

Report to the CIA 2012 Annual General Meeting for Canada

Canada held an AX national championship in 2011. This competition used traditional flight loggers (along with Observers) as the CIA Flight Loggers were not available due to being used (very successfully) at the 2011 European Hot Air Balloon Championship. Canada thanks the British Balloon and Airship Club for allowing Canada to use their loggers. Canada remains a strong supporter of the CIA Flight Logger initiative and will use them at every opportunity.

Jason Adams is the 2011 Canadian Hot Air Balloon Champion and will be competing in the 2012 World Hot Air Championship along with Dale Ritchie, veteran national and international competitor.

With respect to the two serious accidents in Canada in 2007, both involving fires (one during landing and the other during inflation) and very serious injuries and loss of life, the Canadian Department of Transport continues to work on implementing the recommendations of the Transportation Safety Board of Canada, focusing on "large balloons" where "large" is likely to be defined as balloons with 8 or more passengers:

The Department of Transport ensure that passenger-carrying commercial balloon operations provide a level of safety equivalent to that established for other aircraft of equal passenger-carrying capacity.

And

The Department of Transport ensure that balloons carrying fare-paying passengers have an emergency fuel shut-off.

We are very pleased to report that there were no serious accidents in Canada in 2011.

In 2011, Sandra Rolfe set 5 national records in AX-4 and Ax-5. In early 2012, Sandra made the following claim:

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Claim number : 16434
Size category :AX-04 (Hot-air balloons: 600 to 900 m³)
Category: Feminine
Type of record : Distance
Course/location : Arnprior, ON (Canada) - Newington, ON (Canada) Performance : 118.12
km Pilot : Sandra Rolfe (Canada) operated by Date :30.01.2012 Current record : no
record set yet
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Sandra was elected as President of the Canadian Balloon Association and David Gleed was elected Alternate CIA Delegate in March 2012.

Garry Lockyer
CIA Delegate
Canada
March 21, 2012