

CIAM DRONE SPORT SUBCOMMITTEE

2022 REPORT ACTIVITIES

In 2022, the Subcommittee (S/C) was composed of 35 members including the Chairman, from 34 countries.

The Basecamp 'CIAM Drone Sport Subcommittee) project have been used for exchanges within the S/C on different topics: World Games 2022, Drone Racing World Cup, WDRC 2023, F9A (Drone Soccer) class rules changes, e-sport drone activities,...

Volume F9 Drone Sport

The edition of the Volume F9 Drone Sport effective 1st January 2022 which had been published on December 7, 2021 did not include any rule changes.

A new edition effective 1st March 2022 had been published on March 4, 2022 in order to consider for the World Cup ranking only 3 contests of different countries for each competitor (instead 4 up to now). The goal was to improve the interest of the Drone Racing World Cup with the low number of events expected for 2022.

F9 S/C Working Groups

The F9 Drone Sport Technical Meeting (TM) had been held by zoom on Saturday 9th April 2022 with 30 participants from 22 countries.

Regarding rules of the F9U class (Drone Racing), the TM agreed that the S/C must continue the discussions in order to do proposals of rules' changes including:

- Rule C.1.5 Video system to clarify how a digital HD FPV system may be used.
- Rule C.9.3 Judge to introduce flexibility regarding the actual requirement of one judge dedicated to each pilot.

Jose-Manuel Martinez-Ibanez (ESP) has accepted to manage the action with a Working Group (WG). According to the Terms of Reference document dated April 2022, the responsibilities of the WG are to review the actual F9U class rules in order to identify rules which may be amended in addition to the items defined above, and propose for the S/C agreement the modifications of the rules with the duly justification. The report of the WG Chairman and the proposals of rules' changes had been transmitted to the S/C Chairman on November 2, 2022.

Regarding Drone Soccer (F9A class), the TM agreed to set up a WG chaired by David Roberts (USA) in order to submit proposals with the goal to promote and develop FAI drone soccer activities both for educational and competition purposes. The responsibilities of the WG are detailed in the Terms of Reference document dated April 2022. At that stage, the WG had proposed amendments of the F9A rules to be effective 1st January 2023.

It is now expected of the WG to:

- determine a format milestones and calendar towards an annual FAI Drone Soccer World Cup and/or a FAI Drone Soccer World Championship;
- define in cooperation with the CIAM Education S/C guidelines for an educational project based on drone soccer practice.

The TM also agreed to set up a WG for Drone e-sport activities' development with the goal to organize as soon as possible FAI e-DroneRacing competitions. Sotir Lazarkov (BUL) accepts to chair

the WG. The responsibilities of the WG are detailed in the Terms of Reference document dated April 2022.

Drone Racing World Cup (F9U class)

There were initially 14 Drone Racing World Cup contests from 11 different countries published on the FAI Calendar for the year 2022.

The FAI Drone Racing World Cup Moscow planned in July 29 to 31 in Russia had been removed from the calendar due to the February 28 FAI decision to ban Russian Federation.

Four other contests had been also removed from the calendar due to organisation issues.

So, 9 World Cup contests had been effectively organised.

The Drone World Cup El Yelmo contest held June 3 to 5 in Jaen (Spain) had not been retained for the World Cup ranking because all competitors were only from Spain.

So, there had been finally 8 contests, all from different countries, considered for the 2022 World Cup ranking.

Drone Racing World Drone Racing Championship (F9U class)

Regarding the World Drone Racing Championship (WDRC), FAI had been informed end March 2022 by Aero Sport Federation of China (ASFC) that it will be difficult to hold in China a satisfactory event under the current circumstances. In that situation, CIAM decided that there will be no WDRC organised in 2022 as it has been already the case in 2020 and 2021.

CIAM decided to launch a bidding process for the third edition to be held in 2023. The invitation to bid document has been widely distributed on July 7 with 15 September 15th as deadline to submit a bid. The deadline had been extended to October 15th after being informed by some members that due to summer holidays it was not possible to meet the original deadline.

The award of the WDRC 2023 to Korea had been announced on November 2 during the FAI General Conference. The WRDC will be hold in Namwon city from 6th to 9th October 2023 under KAMA supervision for the organisation.

The World Games 2022

The World Games (TWG) led by the International World Games Association (IWGA) are organized the year after the Summer Olympic Games. After decision to postpone the Tokyo Olympic Games to 2021 due to Covid pandemic, the IWGA decided that the 2021 TWG awarded to Birmingham, Alabama, USA will be postponed in 2022 from July 7 (Opening Ceremony) to July 17 (Closing Ceremony).

FAI was concerned by two discipline events: Drone Racing (CIAM) and Canopy Piloting (ISC).

The Drone Racing event had been based on the F9U class rules with 32 athletes selected (22 men and 10 women).

Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) suggested David Roberts, who had been pilot judge for the 2018 and 2019 WDRCs, to support the Birmingham Organizer Committee for the organisation of the Drone Racing event.

Subject to run the competition on two days only (Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 July), David convinced the BOC to hold the event in the Protective Stadium (instead Barber Motorsports Park) used for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

Noosphere which is located in Ukraine was retained by Swiss Timing as subcontractor to provide the timekeeping system and the event management system. Noosphere had been finally obliged to

withdraw due to the war in Ukraine. So, with very short notice, David and his team also took on the tasks assigned to Noosphere.

Build the track and get all the technical systems operational with only one day available after the Opening Ceremony was a real challenge. In addition, a storm with heavy rain on Saturday afternoon obliged to stop the competition. The hard and professional work done permitted to fly all qualifying rounds while respecting the schedule as planned on Sunday for the elimination and final stages.

A big thank to David and his team for this very successful event. All Drone Racing athletes had been satisfied and were happy to compete in the World Games.

Communication

The FAI Drone Sport mini-site (<https://www.fai.org/drone-sports>) has been updated as necessary during the year.

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