



IGC – FAI Challenge Cups

Part 1 – Summary and Rules

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1.1 Rules

World Gliding Championships are held in following classes

- Open Class, 20 m Multi Seat class, 18 m class, 15 m class, Standard class, Club class and 13,5 m class
- Women's WGC Club class, Standard class and 18 m class so far
- Junior's WGC Club class and Standard class

1.1.2 Administration

Five World Gliding Championships will be held until further notice, three WGCs in the even-numbered years, and three WGCs in the following year. Each FAI WGCs will take place every two years.

The current World Championships calendar is as follows:

2024	a) WGCs	Open-class, 18 m-class, 20 m Multi Seat class
	b) JWGCs	Club- , Standard class
	c) WGC	13,5 m class
2025	a) WGCs	Club-class, Standard-class, 15 m class
	b) WWGCs	Club-class, Standard-class, 18 m class

The Final of the 11th FAI/SGP was held at Pavullo / Italy at the end of August 2023.

The Sailplane Grand Prix events, the Champions and awardees are chronicled on the FAI SGP Website and fully archived there. The Soaring Grand Prix Champion has not so far received a FAI Challenge Cup

1.1.2.1 Return of FAI Challenge Cups

The FAI Challenge Cups shall be kept by the winners until the next World Gliding Championships of the appropriate class will take place and shall be returned to the organisers of the WGCs before the start of the next championship. The holder of the Challenge Cup is requested to bring the Cup either personally or through the respective Team Captain to the Organiser of the next championship, or to arrange for the trophy to be shipped in time.

This also applies to the special FAI Challenge Cups such as the Robert Kronfeld Challenge Cup, the Göran Ax Memorial Trophy and the Team Cup Trophy (to be awarded to the Team World Champions of the WWGCs and JWGCs). The WGC Organiser should ensure that the FAI Challenge Cups and Special Cups are available and have been engraved in time for the Award Ceremony. It is recommended that WGC Organisers contact the NAC of the Cup holder in good time to arrange the most convenient way of returning the Cup. The Chief Steward is requested to follow up on this.

1.1.2.2 Engraving

The engraving shall include the year and the place of the event, the name and the country of the winner. It is recommended to the holder of the Cup to organise the engraving before the start of the next WGC. The Organisers of World Gliding Championships should ensure that the engravings have been carried out.

1.1.3 Special FAI Challenge Cups

The rules for these awards are in Appendix A

Robert-Kronfeld-Challenge Cup . The Cup will be presented to a pilot flying at the World Gliding Championships that is competed in the Open, 18 m and 20 m Multi Seat Class so far.

World Soaring Cup - Challenge Cup . The WSC will be presented to the IGC Champion Pilot of the Year.

Göran Ax Memorial Trophy This will be awarded to the pilot in the Open Class in WGCs who achieves the highest accumulated kilometers in a World Gliding Championship.

The FAI Challenge Team Cup Trophy will be awarded at FAI Women's World Gliding Championships and Junior's World Gliding Championships to the Team Captains of the Team Champions.

1.1.4 Change of rules

If any FAI World Gliding Championships class is discontinued as a FAI World Gliding Championship Class, the FAI Gliding Commission shall decide how and if the respective FAI Challenge Cup shall be awarded in the future

Appendix A – FAI Challenge Cups

Rules for the Special FAI Challenge Cups

Robert-Kronfeld-Challenge Cup

- a) The CUP will be presented to a pilot flying at the World Gliding Championships that is competed in the Open -, 18 m – and 20 m Multi Seat classes.
- b) *The winner of the CUP will have flown the longest **Marking Distance** during the WGCs, regardless of type of task. (It does not require a special calculation, but can be taken from the list of results)*
- c) *If there is a tie for the longest **Marking Distance** flown, the winner of the CUP will be the pilot that attained the longest **Marking Distance (task)** at the highest **SPEED***
- d) *If there is a tie between pilots in the longest Marking Distance flown and no highest **SPEED** is achieved, the tie will be broken and the CUP will be won by the pilot having the earliest out landing time*

Göran Ax Memorial Trophy

- a) *The Göran Ax Trophy is awarded to the pilot who achieves the highest accumulated Marking Distance in the Open Class during an entire World Gliding Championship. Training days are not counted.*
- b) *A tie is broken by the higher overall placement at the end of the competition*

Engraving *The engraving shall include the year and the place of the event, the name and the country of the winner. It is recommended to the holder of the Cup to organise the engraving before the start of the next WGC. The holder of the Challenge Cup is requested to bring the Cup either personally or through the respective Team Captain to the Organiser of the next championship, or to arrange for the trophy to be shipped in time. The Organisers of World Gliding Championships should ensure that the engravings have been carried out.*

The World Soaring Cup

F.A.I. Bye Laws 7.4.4. The IGC CHAMPION PILOT OF THE YEAR will be selected from the Champions in all the classes across all Qualifying Competitions. (A Qualifying Competition is any FAI-sanctioned World Gliding Championship that becomes valid in a given Championship calendar year). The selection will be made after the Closing Ceremony of the final Qualifying Competition of the Championship calendar year. This evaluation applies to each class in every Qualifying Competition.

- *The World Champion's Final Score (FS) is the conclusive score of the World Champion.*
- *The Maximum Possible Score (MPS) is the sum of the winning scores of every valid competition day.*
- *The World Champion's World Soaring Cup Score (CS) is : $CS = 100 \times FS / MPS$*

In each Championship Calendar Year, the World Champion with the highest WSC Score will be given the title of the **IGC CHAMPION PILOT OF THE YEAR** and awarded the World Soaring Cup. Ties will result in Co-Champions.

The **WSC** will be awarded to the new **IGC CHAMPION PILOT OF THE YEAR** as soon as practical at the conclusion of the final WGC of the Championship Calendar Year. The winner has the option of having the WSC shipped to him/her by FAI or receiving the WSC at the IGC Plenary meeting normally held in February/March. The Champion Pilot of the Year will receive a **World Soaring Cup Diploma** issued by the FAI and signed by the International Gliding Commission President. (See Note 1)

The current IGC **CHAMPION PILOT OF THE YEAR** will surrender the World Soaring Cup on or before December 15th in the year he/she has held the WSC. FAI to make arrangements for shipping the WSC either to FAI Home Office in Lausanne or to the new **IGC CHAMPION PILOT OF THE YEAR**

A historical record of the IGC **WORLD SOARING CUP** will be kept in the FAI/IGC archives and every current and former **IGC CHAMPION PILOT OF THE YEAR** will be chronicled on the FAI/IGC website. As used above, a Championship Calendar Year is the year for which the World Gliding Championship was awarded by the Plenary.

Airmanship Trophy for Fairplay

At the discretion of the Competition Director and the athletes / competitors to reward act of great sportsmanship and helpfulness of a pilot or team towards another competitor who, without such support, would very likely have to end the competition, with a trophy in recognition of FAIRPLAY. The trophy is not a FAI challenge cup; it will remain in the possession of the honoured person or crew

Note 1: From the minutes of the IGC Bureau meeting October 2024, Agenda Item 9.b.

Process for the IGC Champion Pilot of the Year The Bureau decided to investigate the creation of a smaller version of the trophy, which would be easier to transport and could be kept by the winning pilots. The aim is to bring the award ceremony back to the plenary session of the IGC, as this would be the optimum solution in terms of logistics and timing