

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>WINGSUIT WG PROPOSAL – ARTISTIC &amp; PERFORMANCE COMPETITION</b>	<b>Annex No.</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>James Hayhurst, Chair, Wingsuit Working Group</b>	<b>Agenda ref.</b>	<b>10.2</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>02 December 2014</b>	<b>Pag</b>	<b>1 of 1</b>

### **The WSWG proposes adding Artistic and Performance Wingsuit Competition as FAI skydiving events.**

Wingsuiting is the fastest growing segment of skydiving, with a noteworthy number of first-jump students showing up at drop zones exclusively because they are drawn to wingsuiting. These are all future skydiving competitors; but already today we have a robust community with hundreds of wingsuit flyers taking part in dozens of meets each year. In keeping with the IPC strategic plan, these events are inherently attractive and dynamic. Like canopy piloting, wingsuits in flight have a natural visual appeal that draws in the public.

With the understanding that as chair of WSWG my assignment was to get this discipline “off the ground,” this summer I took the unusual step of asking the Bureau to allow me to replace two members of the working group (because the limit is 5) in order to bring in two new members, in order to draw on their experience and credibility as well-respect, veteran competitors/organizers in this arena of the wingsuit flying community.

These two individuals are Klaus Rheinwald, of Germany—one of the premier performance flying experts in the world, and Zach Schroedel, a well-known US artistic wingsuit flyer who has been running artistic events in the US. In addition, I asked Jarno Cordia, highly respected European leader of the artistic wingsuit flying community to join Zach in helping write competition rules. As it turned out (due to Zach’s intense work commitments), Jarno has done most of the work on the artistic rules. He coordinated closely with Zach and members of the artistic wingsuit community to fine-tune what were already mature, well-tested rules.

So this proposal presents two sets of draft FAI competition rules to the plenary. To exercise them we need a FAI-sanctioned competition, a first FAI World Cup, to debut wingsuit competition to the world. Fortunately, we have an outstanding bid prepared by reigning Performance World Champion Jackie Harper, who is also Secretary of the Army Parachute Association, Netheravon. This bid has the support of the British Parachute Association. Netheravon is one of 4 Dropzones that held a Wingsuit World Series event in 2014. The UK competition was the largest with 57 competitors out of the 93 who took part in the overall World Series. The bid has the support of DZs hosting performance meets: Skydive Balaton, Hungary (World Series Event 2), Skydive Marl, Germany (World Series Event 3) and Skydive Elsinore, USA (World Series Event 4).

Additionally, we have a letter of intent from Mr. Cordia, who organizes the largest artistic wingsuiting competition in the world in France, for a bid to host a World Cup of Artistic Wingsuiting; this bid will be prepared by the meeting in January. At long last, the Wingsuit Flying community is poised to take the stage of FAI-recognized competition. I ask you consider adding these two events to our competition family.

Respectfully,

*//James L. Hayhurst//*

James L. Hayhurst  
Chairman, Wingsuit Working Group  
[jhayhurst@uspa.org](mailto:jhayhurst@uspa.org)  
+1 540-604-0913