

# Technical Secretary's Report to the CIAM Plenary of March 2009

## 1. Sporting Code 2009 Edition

You were all made aware by email of the reasons for the late publication of the volumes of the 2009 edition of the Sporting Code. I sincerely hope that this will not happen again.

Some amendments resulted in a revised 2009 ABR volume being published on 4th February 2009.

## 2. Changes to the ABR Volume

A number of modifications were made to the ABR volume to correct obsolete references and re-structure sentences for clarity. Consequential changes, some of which appear under some of the headings in this document have also been instituted. All the changes are listed in the Amendments Page of the volume. It is essential that the English language Sporting Code is as correct as we can manage to enable accurate translations into other languages. There are some amendments to which I should draw to your attention:

- 2.1. Results - An important amendment was made to ABR B.5.4 Results to remove a conflict with the General Section. The deadlines for submission of contest results has been considerably reduced.
- 2.2. Unsporting Behaviour – approved at the 2008 Plenary has been located at B.3.1 with a reference back to that at B.19.2.
- 2.3. Specification Certificate - Proposals have been submitted to correct the text at B.16.6 to exclude Scale model aircraft from having to carry an FAI sticker. The specification certificate already carries this exclusion. However, at B.16.8 Scale has an exclusion to carry a model identification code and this had been omitted from the specification certificate. This has been amended in the sample specification certificate at Annex B.1a in the 2009 edition of ABR.
- 2.4. World Records
  - 2.4.1. Special Rules for Speed Records in Circular Flight (i) – In 2.7.1, the minimum flight circle radii in classes 131 & 132 had, at some stage in the past (probably when the competition class line length had been lengthened), been incorrectly increased too. This has now been corrected to 15.92 m, 10 laps.
  - 2.4.2. World Records Table I – A slight amendment in the F2 section to delineate F2C Team Race from F2A Speed.
  - 2.4.3. Record Claim Dossiers - In order to facilitate a more efficient transfer of data from record claims into the FAI database and to bring CIAM in line with other Commission, discussions with the FAI office have resulted in some nomenclature and layout changes in Part Two – Records, Table III with a consequential change to the upper two items in Table II. There is a slight layout change to item 9 of that table..

## 3. Proposal Submissions

### 3.1. Year of Submission

Very many proposals had to be returned as they had been submitted in the wrong year of the two-year cycle. ABR A.12 is very clear regarding what rule changes may be submitted and when.

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### 3.2. Format of Proposals

It was good to see that all proposals for this Plenary meeting were submitted on the new forms. However, proposals are still being submitted by some NACs and Sub-committees in various formats and often in formats that either cannot, or cannot easily, be converted to Word, including pdf. This causes extra unnecessary work for the Secretary and Technical Secretary. Which format to use is explained very clearly in the information sheet that accompanies the downloadable file from the CIAM page of the FAI website: either RTF or MS-Word 97-2003. A sentence to this effect has been added to the end of ABR A.6.1 and a line to the bottom of ABR Annex A.2.b in the 2009 edition of the ABR Volume.

It has been agreed that NACs and Delegates who submit proposals outside these parameters in the future will have the proposals returned to them. Proposals in the correct format may be re-submitted but only up to the 15th November of any year. So, NACs & Sub-Committees who do not observe these simple rules risk having their proposals omitted from the following Plenary Agenda.

To help identify whether the rule proposal is a rule change or a clarification check boxes have been added to the form downloadable from the website. This amendment to the form will appear in the 2010 edition of the ABR volume of the Sporting Code.

### 3.3. File Name of Proposal

Often the electronic proposal files are not properly named according to the form shown in the information sheet that accompanies the downloadable proposal form.. This again causes extra and unnecessary work on the already heavy burden of the Secretary and Technical Secretary in assembling the various sections of the Plenary Agenda.

Although the current file naming has been in force since the electronic submission of proposals was instituted, it is no longer a practical arrangement for the huge number of proposals that are submitted each year. A more appropriate file name must be used for proposals for future Plenary Meetings. The information sheet that accompanies the downloadable proposal form has also been revised and appears, with examples, at Appendix 1 of this report along with the revised proposal form itself.. We would be grateful if NACs & Sub-committees could please work to this.

It should be noted that it is practical to have only one proposal per form under the new file naming protocol.

