



**DFSV**

To:  
President of International Ballooning Commission, Jean Claude Weber

To:  
Fédération Aéronautique Internationale  
Avenue Mon Repos 24  
CH 1005 Lausanne

Distribution via email:

- CIA Secretary (Alex Nagorski)
- DFSV board members
- DFSV delegate to CIA (Uwe Schneider)

10.01.2009

### **Changing the mandatory usage of observers in Category 1 Sporting Events to "optional"**

Dear Mr. President,

we kindly ask you to accept this topic and the motions to be included for the 2009 agenda of the Plenary Session. Thank you very much.

Reason:

The 2008-motion to re-establish the "mandatory observer" may very well prove to become disadvantageous to the future development of the sport. Whereas some good arguments claim to include observers in competitions there are also arguments presenting a different point of view.

The discussion has developed into a discussion "pro observers" or "contra observers". The German Federation wants to express their opinion that we are disappointed about the direction this discussion has taken.

We hope that opportunities and chances are balanced against increasing organizational challenges and serious budget implications. Also, we have to benefit from technical developments in the logger / gps / tracking field which will quite likely provide new opportunities within the next very few years. We all hope that this may also create a positive momentum towards promoting major international events.



Our sport must remain attractive and flexible to changing demands by the public and to technical developments.

Motion 1:

Any NAC bidding for an event or submitting the sanction document is invited to present its concept without limitations. NACs are invited to present new ideas and incorporate developments to the future benefit of the sport.

Motion 2:

With immediate effect, observers "may" be part of Category 1 events again. No longer, their usage is mandatory.

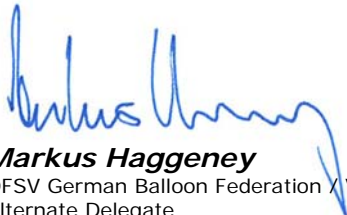
Motion 3:

Organizers may decide to bid for their event under both options "with observers" and / or "without observers". They must present the concept and the style as well as the effect on the level of the entry fee so sufficiently, that delegates may identify the opportunities and downsides of each concept. In any case the following questions must be answered as part of the bidding process:

- a) Who is responsible to provide enough observers: NAC taking care of this *or* the pilot bringing the observer at own cost with him/her?
- b) How is the quality of each observer checked before and guaranteed to be sufficient for the event?
- c) What logger technology will be put in place? Who is paying for it?
- d) What cost implication will there be on the entry fee?

Thank you very much for considering our thoughts which we are ready to present – if necessary – during the conference.

Mit freundlichem Gruß / Best regards / Sincerely



**Markus Haggenev**  
DFSV German Balloon Federation / VP  
Alternate Delegate