

2017 Year End Report for the Free Flight Indoor Committee. December 31, 2017.

Chairman: John Maret	651L			
Members: Roy Bourke	204	Terry Jenkins	1143	Rod McKiggan 63886
Peter Olshefsky	864	Tom Wilson	29501	

The emphasis for 2017 has been on our World Class F1D program, which has shown significant progress thanks to Dmytro Silin, our F1D coordinator. Due to his efforts, Edmund Liem, a 4 time Canadian F1D team member, has returned to fly again, and while preparing for the team trials in B.C., Edmund recruited for F1D, another World Class flyer, Arend Borst, who won F3J Towline Glider Gold in 2002, after taking the Bronze Medal in both 1998 and 2000. This is great news because we may now have the first full Canadian Team to compete in the F1D World Championships since 2004.

I subsequently recommended at our S.E. Zone meeting in my report dated Oct. 22, 2017, that all three, Dmytro Silin, Edmund Liem, and Arend Borst be approved to represent Canada in the World F1D Championships to be flown at West Baden Springs, Indiana, USA, now set for March 19 to 22, 2018. At the time of this report, Edmund Liem, acting as the team manager, has advised that all requirements have been made to register the team for the event, and has listed myself as an official timer.

Although opportunities in 2017 were few for F1D, especially on the West Coast, it was significant that Edmund traveled to the 148' Kibbie Dome in Moscow, Idaho to practice in June, and flew an unofficial flight that exceeded the Canadian record. Better located, Dmytro flew at West Baden in March, Pontiac, Michigan in May, the AMA Nationals in June and in the 180' Dirigible hanger at Lakehurst, New Jersey on the Labour Day weekend. Terry Jenkins and I also attended The Pontiac contest flying other events and I drove to Lakehurst to meet Dmytro and fly in the hangar where we both set records. Much credit goes to Dmytro for making the contacts that got us the permission to fly at the Naval Air Base at Lakehurst for the first time since 9/11 of 2001. All Foreign Nationals were excluded after that terrible day.

It should be noted that all 2017 issues of Model Aviation Canada, as usual, contained a Free Flight Indoor column with one being a very nice surprise for me. With a very short time span, Keith Morison, our editor, did a marvelous job to get pictures at Lakehurst intended for January, into the November issue, an impressive feat with a very nice spread, Thank you Keith. Your special efforts are very much appreciated.

While Markham Indoor Flyers remains the only club specifically dedicated to Indoor Free Flight, season ending F.F. Indoor rubber powered model competitions at both Peterborough and Ottawa were flown and results advised. Communications with other clubs depend more on my personal contact since few ever volunteer information. Dmytro Silin, however, does have a Facebook page and multi contacts with the Free Flight FAI groups worldwide, which has been very important for our F1D program.

With fewer sanctioned competitions to fly, record attempts are becoming more important, not only here but also in the USA, and Canadians set 11 new marks in 2017 including 2 by a junior, our best total since 2003. Earlier this year, it was impressed on our competition flyers, the importance of strict adherence to the rules, especially for records, because over time, the checking of Indoor models has become quite lax at some contests, and so special processing for record attempts must be requested. Updated forms have been provided, especially for the FAI classes where rubber weight is also restricted. Along with the latest list of Indoor records to be added to our website thanks to Roland Worsfold, an updated rulebook is being prepared as well, hopefully to be approved by the Free Flight Indoor Committee before the AGM.

With the increasingly complex communications systems and my advancing age, it is time again to pass the torch to another Indoor Chairman, and Dmytro Silin with his many qualifications, has agreed to serve. I will however, stay on as a member of the Free Flight Indoor Committee and as I have done since 1988 with other Chairmen, will provide the approval, and maintain documentation of all Free Flight Indoor records to protect the continuity and integrity of this valuable asset. Copies of all new records with certificate requests will continue to be sent to the MAAC office for promulgation.

I formally recommend that Dmytro Silin, MAAC 86654, be Free Flight Indoor Chairman for 2018.

John Marett 651L Free Flight Indoor Chairman