

CHAPTER 10

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR FAI AWARDS

- 10.1.** The following general principles shall govern the award of FAI Medals and Diplomas.
- 10.1.1.** Purpose. The purpose of FAI medals and diplomas is to give public recognition to those who have made outstanding contribution to aeronautics and astronautics, especially in the field of sporting aviation.
- 10.1.2.** Eligibility. Any person is eligible to receive a FAI award. Unless otherwise specified elsewhere in these By-Laws, a recipient need not have had any previous connection with FAI.
- 10.1.2.1.** Medals and Diplomas may be awarded posthumously. In such cases, they shall be presented by the FAI to the FAI Member in the recipient's country. That FAI Member shall have the right to decide whether to retain the award or present it to the next-of-kin.
- 10.1.2.2.** Except when specifically authorised in these By-Laws, no Medal or Diploma, other than De La Vaulx and Blériot Medals, may be awarded to the same individual more than once.
- 10.1.3.** Nominations for Awards. Subject to the specific procedures set out elsewhere in these By-Laws, nominations for FAI Medals and Diplomas may be made by any of the following nominating authorities:
- FAI Members,
 - FAI Executive Board,
 - FAI Commissions,
 - FAI President,
 - FAI Secretary General.
- 10.1.3.1.** In any given year, a nominating authority may propose only one candidate for each FAI Award, except when expressly stated in these By-Laws.
- 10.1.3.2.** The nomination of a candidate for an FAI award, whatever its origin, must be supported in writing by an authorised officer (President or Secretary General) of the FAI Member in the nominee's country.
- 10.1.3.3.** Nominations for all FAI awards shall be sent to the FAI Secretariat together with citations not exceeding 250 words, and other supporting information required in these By-Laws, to arrive no later than two months before the FAI Commission meeting concerned (by 15 November each year for CIAM Medals and Diplomas) or by 31 May each year in the case of the General Awards shown in Chapter 11.
- 10.1.3.4.** The FAI Secretariat shall submit to the appropriate Commissions for consideration all nominations for awards listed in Chapter 12.
- 10.1.3.5.** Except where otherwise specified, the FAI Secretariat shall submit to the FAI Vice Presidents for consideration all nominations for awards listed in Chapter 11.
- 10.1.4.** Recommendation and Approval Procedures. When considering nominations for Medals and Diplomas, Commissions shall adopt the two-stage procedure described below. Before the procedure begins, any delegate present who is a candidate for the award in question shall be asked to leave the room for the duration of the discussion and voting. Any such person shall be deemed to have voted for himself.

- 10.1.4.1.** A vote shall first be taken on whether or not to approve or recommend the award of the Medal or Diploma concerned in the year in question. This vote shall be open unless any Delegate requires a secret ballot.
- 10.1.4.2.** If the result of the vote in 10.1.4.1. is positive, and if more than one nominee is under consideration, a secret ballot shall be held to determine the recipient of the award, following full discussion in closed session, with no written or taped record of the proceedings.
- 10.1.4.3.** FAI Vice Presidents will be invited to decide on nominations for awards listed in Chapter 11 by email voting. Detailed rules for the voting procedures will be decided by the FAI Executive Board.
- 10.1.4.4.** Unless otherwise specified, all results shall be determined by a simple majority.
- 10.1.4.5.** No proxy voting shall be accepted.
- 10.1.5.** Exemptions from Approval. No Commission or Vice Presidential approval is necessary for medals awarded automatically to holders of new World Records, nor for the Air Sport Medal.
- 10.1.6.** Presentation of Awards. Except where otherwise indicated, Medals and Diplomas shall be presented to recipients during the Opening Ceremony of the General Conference, in accordance with protocol established by the FAI President, the FAI Secretary General and the organizing Member.
- 10.1.6.1.** Names of recipients and citations shall be published by the FAI Secretariat prior to the Conference and distributed to the Press at the Conference.
- 10.1.6.2** Medals and diplomas for recipients not present at the opening ceremony shall become the responsibility of the delegation from the FAI Member concerned, who should arrange a suitable occasion for presentation.
- 10.1.7.** Modification of Policy for Awards. If any changes are to be made to the rules for FAI Awards described in Chapters 10-12 of these By-Laws, these must be approved by the appropriate Commission and the FAI General Conference and promulgated to all FAI Members by 31st of December of the year preceding their entry into effect.

