

SSA FAI BADGE AND RECORD COMMITTEE CHARTER 2006

Background

On February 28, 1985 the contest Board ratified the Charter for a new committee concerning FAI and SSA Badges, World, National and State Records, and contests. In 1987 the scope of the committee was changed to delete contest adjudication. The changes to the charter in year 2000 have to do with incorporating a more detailed appeal process into the charter and to provide for SSA Flight Awards (eg: Barringer Trophy, SSA Distance Awards, etc.) adjudication. The changes in year 2006 primarily involve the committee name change and deletion of OLC responsibilities.

Responsibilities

The FAI Badge and Record Committee shall be comprised of three persons and serviced by SSA Staff. The Committee is charged with responsibility for the oversight, coordination, adjudication, and keeping of the rules for World, National and State Records, FAI and SSA Badges and SSA Flight Awards. The committee will be responsible for ensuring that the quality of homologation procedures be maintained in an accurate and highly professional manner.

The two areas of interest to the committee will be as follows:

1. BADGES, SSA FLIGHT AWARDS – Responsibility for the oversight and coordination of the rules and procedures for FAI and SSA Badges and SSA Flight Awards.
2. RECORDS – Responsibility for the oversight and coordination of the rules and procedures for World, National and State Records and for the oversight and coordination of State Record Keepers appointed by the SSA State Governors.

The Committee members shall attempt to meet in person at least once a year. Electronic meetings may be held, as needed, throughout the rest of the year. Special meetings for specific issues may be called by the Committee Chair.

This Committee shall:

1. Operate as an agent for the SSA Board of Directors and make policy decisions having to do with Badges, Records and Flight Awards.
2. Adjudicate disputed decisions concerning Badges, Records and SSA Flight Awards.
3. Coordinate with NAA and FAI as needed.
4. Make recommendations to the SSA Board of Directors regarding FAI and IGC matters concerning Badges and Records and SSA Flight Awards.
5. Submit written reports to the contest Board Chairman prior to each SSA Board of Directors meeting.

The SSA Staff member will:

1. Approve or deny Badge, Record and SSA Flight Awards claims.
2. Provide policy and procedure recommendations to the Committee.
3. Notify the Committee of a dispute or other matters, the necessity for meetings, make arrangements for and coordinate meetings, and write and distribute any minutes and correspondence.

The process of Badge, Record, SSA Flight Awards adjudication will be:

- 1.0 General procedures for FAI Badges, National & World Records and SSA flight Awards (eg: Barringer Trophy, SSA Distance Awards, etc.)
 - 1.1 When a claim for FAI Badges, National or World Record or SSA flight Award is denied, the SSA's FAI Awards Secretary will notify the pilot by letter. If the pilot chooses to contest the denial, the pilot's written appeal must be postmarked to the SSA within 30 days of the postmark date of the FAI Awards Secretary's denial letter. When the appeal involves the denial of a National or World Record, the SSA FAI Awards Secretary shall immediately advise the National Aeronautic Association, and the FAI if applicable to request an extension of the filing deadline.
 - 1.2 The pilot's Appeal must include the reason(s) for seeking review. The pilot may also provide supporting documents and statements signed by one or more Official Observers or other witnesses familiar with the circumstances of the flight in question. After this submission, no further evidence will be accepted or considered. The pilot's appeal must be sent to the SSA either by U.S. mail or commercial delivery. In either case, the mailer must indicate ATTN: FLIGHT CLAIM APPEAL.
 - 1.3 The pilot's appeal will be "de-identified," with all names of people and places changed to generic equivalents (eg: the pilot's name is replaced by "Pilot," the Official Observer is "OO", and the place names are replaced by "Take-off Site... Turnpoint... Landing Site" etc.)
 - 1.4 De-identified appeals are forwarded to the SSA FAI Badge and Record Committee. The committee will render a decision within 60 days of the of the postmark date of the FAI Awards Secretary's letter of denial.
- 2.0 Procedures for State Records
 - 2.1 When a State Record claim is filed independent of an FAI Badge, National or World Record or SSA Flight Award Claim, documentation is submitted to and reviewed by the State Record Keeper. In the event of denial, the Record Keeper will notify the pilot by letter.
 - 2.2 If the pilot chooses to contest the State Record keeper's denial, the pilot's written appeal must be postmarked to the SSA FAI Committee Chair within 30 days of the postmarked date of the State Record Keeper's denial letter. The pilot's appeal then proceeds as in 1.2 through 1.4 above with the exception that the appeal is sent to the FAI Badge and Record Committee Chair.
- 3.0 Further Review of Committee Findings (All flights)
 - 3.1 Consistent with the FAI Sporting Code, General Section, Chapter 9, the Committee decision rendered in 1.4 above is the "announcement" of claim denial.
 - 3.2 If the pilot wishes to contest the Committee decision, the pilot must notify the SSA by letter postmarked within 15 days of the postmark date on the letter announcing the SSA FAI Badge and Record Committee's decision. This appeal should be addressed to the SSA Board of Directors. The SSA Board of Directors (or appointees acting on their behalf) will review the issue within 60 days of the postmark date of the pilot's appeal to the Board. If no decision is forthcoming after 60 days, the decision of the FAI Committee shall be considered final.
 - 3.2.1 For SSA Flight Awards, State and National Record claims, the Board's ruling is final
 - 3.2.2 For FAI Badge or World Record claims, the Board will decide whether to pursue the FAI appeal process outlined in the FAI Sporting Code, General Section, Chapter 9, and:

- if the Board decides not to pursue an appeal to FAI, that decision is final.
- If the Board decides to pursue an appeal to FAI, coordination with the NAA is required (9.1); a monetary deposit is required (9.2) and FAI-calculated Tribunal fees may be assessed (9.4.2). The Board may hold the pilot responsible to pay some or all of the FAI-levied appeal costs and fees.

The Committee was not developed to become involved in the day to day operations of the SSA Staff but can be consulted on matters requiring clarification by Staff.

Dated: May 19, 2006

Committee Members as of September 29, 2006 are:

Tom Serkowski, Chair
Erik Mann
Dave Leonard

SSA Staff Member is:

Judy Ruprecht
FAI Awards Secretary