



**Fédération
Aéronautique
Internationale**

FAI Sporting Code

Section 6 - Aerobatics

Version 2005-1

Approved by the FAI Aerobatics Commission
To take effect on 1st January 2005

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Section 6 and General Section combined make up
the FAI Sporting Code for Aerobatics.
Items different for powered aircraft (Unlimited and Advanced)
are marked with "U" and "A" respectively.
Items different for gliders are marked "G".



FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

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¹ FAI Statutes, Chapter 1, para. 1.6

² FAI Sporting Code, General Section, Chapter 3, para 3.1.3.

³ FAI Statutes, Chapter 1, para 1.8.1

⁴ FAI Statutes, Chapter 5, para 5.1.1.2; 5.5; 5.6 and 5.6.1.6

⁵ FAI Bylaws, Chapter 1, para 1.2.1

⁶ FAI Statutes, Chapter 2, para 2.3.2.2.5,

⁷ FAI Bylaws, Chapter 1, para 1.2.3

⁸ FAI Statutes, Chapter 5, para 5.1.1.2; 5.5; 5.6, 5.6.1.6

⁹ FAI Sporting Code, General Section, Chapter 3, para 3.1.7

¹⁰ FAI Sporting Code, General Section, Chapter 1, paras 1.2. and 1.4

¹¹ FAI Statutes, Chapter 5, para 5.6.3

¹² FAI Bylaws, Chapter 1, para 1.2.2



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1. GENERAL RULES FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF WORLD AND CONTINENTAL AEROBATIC CHAMPIONSHIPS AND INTERNATIONAL AEROBATIC COMPETITIONS

1.1. AIMS OF AEROBATIC CHAMPIONSHIPS AND INTERNATIONAL AEROBATIC COMPETITIONS

- 1.1.1. To establish the champions and the winners in the various programmes of both the men's and women's divisions as appropriate.
- 1.1.2. To establish the overall champions and the overall winners in both the men's and women's divisions as appropriate.
- 1.1.3. To establish the champion teams and team winners in both the men's and women's divisions as appropriate.
- 1.1.4. To promote the sporting skill of aerobatic pilots of FAI member aero clubs and arrange competitive contests between aerobatic pilots of FAI member aero clubs, and to allow aerobatic pilots the maximum opportunity to demonstrate within the scope of the general rules their ability in competition with others.
- 1.1.5. To promote and popularise aerobatics and to develop and foster friendly relations between aerobatic pilots of different countries.
- 1.1.6. In pursuance of these aims and in case of dispute over the interpretation and application of these rules, and any other regulations for the conduct of aerobatic championships and competitions, a competitor shall be entitled to the benefit of reasonable doubt.

1.2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

1.2.1. Contest Categories

1.2.1.1. World Championships

- a) World Championships will be held every two years and should last not longer than 7 to 12 days from opening to closing ceremonies.

“G”

The duration of World Glider Aerobatic Championships is recommended to be no more than 9 days between opening and closing ceremonies. Opening and closing dates should be selected so as to allow competitors to travel to/from the contest site on weekends.

- b) A national FAI member aero club which has applied to be host and organiser will be entrusted with the organisation of World Championships pending approval by CIVA.
- c) The organisers will provide conditions for entry and participation for any national FAI member aero club on equal rights basis, and will carry out the World Championships on the basis of the decisions and rules of the FAI.
- d) Each national FAI member aero club will be notified by the organising aero club, not later than 6 months before the beginning of the championships, of any general organisational conditions such as time, place, travel and visa formalities, entry forms, entry deadline, etc.
- e) CIVA shall decide at the meeting which precedes a World Championships which FAI language(s) shall be used as the working language(s) both orally and in writing for all purposes for the duration of the championships.

1.2.1.2. Continental Championships



- a) Continental Championships may be held in years when there are no World Championships and in principle should not last more than 7 days.
- b) The championships shall be open to all FAI members of one of the continents: FAI members of other continents may be invited to compete, but not for the title of Continental Champion.
- c) In other respects rule 1.2.1.1 applies.
- d) Except where otherwise stated in these rules or in CIVA regulations, the rules and regulations of World Championships should apply.

1.2.1.3. International Competitions

- a) Organisers will be a national FAI member aero club.
- b) International contests must be made known to the FAI for inclusion in the calendar of international events by October of the year preceding the contest.
- c) Any national FAI member aero club may be invited to participate in an international contest.
- d) It is recommended that programmes are arranged according to the rules and regulations of World Championships.
- e) Each participating national FAI member aero club will be notified by the organising aero club not later than 3 months before the beginning of the contest of any general organisational details and of details specifically relevant to the contest.

