

FAI Environmental Commission Report 2020

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FAI Environmental Commission (EnvC) president Pierre Duvall reports that EnvC had no activity this year. There was no support for the ePower multisport competition that had been previously proposed to FAI and other international sport institutions. Any support provided to airports, events and technologies in terms of rules, audit, certification or other functions was not taken up so EnvC is left with the question of what to do.

Outside of FAI, there is some related electric aviation sporting activity that is being promoted as environmentally friendly. Four teams have signed up for Air Race E (<https://airracee.com/about/>), an air racing championship run to Formula One rules and adapted for purely electric aircraft. The first race is planned for 2021 but no host city has been identified.

Commercial development of electric aircraft for future recreation, cargo and passenger service is breaking ground on innovative propulsion and performance capabilities. This may offer some exciting options for new microlight classes that are quiet with low environmental impact. Examples include the single seat Opener Blackfly (<https://www.opener.aero>) and the Kitty Hawk Heaviside (<https://kittyhawk.aero/heaviside/>).

There are currently 9 electric microlight world records listed on the FAI website. Electric-powered paramotors have successfully been flown in competition at World Paramotor Slalom Championships.

CIMA is a good proving ground for continued introduction of new technologies in the furtherance of EnvC goals. With the advent of a whole new spectrum of performance from electric aircraft, the sky's the limit!

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