

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>IPC WEBMASTER REPORT FOR 2010</b>	<b>Annex no. -</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Author(s):</b>	<b>Susan Dixon, IPC Webmaster</b>	<b>Agenda ref. -</b>	<b>7.3</b>
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## IPC Webmaster Report for 2010

This is my 5<sup>th</sup> year as Webmaster, and the style of the website has remained much the same over the past four years. Live reporting from events that I have attended, and reports sent to me for inclusion by IPC officials at other events; updating of information on the site, such as Information Notices, Bureau Newsletters, Competition Bulletins, the Canopy Formation Web Challenge, and other news items sent to me

At the IPC Meeting in Lausanne in January I had a meeting with Thierry Montigneaux, my FAI contact for the website; we agreed various changes to the appearance of the IPC front page which he was going to effect as and when possible. Unfortunately he left the FAI before these changes were made. I have been in touch with his replacement, Faustine Carrera, who has only just joined the FAI, and will follow up, with her, the various proposed changes during 2011. The IPC pages form a very small part of the overall website and she is also responsible for Media (i.e. PR, publicity etc. with the website forming a small part of her responsibilities). Additionally the FAI is in the process of outsourcing upgrading the software of the actual site – as some changes made during the past year have resulted in the “loss” of information – particularly the archive of competition results. This is being addressed urgently and should be back on line by March 2011.

At the start of 2010 the Chair of the Style and Accuracy Committee, John Hitchin, asked me to put the Roll of Honour of all Style and Accuracy Champions, since the very first World Championships, onto the web site – this is now available under the discipline pages. Subsequently, Fiona McEachern, Chair of the Formation Skydiving Committee asked me to post their results in the same format. Between now, and this meeting I hope to have the information (from the FAI) for the other disciplines to create a Roll of Honour for each one to post on site.

The first “event” of 2010 was the IPC Meeting in Lausanne, from which I reported live; this elicited the comment from the new FAI Secretary General, Stéphane Desprez that we were ahead of many of the other Air Sports Commissions in the way we were using the website as a media and communication tool.

The competition season started with the Para-Ski World Cup in Italy, unfortunately I was unable to attend, but received excellent reports and pictures from Gillian Winter, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President who was attending as a Jury member.

This was followed by the Formation Skydiving, Artistic Events and Canopy Formation World Championships in Menzelinsk, Russia. Here I was assisted by Fay Kimble and together we were able to keep the results posted, almost live, along with pictures, news and videos. We had hoped to work with CamTrix in having a “live” feed from the DZ TV for results and competition dives, but the decision by the organiser to use the Omniskore system for judging and DZ TV did not give us the same digital interface. As it was, the YouTube site we set up to post the videos received over 2,000 hits during the competition and 17,590 to date – it was just a pity we could only post selected videos. Thanks must go to everyone in Menzelinsk who helped make this possible.

The results from Kolomna for the Canopy Piloting World Championships were electronically provided by Dirk Venter and were live from the competition site. Gillian Winter (FAI Controller) sent daily news reports on the progress of the competition, and Sylvia Wagner and Pernille Herold provided pictures.

The Style and Accuracy competition in Montenegro was a very different proposition, and the results were sent as scanned ‘photographic’ images from the printed results, by Annette and John Hitchen

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(FAI Controller) and Liam McNulty with pictures and reports from both Liam and Faye Cox (Jury). Fay Kimble and I then had to manually re-input the results into a format that was acceptable to the web site. The delays in obtaining the results on site, and then in the transmission and reworking meant that they were not as fast as I would have preferred to post them. Hopefully, in the future, by working in advance with whatever system is used for judging and scoring we can have “live” instant results, as if the web reader was at the competition site. Couple that with pictures, videos and “news” items and the IPC Web site becomes a dynamic promotion tool for our sport.

For the future I would also like to redevelop the Links Page to other parachuting web sites. The FAI removed this page without reference to us as they felt it was ineffective. To reinstate it I need each delegate to give me the details of their National Web Site and to promote links between each site. Obviously each competition site should have a two way link as well, although the IPC Site will still remain the “Official” site, it is good to spread the availability and parachuting message as widely as possible, and removes the need for a competition site to input the results as well.

Other changes this year; we have introduced a page of “other competitions” where we post information about competitions in the skydiving world that do not fall into the Category 1 FAI competition. This is again to broaden the appeal of the web site, and get skydivers around the world marking the IPC Web site as a “favourite!”

At the last IPC Meeting Jacqui Brewer was asked to head up a working group to look into Wingsuit Large Formation judging criteria. In order to involve the whole Wingsuit large formation community Jacqui used the IPC Website Forum facility and made access to this as open as possible. This worked for part of the year until it was “discovered” by various spam creators – we then found the site advertising some very unsavoury and non-skydiving related products. Once I realised what was happening I made it a daily task to delete the latest unrelated “forum posts”. However by the start of December I was deleting over 400 a day! Obviously this could not continue and I closed (with Jacqui's agreement) the Forum. Even that did not cure the problem, and the FAI have closed all the IPC Forums until we can decide on how to proceed in the future with Forums on the Web site. Whatever is decided will have to have access criteria and approval mechanisms in place.

We have also published a link to a medical survey being organised by Dr. Florian Ebner and it will be interesting to learn the results.

The Bureau has published 3 newsletters this year, and there have been 3 Information Notices. As Bulletins are issued for each competition, they are posted both on the IPC Page and the FAI Competition Calendar to maximise the exposure.

I will again appeal to the Committee Chairs to charge a committee member to let me have an updated “our discipline” report and pictures for the Discipline pages – and also for Delegates to check their Who's Who Profiles and let me know of any changes.

Thank you to everyone who has helped my work on the IPC Website during 2010 and I look forward to working with the changes to come via the FAI for 2011.

Susan Dixon  
IPC Webmaster