1.2.2. Aircraft Categories

World and Continental Championships are at present open to:

1.2.2.1. Piston-engined aircraft - Unlimited Class "U"

1.2.2.2. Piston-engined aircraft - Advanced Class "A"

A list of types of piston-engined aircraft excluded from Advanced will be updated at each CIVA meeting.

1.2.2.3. Gliders - "G"

1.2.2.4. In International Competitions, the organizers may stipulate that entry shall be restricted to a single aircraft type, for example Pitts S-2B or Yak 52. In such events, CIVA Regulations Part 3 will apply in principle, but local variations, approved in advance by the Bureau of CIVA, may be made to take into account aircraft performance.

1.2.3. Number of Competitors

1.2.3.1. "U"

a) World and Continental Aerobatic Championships will be held or recognised as such if there are in the men's class at least 15 competitors from at least 5 countries. The women's World Championships will be held if the men's championships take place and provided that there are at least 6 women competitors from at least 3 countries.

b) Continental Championships may also be recognised as such if there are at least 15 men and women competitors from at least 5 countries competing in a single class.

1.2.3.2. "A" and "G"



- a) World and Continental Aerobatic Championships will be held or recognised as such if there are at least 15 competitors from at least 5 countries.

1.2.3.3. Events will be recognised as international competitions provided that there are at least 6 competitors from at least 3 countries participating.

1.2.4. Team Composition

1.2.4.1. World Championships

- a) "U"

1.2.4.1.a.1. National aero clubs shall notify the organisers of a World Championships, not less than two months before it is due to start, of the number of competing pilots to be entered from their countries up to a maximum of ten (10). Of these pilots, no more than six (6) may be of the same gender. If the resulting total number exceeds eighty (80) competitors, the organisers shall have the right, without reference to CIVA, to reduce the maximum number of pilots per country to nine (9) or eight (8), and in this event shall at once notify national aero clubs accordingly.

1.2.4.1.a.2. Solo male or female entries are allowed and will be accepted from national aero clubs unable to send the minimum number of 3 competitors required for the team competition in the men's and women's divisions.

- b) "A" and "G"

1.2.4.1.b.1. National aero clubs shall notify the organisers of a World Championships, not less than two months before it is due to start, of the number of competing pilots to be entered from their national aero club up to a maximum of eight (8). The organisers shall have the right, without reference to CIVA, to reduce this maximum number of pilots of each nation from 8 to 6 competitors. In this event the organisers shall at once notify national aero clubs accordingly.

1.2.4.1.b.2. Solo entries are allowed for national aero clubs.

- c) The team of each national aero club may include the following officials: 1 chief delegate, 1 team manager, 1 trainer, 1 doctor, 1 interpreter, and no more than 3 mechanics.
- d) Every competitor must be a member of his or her national aero club and must be in possession of a valid FAI sporting licence.
- e) Every official must be a member of his or her national aero club.
- f) The admission of observers depends on the facilities available and is subject to agreement with the organising aero club.
- g) "G"

Pilot entrants at World Glider Aerobatic Championships must demonstrate experience in glider aerobatics either through previous glider aerobatics competitions or competence in a programme flown before the International Jury during one of the official training flights.



1.2.4.2. Continental Championships and International Competitions

The composition of teams and the number of members of a team will be fixed by the organising aero club.

a) "U"

As a guide line, the following composition of a team is recommended: 4 competitors, 1 chief delegate, 1 mechanic, 1 trainer.

For Continental Championships, the number of competitors of each national aero club should be no more than ten (10), of which no more than six (6) may be of the same gender.

b) "A" and "G"

As a guide line, the following composition of a team is recommended: 6 competitors, 1 chief delegate, 1 mechanic, 1 trainer.

For Continental Championships, the number of competitors of each national aero club should be no more than eight (8).

c) Every competitor must be a member of his or her national aero club and must be in possession of a valid FAI sporting licence.

d) Every official must be a member of his or her national aero club.

1.2.4.3. Eligibility "A"

a) Pilots are eligible to fly in an Advanced contest providing that they have not flown in an Unlimited World or Continental Championship for powered aircraft during the year of the Advanced contest or in the preceding two years.

1.2.5. Entries

1.2.5.1. The official entry forms must be completed correctly and submitted to the organising aero club not later than requested by the organisers.

1.2.5.2. Every national FAI aero club must be notified of the address of the organising aero club not later than 6 months for World and Continental Championships, or 3 months for international competitions, prior to the beginning of the event. (See 1.2.1.1, 1.2.1.2 or 1.2.1.3)

1.2.6. Aircraft Documentation

1.2.6.1. All competing aircraft must meet the performance characteristics required for the kind of flight they will be undertaking. A valid aerobatic certificate of airworthiness or equivalent document issued by the competent aviation authority of the participant's country must be produced to the organisers for every contest aircraft.

