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IPC CONTROLLER'S REPORT WORLD-CUP CANOPY PILOTING 2003 Perris Valley, CA / USA

Dr. Rainer EXI Hoenle

The fact, that this event comprised Canopy Piloting, a discipline in parachuting that just has been adopted by the IPC as a First Category event, seems to rectify an IPC Controller's report, because – as stated in SC 5, 4.1.1.(5) – there are issues, that have to be considered or decided by the IPC.

1. The Canopy Piloting event consists of 3 disciplines, Speed course, Distance and Landing Zone Accuracy. All 3 were performed and in effect can be portrayed in a safe, controlled and attractive manner. Within close to 800 competition jumps one of the top competitors in the field suffered a broken ankle due to a tripped landing, which can happen on any landing.
2. With the possibility of getting instant results, having all 3 disciplines portrayed close to spectators and providing a diverse variety of close-up advertising areas the new discipline is utterly attractive. Nevertheless, the scoring methods used on this first-timer need to be technically brushed up and standardized. The CJ report and the conclusion out of this will cover this issue
3. With some adjustments and standardisation the displayed format of the 3 disciplines can be recommended to be included into IPC's competition calendar, even at a World Championship level. The Chair of the temporary CP working group will comment on this.
4. To the IPC Controller the Landing Accuracy Zone event and the Distance event have the most potential in ways of easy to understand and attractively to be presented.
5. To establish the speed event, the event should be leaned more towards speed, especially when presenting the results. Normally, speed is more imagined with speed, rather than a performance where the length of the course plays a major role in the performance of the competitor, who actually loses more and more speed while getting to the finish line. I envision an event with a shorter carving distance, where the entry speed at the gate and the speed through a shorter course are displayed instantly, for example via radar or laser or light beam measurement.
6. For the first time an IPC First category event had to be judged and scored by a set of judges, who came partially from the IPC side, partially from the ProSwoop tour side, an entity which developed this event into the competition format used. The method of installing a trainee course before the competition started and the combined effort of all the judges attending the course and the competition proved to be very successful. The CJ report does mention this also.
7. If there are future CP events we will not have IPC approved judges for this disciplines yet, since none of the attendees will have the requirements as stated in the sporting code 5 to act as an FAI judge in this discipline, yet. An exception to the rule is recommended.
8. There is no doubt, that the Organiser, materialised in Meet Director Scott Smith did everything, to make this first World Cup in a new discipline a success. Congratulations!

Dr. Rainer EXI Hoenle
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