

US Team Committee Winter 2015 Report

2015 Events

Team USA will be sending two pilots, Francois Pin and Tony Condon, to the first 13.5M WGC in Lithuania. Also flying in the concurrent PreWGC will be Bob Fletcher in Standard and Tim McAllister in Club. Two feminine pilots qualified for the WWGC in Denmark, but neither are able to attend. Bill Gawthrop (open class) and Sean Murphy (15M) have elected to fly the Benalla, Australia PreWGC late in December.

We have a strong Junior team to fly at the Narromine, Australia JWGC. Boyd Willat, Danial Sazhin, and JP Stewart will be supported by Garret Willat as coach and John Good as team captain.

Chilhowee Tennessee will be hosting the first Pan American Gliding Championships in April. The USA will have seven pilots flying in the Handicap class and ten in the 15M class. For many this will be their first experience with IGC scoring and tasking. Colin Mead will be team captain.

2016 Planning

The Club, Standard, 20M WGC will be in Lithuania and the 15m, 18M, Open WGC will be in Australia. Although the Australia contest will be held in Jan 2017, it is considered a 2016 WGC and our team selection schedule is treating it the same.

The 2014 contests were very expensive with typical pilot costs over \$20K. The strengthening dollar should help for future contests, but fundraising remains a critical item.

For the committee
Richard Walters