



SCHWEIZ SUISSE SVIZZERA

Fédération Aéronautique Internationale
Maison du Sport International
Avenue de Rhodanie 54
1007 Lausanne

Lucerne, February 8th 2017

Confirmation Letter: Montgolfier Diploma for Kurt Frieden and Pascal Witprächtiger

Dear Sirs

The Aero Club of Switzerland is pleased to confirm the nomination of Kurt Frieden and Pascal Witprächtiger for best performance in Gas Ballooning 2016. This nomination has already been submitted by the CIA.

In 2016 the team of Kurt Frieden and Pascal Witprächtiger has won the Coupe Aéronautique Gordon Bennett for the 3rd time and for the 2nd time in a row (2010, 2015 and 2016). The team has competed 8 times in the Gordon Bennett since 2008, while Kurt has already competed 19 times since 1992. The 2016 victory ended with the historical landing of the first gas balloon in history on the territory of Greece.

Kurt and Pascal are highly respected in the ballooning community for their sportive dedication and their open and honest behavior. They have built a professionally working team of meteorologists, ATC and strategists that support them during the race and which equally have contributed to this great success. Apart from competing in the Gordon Bennett race both are active gas and hot-air balloon pilots and teach new pilots as instructors.

We fully support the CIA nomination for the award of the Montgolfier Diploma to Kurt and Pascal. Please forward this letter to the concerned persons. For any questions do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards

AERO CLUB OF SWITZERLAND

Yves Burkhardt
Secretary General

Walter T. Vogel
Member of the Executive Board