a known/proven organizer who received sponsorship after the deadline. In general, as an alternative to having no event at all, bids that show an acceptable chance of success should be accepted for voting.
  - Test Events: in certain circumstances the requirement for a test event could be waived. For example, bids from a known organizer holding an event in a previously-used location, could be allowed – even if there is no ability to hold a test. This could be important is presented to replace a ‘failed’ bid(s) in order to not lose the opportunity for a championship – such as with the 2017 European Championship.
  - EDS is looking at test-event requirements based on Championship type
- With our current procedures, if we have 2 letters of intention to bid, no new bids are allowed. If both bids fail (for example, sponsorship is withdrawn) then NACs are not aware that the Championship is in Jeopardy.
- EDS is encouraged to reevaluate the letter of intent process regarding exclusivity.

- There needs to be more transparency regarding bid status. It is suggested that EDS creates a webpage to allow tracking of bid status (such as completion of complete key steps). EDS will consider this.

## 2. First round invitations vs maximum number of competitors

- Survey clearly indicates that pilots want the process to invite a reasonable number of pilots from each country AND as many of the best pilots from around the world such that the champion can reasonably claim to be the best pilot in the world.
- Although our invitation process typically accommodates this, there can be some exceptions.
  - In a World Championship of 100+5, if there is a fix number of three per country in the first round, it is likely that the second round may be very small or not exist at all. This does not achieve the goal of a 'balanced' event.
  - The same situation can occur with 2 per country if the organizer is only prepared to accept a smaller number of competitors
  - CSC will work this year to provide some possible solutions to other committees and working groups

## 3. Bid changes at the Plenary

- Last minute changes to a bid – during the Plenary, for example – take away the opportunity for competitors to give feedback/voting instructions to their delegate.
- Such changes should be strongly discouraged. EDS reports that the new Organizers Agreement may prevent such changes in future.

## 4. Combining first and second rounds

- On occasion, second round invitations have been sent before the closing of the first round. While this can be positive because pilots receive their invitations sooner, it can also be a problem because a NAC cannot adequately control the acceptances and may risk losing one or more invitations.
- The sporting code does not technically allow a premature second round invitation process – which is good. However, making the first round acceptance deadline as short as reasonably possible would be advantageous to competitors.

## 6. CSC pilot questionnaire results

- The CSC Survey results were presented and discussed.
- There are no specific action-items, but topics for further study were identified, and some are discussed under other Agenda-item headings.

## 7. Competitor Issues for 2018 / Questionnaire topics

- Is there a better scoring formula for limited scoring areas, and would give a fairer?
- The survey asked questions about who should be allowed to operate the controls of the balloon, drop markers, make declarations, etc. This caused a discussion about whether or not Solo tasks be required? What skills are we trying to test? Who is being tested – the pilot or the 'team' of people in the basket. This is an important subject to explore further and will help with identifying future rule changes.

- Officials – Training/Mentoring. There is a need to develop mentoring strategies to allow directors to gain suitable experience for FAI approval as a director.

## **8. Old Business**

1. None

## **9. New Business**

1. Andy Baird made a presentation to CSC and NTSC members about a new logger app developed by Mike Gilligan of the Balloon Federation of America. The app allows for declarations and marker drops using pilot-owned smart phones, and the transmission of data in real time. The app can alternatively be configured to work with a separate GPS logger that will transmit data to up to 5 devices allowing a pilot to have the same real-time position information on his moving map devices.
2. Markus Kalousdian made a presentation about BallooningFriends.com, which allows pilots to compete internationally by combining scores from team members around the world who are participating separately at existing events.

## **10. Summary of CSC-Working Group recommendations and Proposed Motions to the CIA Plenary Meeting**

- There are no motions
- Recommendations to other committees and working groups are the subject of ongoing work during the year.

## **11. CSC Members and Chairperson for 2017/2018**

1. There were no changes to the membership. Therefore proposed members and chairman are as follows:

Andrew Baird	USA	Chair
Paolo Oggioni	ITA	
Gerald Sturzlinger	AUT	
Uwe Schneider	GER	
Maury Sullivan	USA	
Tadas Gegevicus	LTU	
Hiromori Soejima	JPN	
Sam Parks	USA	
David Strassmann	GER	
Sylvia Meini	GER	
Markus Kalousdian	BRA	
Tom Miklousic	CRO	

## **12. Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 18:00