1.2.6.2. Aircraft will not be admitted to the contest unless the appropriate documentation has been submitted to the organisers.

1.2.7. Air Safety

1.2.7.1. All competitors must observe and adhere to the regulations currently in force in the organiser's country for air safety as well as the special regulations in force at the contest aerodrome.



- 1.2.7.2. Any violation of the safety regulations in force may at any time render the offender liable to exclusion from the contest. No responsibility will be undertaken by the organisers for any such violation by competitors or others.
- 1.2.7.3. To enable the pilot to watch over his or her own safety, an accelerometer must be installed in each competing aircraft.
- 1.2.7.4. All competing pilots may be required to carry the Huber Height Measuring Device (HHMD). Regulations regarding its use are detailed in the Appendices of CIVA Regulations.
- 1.2.7.5. The Chief Judge may, with the agreement of two-thirds of the Board of Judges, exclude a pilot who is not flying safely or could cause an unsafe situation. This would apply from takeoff to touchdown.

1.2.8. Insurance

- 1.2.8.1. The organisers will provide a promoter's liability insurance of an adequate sum against third party risks for the duration of the contest covering functional test flights, training and competition flights, in accordance with the legal requirements of the country in which the championships or competition is held.

"G"

The organizers must further have insurance for damages to competition gliders, etc., caused by the organizer or his staff.

- 1.2.8.2. All competitors must produce evidence of adequate third party insurance valid for the duration of the contest and valid in the organiser's country. The organisers should specify in local regulations the amount of insurance cover regarded as adequate.

1.2.9. Competitors and Aircraft

- 1.2.9.1. All flights carried out by competitors at World and Continental Championships and international competitions must be made solo; this applies to competition flights and training flights.
- 1.2.9.2. Replacements of competitors at Championships and international competitions will be left to the discretion of the International Jury, but no such replacement will in any case be permitted less than 12 hours before the commencement of the first competition flight.
- 1.2.9.3. A contest aircraft may on the recommendation of the technical commission, and with the permission of the International Jury, be replaced at any time by another contest aircraft.

1.3. CLASSIFICATION OF AEROBATIC CONTESTS

1.3.1. World Championships

At World Championships the following competition flights will be scheduled:

1.3.1.1. Programmes "U"

- a) Programme Q: The Known Compulsory Programme
- Programme 1: The Free Programme
- Programme 2: The 1st Unknown Compulsory Programme
- Programme 3: The 2nd Unknown Compulsory Programme
- Programme 4: The Final Freestyle Programme



- b) Programme Q will be a qualification and training flight. The final results of this programme will not count toward the Championships, unless due to bad weather etc. only programme 1 has been completed. In these exceptional circumstances, the combined results of programmes Q and 1 will be used rather than declare a non-contest. Any pilot scoring less than 60% of the total possible score will not continue in the competition unless the pilot is, in the judgement of the International Jury and Board of Judges, capable of safely flying the remaining programmes.
- c) For Programme 3, a mandatory cut of 25% of the competitors, without respect to gender, will be introduced on the basis of the final results after Programmes 1 and 2. If there is insufficient time to complete the championships due to weather problems or unforeseen circumstances, the International Jury is authorised to introduce an additional cut of the competitors, without respect to gender, up to a maximum of 50% of the combined standings after Programmes 1 and 2.
- d) The decision on the number of competitors who will fly the Final Freestyle Programme will be made by the International Jury in consultation with the organisers, but will be not less than 10 pilots nor more than 20.
- e) Programme 4 shall have priority over Programme 3. Thus, if weather forecasts indicate that all programmes may not be completed before the end of the contest period, the organisers, in consultation with the International Jury, shall direct that Programme 4 be flown before Programme 3.

1.3.1.2. Programmes "A"

- a) Programme Q: The Known Compulsory Programme
Programme 1: The Free Programme
Programme 2: The 1st Unknown Compulsory Programme
Programme 3: The 2nd Unknown Compulsory Programme
- b) Programme Q will be a qualification and training flight. The final results of this programme will not count toward the Championship, unless due to bad weather etc. only programme 1 has been completed. In these exceptional circumstances, the combined results of programmes Q and 1 will be used rather than declare a non-contest. Any pilot scoring less than 60% of the total possible score will not continue in the competition unless the pilot is, in the judgement of the International Jury and Board of Judges, capable of safely flying the remaining programmes.
- c) The qualification for succeeding programmes will be as follows:
 - Programme 1: All qualified competitors
 - Programme 2: All qualified competitor
 - Programme 3: A minimum of the 25 highest placed competitors after Programmes 1 and 2, subject to Jury discretion.