CHAPTER 11

FAI GENERAL AWARDS

- 11.1.** Except where awards are automatic or at the discretion of FAI Officers, the FAI Medals and Diplomas in this Chapter are awarded at the discretion of the FAI Vice Presidents. Nominations will be submitted directly to FAI Vice Presidents and will not be subject to prior screening by Commissions.

MEDALS

11.2. THE FAI GOLD AIR MEDAL

- 11.2.1.** History. One of the FAI's two highest awards, this Medal was established in 1924 and first awarded in 1925.
- 11.2.2.** Eligibility. The Medal is reserved for those who have contributed greatly to the development of aeronautics by their activities, work, achievements, initiative or devotion to the cause of Aviation.
- 11.2.3.** Proposals may cover any period of time up to 31st of December of the preceding year.
- 11.2.4.** Frequency and Number. Only one Gold Air Medal may be awarded annually.
- 11.2.5.** Nomination and Approval Process. Procedures for nomination and approval shall be as laid down in Chapter 10, with the following additional conditions:
- 11.2.5.1.** An absolute majority is required to determine the recipient of the Medal.
- 11.2.5.2.** If, after the first ballot, no candidate has obtained an absolute majority, a new ballot shall be conducted between the two candidates who have polled the greatest number of votes. If the second ballot leads to no decisive result, a third ballot shall be conducted in the same way. If an absolute majority is still not obtained, no Medal shall be awarded in that year.

11.3. THE FAI GOLD SPACE MEDAL

- 11.3.1.** History. The FAI Gold Space Medal was established by the FAI in 1963 and is of equal stature as the FAI Gold Air Medal.
- 11.3.2.** Eligibility. The FAI Gold Space Medal is reserved for those who have contributed greatly to the development of Astronautics by their activities, work, achievements, initiative or devotion to the cause of Space.
- 11.3.3.** Proposals may cover any period of time up to 31st of December of the preceding calendar year.
- 11.3.4.** Frequency and Number. Only one FAI Gold Space Medal may be awarded annually.

11.3.5. Nomination and Approval Process. Procedures for nomination and approval shall be as laid down in Chapter 10, with the following additional conditions:

11.3.5.1. An absolute majority is required to determine the recipient of the Medal.

11.3.5.2. If, after the first ballot, no candidate has obtained an absolute majority, a new ballot shall be conducted between the two candidates who have polled the greatest number of votes. If the second ballot leads to no decisive result, a third ballot shall be conducted in the same way. If an absolute majority is still not obtained, no Medal shall be awarded in that year.

11.4. THE FAI BRONZE MEDAL

11.4.1. History. This Medal was established by the FAI in 1962.

11.4.2. Eligibility. The Medal is reserved for persons who have rendered eminent services to the FAI in administrative work, in Commissions, or in the organisation of FAI sporting events.

11.4.3. Frequency and Number. Only one Bronze Medal may be awarded annually.

11.4.4. Nomination and Approval Process. Procedures shall be as laid down in Chapter 10, with the following additional condition :

11.4.4.1. Only the FAI Secretary General may make nominations for the FAI Bronze Medal.

11.5. THE DE LA VAULX MEDAL

11.5.1. History. This Medal was established by the FAI in 1933 in memory of the Comte de La Vaulx, founder-member and past President of the FAI who lost his life in an aircraft accident while on a mission for the promotion of Aviation.

11.5.2. Eligibility. De La Vaulx Medals are awarded to all holders of recognised absolute world records established during the previous year.

11.5.3. Frequency and Number. No restrictions.

11.5.4. Nomination and Approval Process. Award is automatic (See 10.1.5.)

11.6. THE LOUIS BLERIOT MEDAL

11.6.1. History. This Medal was established by the FAI in 1936 in memory of Louis Blériot, the great aviation pioneer and former Vice-President of the FAI.

11.6.2. Eligibility. Blériot Medals are awarded to holders of the highest records for speed, altitude and distance in a straight line established in the previous year by light aircraft of the first three sub-classes, as defined in Section 2 of the Sporting Code.

11.6.3. Frequency and Number. Three Blériot Medals may be awarded annually, one each for speed, altitude and distance.

11.6.4. Nomination and Approval Process. Award is automatic (See 10.1.5.)

11.7. THE FAI AIR SPORT MEDAL

11.7.1. History. The FAI Air Sport Medal was established by FAI Council in 1991, the 100th anniversary of Lilienthal's first flights.

