



Belgische ParamotorFederatie
Fédération Belge du paramoteur



Belgian Paramotor Federation Report for CIMA 2010

Regulations

There is still no belgian regulation regarding paramotor activities. For several years the belgian paramotor federation is actively involved within the creation of the regulation

At this time a draft regulation is being reviewed by court officials to ensure there are no issues or incompatibilities with other belgian or european laws. Once the proposal is approved it will be submitted to the local communities for review and/or discussion.

We are getting close to a regulation and hope it will see the lights somewhere within 2011.

Due to the lack of a federal regulation local mayors of communities are attempting to create community regulations which allow paramotoring activities under certain conditions or plainly disallow it.

In Belgium a mayor has the rights to decide what activities are allowed in his community. In practice a mayor can potentially forbid the takeoff of a paramotor in his community. However his mandate does not include any air activity.

Since several mayors are attempting to create local community regulations, this is potentially becoming a nightmare for a paramotorpilot to be able to takeoff somewhere.

This is the main reason why the belgian paramotorfederation wants this regulations in effect as soon as possible so that local regulations are overridden by the federal regulations.



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Belgian Paramotor Championship 2010

This year the belgian paramotorfederation purchased 40 FAI approved flightloggers which can be freely used by our competition pilots.

16 Foot launched and 6 trike pilots attended the 2010 championship which was held at Matagne (a local ULM airfield within the ardennes)

The organization of this year championship was a bit different then the prior ones, mainly we tried not to be depended on any local infrastructure. We just used some fields and that was it.

We hired briefing containers, toilets, showers, generators,.....

If we could organize it like this, we could potentially organize the event everywhere without being dependant on anyone.

The championships are becoming more and more popular in belgium. We see that new pilots are getting attracted to the competition, mainly due to the fact that during the year, several pilots organize events, which we call "PARAMOTOR GAMES"

These paramotorgames are a bit comparable to competition, we organize navigations, agility tasks,etc... however without the pressure of time and no scorings are done. This significantly lowers the threshold for pilots to attend. Once they got a taste for the paramotor games, the official competition is the next step.

2010 Champions:

Foot Launched

- 1 Filip Peremans
- 2 Steven Vanderper
- 3 Daniel Legrand

Trike

- 1 Luc Fonteyne
- 2 Benjamin Moers
- 3 Michel De Kerpel

Belgium is a small country with few open spaces left. Therefore the organization of air-events is rather difficult due to noise pollution and local people complaining lots of the time.

We are very eager to host a larger event such as European or World Championships, however we think it is advisable to wait until the local regulations are formalized as such so we can get formal approval for the organization of these events and more important the the event, once started cannot be stopped.



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Belgian Paramotor Federation information

Total amount of members	486
Total BPMF pilot licenses	432
Total BPMF Tandem licenses	59
Total BPMF Instructors	15

We have developed an online membership information and administration portal.

Each member can access the portal and access:

- Personal information (review and modify)
- Print his membership card
- Register gliders
- Online flight logbook
- Search for other pilots using several search criteria
- Look for schools
- View all sorts of statistics
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Accidents

In 2010 there have been no fatalities due to paramotor activities.

Several small accidents happened, however mainly with pilots who are not affiliated with the belgian paramotor federation.

Recently an accident happened with a trike (Fresh Breeze Xcitor), the pilot is seriously injured and is still recovering within the hospital.
The investigation as to, what really happened is still ongoing.

Best Regards

Patrick Vandenbulcke
Administrator belgian paramotor federation