



IGC – FAI Challenge Cups

Part 2 – History of the FAI Open Class Challenge Cup

Author : Gisela Weinreich

Editor : Peter Purdie

- 1937 The 1st World Gliding Championship took place at the Wasserkuppe in Germany. Glider pilots from 6 nations participated: Great Britain, Switzerland, Austria, Poland, Czech-Slovakia and Germany. The winner was Heini Dittmar, Germany with a 19 m Fafnir Sao Paulo.
- 1948 The 2nd World Gliding Championship was organised in Samedan, Switzerland. The champion of the Open Class, Per-Axel Persson from Sweden, was awarded the FAI Open Class Challenge Cup. The Challenge Cup, donated by Switzerland.
- 1952 From the 4th WGC until 1956, the World Gliding Championships were organised in 2 classes, Open Class (Single Seater Class) and Two Seater Class. The FAI Open Class Challenge Cup was awarded to the winner of the single seater "Open Class".
- 1958 The World Gliding Championships took place at Leszno/Poland for the first time in Open Class and Standard Class. The competition in the Two Seater Class was discontinued. Since 1948 the FAI Open Class Challenge Cup has so far been awarded to 36 champions of the Open Class from 11 nations.

Description of the Cup: The FAI Challenge Cup Open Class is a 32 cm high silver cup mounted upon a green marble foot forming a two-layer octagon.

Engraving

:

*Fédération Aéronautique Internationale,
Championnat du Monde de Vol à Voile.*



Rules and Regulations see part 1 – IGC FAI Challenge Cups 1.1 – 1.1.4

List of the Open Class Champions and events

1948	2 nd WGC	Per-Axel Persson, Sweden	Samedan/Switzerland
1950	3 rd WGC	Billy Nilsson, Sweden	Örebro/Sweden
1952	4 th WGC	Philip Wills, Great Britain	Madrid/Spain
1954	5 th WGC	Gérard Pierre, France	Camphill/Great Britain
1956	6 th WGC	Paul McCready, USA	Saint Yan/France
1958	7 th WGC	Ernst Haase, Germany	Leszno/Poland
1960	8 th WGC	Rudolfo Hossinger, Argentina	Colonge/Germany
1963	9 th WGC	Eduard Makula, Poland	Junin/Argentina
1965	10 th WGC	Jan Wroblewski, Poland	South Cerney/Great Britain
1968	11 th WGC	Harro Wödl, Austria	Leszno/Poland
1970	12 th WGC	George Moffat, USA	Marfa/USA
1972	13 th WGC	Göran Ax, Sweden	Vrsac/Yugoslavia
1974	14 th WGC	George Moffat, USA	Waikerie/Australia
1976	15 th WGC	George Lee, Great Britain	Räyskälä/Finland
1978	16 th WGC	George Lee, Great Britain	Chateauroux/France
1981	17 th WGC	George Lee, Great Britain	Paderborn/Germany
1983	18 th WGC	Ingo Renner, Australia	Hobbs/USA
1985	19 th WGC	Ingo Renner, Australia	Rieti/Italy
1987	20 th WGC	Ingo Renner, Australia	Benalla, Australia
1989	21 st WGC	Jean-Claude Lopitiaux, France	Wiener Neustadt/Austria
1991	22 nd WGC	Janusz Centka, Poland	Uvalde/USA

List of the Open Class Champions and events

1993	23rd WGC	Janusz Centka, Poland	Borlänge/Sweden
1995	24th WGC	Ray Lynskey, New Zealand	Omarama/New Zealand
1997	25 th WGC	Gérard Lherm, France	Saint Auban/France
1999	26 th WGC	Holger Karow /Germany	Bayreuth/Germany
2001	27 th WGC	Oscar Goudriaan /South Africa	Mafikeng/South Africa
2003	28 th WGC	Holger Karow, / Germany	Leszno/Poland
2006	29 th WGC	Michael Sommer / Germany	Eskilstuna/Sweden
2008	30 th WGC	Michael Sommer / Germany	Lüsse/Germany
2010	31 st WGC	Michael Sommer / Germany	Szeged/Hungary
2012	32 nd WGC	Laurent Aboulin / France	Uvalde/USA
2014	33rd WGC	Michael Sommer / Germany	Leszno, Poland
2017	34th WGC	Russell Cheetham / Great Britain	Benalla/Australia
2018	35 th WGC	Michael Sommer / Germany	Hosin / Czech Republic
2020	36 th WGC	<i>postponed due to Covid 19</i>	Stendal-Borstel / Germany
2021	36 th WGC	<i>cancelled due to Covid 19</i>	Stendal-Borstel / Germany
2022	37 th WGC	Felipe Levin / Germany	Szeged/Hungary
2024	38 th WGC	Felipe Levin / Germany	Uvalde/USA