- 11.7.2.** Eligibility. The Medal may be awarded to individuals or groups for outstanding services in connection with air sport activities, e.g. for work in FAI Commissions, for organising World and Continental Championships, for training and educating new pilots, parachutists or aeromodellers, and for promoting aviation in general, especially with regard to young people.
- 11.7.3.** Frequency and Number. Any number may be awarded. Numbered certificates will be provided by the FAI Secretariat.
- 11.7.4.** Nomination and Approval. Applications for award of the FAI Air Sport Medal may be made at any time by FAI Members and FAI Commissions on a uniform application form obtainable from the FAI Secretariat. Each application shall be accompanied by a payment to cover the costs of the medal of an amount fixed from time to time.
- 11.7.4.1.** Applications shall be subject to the approval of the FAI President or Secretary General. The Air Sport Medal may be presented on any appropriate FAI or national occasion.

11.8. THE SABIHA GÖKCEN MEDAL

- 11.8.1.** History. The Sabiha Gökçen Medal was created in 2002, upon a proposal from Turk Hava Kurumu, and is supplied by the Turkish FAI Member. Sabiha Gökçen, winner of the FAI Gold Air Medal, was Turkey's first woman pilot and in 1937 became the world's first female military pilot. She was an inspiration to women pilots.
- 11.8.2.** Eligibility. The Medal is reserved for the woman who performs the most outstanding achievement in any air sport in the previous year.
- 11.8.3.** Frequency and Number. Only one Gökçen Medal may be awarded annually.
- 11.8.4.** Nomination and Approval Process. Procedures for nomination and approval shall be as laid down in Chapter 10.

11.9. THE FAI SILVER MEDAL

- 11.9.1.** History. This Medal was established by the FAI in 2006.
- 11.9.2.** Eligibility. The Medal is reserved for persons who have occupied high office in FAI or in an aeronautical organisation in one of its member countries, and in the discharge of their duties have shown exceptional powers of leadership and influence, to the benefit of the whole international air sport community.
- 11.9.3.** Frequency and Number. Only one Silver Medal may be awarded annually.
- 11.9.4.** Nomination and Approval Process. Procedures for nomination and approval shall be as laid down in Chapter 10. Proposals may cover any period of time up to 31st of December of the preceding year.

DIPLOMAS

11.10. THE DIPLOMA FOR OUTSTANDING AIRMANSHIP

- 11.10.1.** History. This Diploma was established by the FAI in 1985.
- 11.10.2.** Eligibility. It shall be awarded to a person or a group of persons for a feat of outstanding airmanship in sub-orbital flight during one of the previous two years which resulted in the

saving of life of others or was carried out with that objective.

11.10.2.1. A pilot or crew of an aircraft engaged on a routine search and/or rescue mission shall not be eligible.

11.10.3. Frequency and Number. A maximum of two Diplomas may be awarded each year.

11.10.4. Nomination and Approval. Procedures shall be as described in Chapter 10.

11.11. THE PAUL TISSANDIER DIPLOMA

11.11.1. History. This Diploma, established by the FAI in 1952, is named after Mr. Paul Tissandier, Secretary General of FAI from 1919 to 1945.

11.11.2. Eligibility. It may be awarded to those who have served the cause of aviation in general and sporting aviation in particular, by their work, initiative, devotion or in other ways.

11.11.3. Frequency and Number. Each year, each FAI Member may submit the names of 1, 2 or 3 candidates, according to their Class of Membership, as follows

<i>Associate Members</i>	<i>One diploma</i>
<i>Active Members</i>	
<i>Classes 8 to 10</i>	<i>One diploma</i>
<i>Classes 5 to 7</i>	<i>Two diplomas</i>
<i>Classes 1 to 4</i>	<i>Three diplomas</i>

11.11.4. Nomination and Approval. Procedures shall be as described in Chapter 10.

11.12. PAST PRESIDENTS DIPLOMA

This Diploma was created in 1973. It is awarded to Past Presidents of the FAI in recognition of their services to FAI. The Diploma is accompanied by a distinguished lapel decoration (see By-Law 13.4).

11.13. THE FAI HONORARY GROUP DIPLOMA

11.13.1. History. These Diplomas were established in 1965 by the FAI.

11.13.2. Eligibility. They may be awarded to groups of people (design offices, scientific bodies, aeronautical publications, etc.) that have contributed significantly to the progress of Aeronautics or Astronautics during the previous year or years.

11.13.3. Frequency and Number. Each year, an FAI Member may submit the names of two candidate groups, one for Aeronautics and one for Astronautics.

11.13.4. Nomination and Approval. Procedures shall be as described in Chapter 10.