## 4. **New Procedures**

As you are aware, the procedure for submitting names for the Judges & Sub-Committee lists changed a little this year. In previous years the action has been initiated by the NACs who forwarded to the FAI office the completed forms, samples of which may be found on page two of ABR Annexes A.2c & A.2d. The new database in the FAI office now logs the previous year's names. The nomination process is now initiated by the FAI office emailing to the appropriate NAC a single .pdf file containing a sheet for each logged name with all associated details. This file also contains the cover sheet (page one of the ABR Annexes A.2c & A.2d) and the "traditional" form (page two of those Annexes) that is now to be used only for **new** names. The NACs then simply use tick boxes on each sheet of the existing names to indicate whether that person should continue to be considered or not. The cover sheet is to authenticate the submission in the usual way. This new procedure needed some textual changes to both the cover sheet and the "new names" sheet and these have been incorporated into the 2009 edition of the ABR volume of the Sporting Code. At the December Bureau meeting it was agreed that the forms should request more appropriate data and this was incorporated into the revised 2009 ABR volume published February.

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## **5. RC Frequencies**

The update is now finalised and up-to-date RC frequency information is available on the CIAM website.

## **6. World Records**

There have been eight successful world records this year.

## **7. General**

### List of Classes

Some years ago, Plenary agreed that alphas that could be confused with either other alphas or numerics should not be used for class designations. A full list of current classes has now finalised and published on the CAM website. This should be helpful for those who submit new classes to allocate the correct sequential alpha/numeric class designation. It should be noted that the provisional class F3I (Aero Tow Gliders) has, under this policy, been renamed to F3Q.

Mrs Jo Halman  
CIAM Technical Secretary  
8th February 2009

Electronic Submission of CIAM Proposals  
Updated February 2009

This document should be used in conjunction with the MS Word Proposal Form that was included in the ZIP file that you downloaded from the Forms section of the CIAM website.

An example of the completion of the proposal form may be seen in the example at Annex A.2b in Volume ABR of Section 4 of the FAI Sporting Code.

Please submit the electronic proposal with a file name made up from the following elements and in the order illustrated:

**File name = AAA xxxx ZZZ oo**

where AAA = class

where xxxx = the number of the paragraph of the rule

where ZZZ = the Olympic 3-character abbreviation for the NAC country (as listed in Annex B.2 of Volume ABR) or the abbreviated version of a Sub-committee

where oo = the year of the Plenary meeting at which the proposal is to be considered

Some example file names:

**F3A 5.1.10 FRA 10**

Class F3A for specific paragraph rule 5.1.10 – Judging, submitted by France for Plenary 2010.

**F2B 6.5.2.1 SUI 10**

Class F2B for specific paragraph rule 6.5.2.1 in Annex 4E, submitted by Switzerland for Plenary 2010.

**ABR A.10 GBR 10**

ABR volume for the specific paragraph rule A.10 - Judges Lists, submitted by the United Kingdom for Plenary 2010.

**F3C 5.4.10.b F3 Heli S-C 10**

Class F3C for specific paragraph rule 5.4.10.b) – Scoring submitted by the F3 Helicopter Sub-committee for Plenary 2010.

**ABR B.3.1 F3 Aero S-C 10**

ABR volume for the specific paragraph rule B.3.1 – Competitor submitted by the F3 Aerobatics Sub-committee for Plenary 2010.

Please note that this file naming protocol restricts each form to one proposal only.

The completed proposal form may be submitted in either RTF or MS-Word 97-2003 format.

Completed proposal forms must be sent electronically by the NAC or the Sub-Committee Chairman to be with the FAI office no later than 15th November of the year preceding the Plenary meeting at which the proposals will be considered. Signed hard copies must also be sent to the FAI office and, in the case of a NAC, contain the NAC's stamp.

CIAM Technical Secretary  
February 2009

**FEDERATION AERONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE**  
**AEROMODELLING COMMISSION (CIAM) - PROPOSAL FORM**

**Date:**

**Proposal submitted by:**

**Sporting Code Volume:**

**Heading of section:**

**Class:**

**Number & heading of the paragraph:**

**Page number if appropriate:**

**This proposal is a:**

Rule Change	
Clarific- ation	

Safety	
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Noise	
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Other	
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**mark the boxes with ✕  
as appropriate**

**Type the instruction in the space below:**

**Type the text changes in the space below** (*show deletions as ~~strike-through~~ and additions as **bold underlined***):

**Type the reasons in the space below:**

**Type any supporting data for the proposed technical amendments in the space below:**