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Authors representing:	President		Doc. nr:	1
Date:		Repl. doc. dated / version:	N/A	Page
				1 of 1

IPC PRESIDENTS REPORT

IPC/FAI

President attended the Air Sport Commissions' meeting in Friedrichshafen .

The cycle of board elections was discussed and the motion proposed by IPC to have a two years' term election was defeated.

President attended the General Conference in Cracow.

The Spanish dispute has been definitively solved.

IPC Competitions

An important number of competitions have taken place during the course of the past year and among them, the Anton Malevsky Memorial which was a World Cup this year and which drew a large audience thanks to an impeccable organisation.

The Mondial of Parachuting, which included all the Parachuting World Championships with the exception of Paraski, was the highlight of 2003. The French organisation got close to what it is important to show both the general public and the different media. 10000 jumps from 11 aircraft into three different sites during the training period and the competition of which the finals were all held at the principle site of Gap Tallard. All the technical requirements to ensure a total success were present and the requirements of the media were catered for on the spot. Finally, and for the first time ever, a trophy was attributed to the best parachuting nation which generated a lot of interest and motivation.

The Canopy Piloting World Cup was successfully completed in the USA and there is no doubt that this new discipline will contribute considerably to the future development of parachuting.

Unfortunately, these three major competitions suffered from clashing with other continental or local competitions and participation could have been stronger if this had not been the case. The coordination of the different actions and calendars in each country and the communication between the countries is still a major obstacle to the development of parachuting within the FAI.

As you have noticed in « decisions made by the bureau », every person leading a chair has done her or his voluntary work to contribute to the activity of our body.

To finish on a more positive note, after having adopted the new format for competitions, the IPC is pleased to note that there are more potential organisers than ever for first category events and this sign of vitality needs to be encouraged but with a certain control.

Patrice Girardin
IPC President