**Legends of Ballooning**

**A Project coordinated by CIA PMR SC.**

Ver 2025-01

<https://legends.gordonbennett.aero/> is a website that holds all the names and results of all Gordon Bennett competitions. In essence, this site is a searchable database.

The idea for Legends of Ballooning is to do something similar with hot air balloon competitions. For future consideration, also adding links to CIA Awards and Record-setting Flights as highlighted below.

The logical way to move forward is an extension of [www.watchmefly.net](http://www.watchmefly.net) (WMF). WMF already has a lot of data of pilots and competitions. The data for all worlds- European- and lots of other CAT-1 events is ready to be imported in WMF.

The “only” thing to do is make this data available in a visual nice format.

For instance, with a menu that gives you access to the data by searching for an event or pilot, or pilots from a country, etc.

Pilot names and events should be clickable so you can zoom in on a pilot or event (by going to pages that already exist on WMF.

* <https://watchmefly.net/profile/pilot.php?pid=A68368FA-F011-877B-2C09-100F3E706787>
  + We could ask NAC’s to ask their pilots to update their Biography.
* <https://watchmefly.net/events/event.php?e=worlds2024&v=tt>
  + Maybe a section can be added where pictures, or even video, of the event can be found. For instance, a picture of the medal ceremony for a Championship.

The Legends page could also hold ready-to-view lists. For example, the medal list of countries that have the most medals (like they do for the Olympics). The data is available.

Also incorporating world records (overall, women, junior) would be a good thing. Data for this is available on the FAI-site.

Another addition would be adding the Inductees from the FAI Ballooning Hall of Fame. And adding the people that hold Montgolfier Diplomas and FAI Air Sport Medals (which includes pilots and ballooning officials).

What is needed? To make the site more attractive, we need “new” data. The numbers/results are already available. We need help to secure pictures, video, award citations, related stories etc.