1.3.1.3. Programmes "G"

- a) The championships consists of the following six programmes:
 - Known Programme (Programme 1)
 - Unknown Compulsory 1 (Programme 2)
 - Free Programme (Programme 3)
 - Unknown Compulsory 2 (Programme 4)



Unknown Compulsory 3 (Programme 5)

Unknown Compulsory 4 (Programme 6)

1.3.1.4. Champions "U"

World Champions in the male and female classes will be:

a) World Champion in the first Free Programme:

The male competitor and female competitor who gain the highest number of points each in Programme 1.

b) World Champion in the Unknown Compulsory Programmes:

The male competitor and female competitor who gain the highest total number of combined points each in Programmes 2 and 3.

c) World Champion in the Final Free Programme:

The male competitor and female competitor who gain the highest number of points each in Programme 4.

d) World Champion in the male and female classes:

The male competitor and female competitor who gain the highest total number of points each in Programmes 1, 2 and 3.

e) Overall World Champion:

The competitor who gains the highest total number of points in Programmes 1, 2 and 3, regardless of gender.

f) Men's World Champion Team:

Will be that men's team with the highest total number of points in Programmes 1, 2 and 3 taking into account the three highest individual scores in that team.

g) Women's World Champion Team:

Will be that women's team with the highest total number of points in Programmes 1, 2 and 3 taking into account the three highest individual scores in that team, provided that there are at least 3 female teams with at least 3 competitors each.

h) Awards will be given in compliance with CIVA Regulations for the Conduct of International Aerobic Events (Part One), paragraph 1.5.

1.3.1.5. Champions "A"

Advanced World Champions will be:

a) Advanced World Champion in the Free Programme:

The competitor who gains the highest number of points in Programme 1.

b) Advanced World Champion in Programme 2:

The competitor who gains the highest total number of points in the 1st Unknown.

c) Advanced World Champion in Programme 3:

The competitor who gains the highest total number of points in the 2nd Unknown.

d) Overall Advanced World Champion:

The competitor who gains the highest total number of points in Programmes 1, 2, and 3.

e) Advanced World Champion Team:

Will be that team with the highest total number of points in Programmes 1, 2 and 3 taking into account the three highest individual scores in that team.



1.3.1.6. Champions "G"

World Champions will be:

a) **World Champion in the Known Compulsory Programmes:**

The competitor who gains the highest number of points in Programme 1.

b) **World Champion in the Free Programmes:**

The competitor who gains the highest number of points in Programme 3.

c) **World Champion in the Unknown Compulsory Programmes:**

The competitor who gains the highest aggregate number of points in Programmes 2, 4, 5 and 6.

d) **Overall World Champion:**

The competitor who gains the highest total number of points in all the programmes flown.

e) **World Champion Team:**

Will be that team with the highest total number of points in those Programmes which were flown by all the competitors, taking into account the three highest individual scores in that team.

f) Awards will be given in compliance with CIVA Regulations for the Conduct of International Aerobatic Events (Part Two), paragraph 1.5.

1.3.1.7. Champions and Winners "U"

a) In addition to establishing World Champions, second and third placings will also be established in the individual and team competitions, in accordance with paragraph 1.3.1.4, and these will be recognised by the award of medals and diplomas.

b) The male and female World Champions will be the male and female competitors who gain the highest total number of points each in Programmes 1, 2 and 3. Programme 4 will be a separate competition programme with its own gold, silver and bronze medals. In the event that Programmes Q, 1, 2, and 3 are not completed, World Champions will be named in Programme 1 and 2 as well as Overall Champions and World Champion Teams. In the event that only programme 1 is completed, the results for programme Q will be used retrospectively to declare male and female overall World Champions and World Champion Teams.

c) If the number of female competitors is less than 6, there will still be a final placing based on Programmes 1, 2 and 3 and independent of the final placings of the men. In this case there will be one female overall winner and second and third placings; but there will be no Overall Women's Champion.

1.3.1.8. Champions and Winners "A"

a) In addition to establishing World Champions, second and third placings will also be established in accordance with paragraph 1.3.1.5, and these will be recognised by the award of medals and diplomas.

b) In the event that programmes 1, 2 and 3 are not completed, the overall Advanced World Champion will be named on the basis of scores in Programmes 1 and 2. In the event that only programme 1 is completed, the results for programme Q will be used retrospectively to declare an overall Advanced World Champion and Advanced World Champion Team.

1.3.1.9. Champions and Winners "G"



- a) If weather conditions or technical reasons prevent the completion of all the six programmes, at least 3 programmes must be completed for the event to be valid as a World Championship. In this case, the Overall World Champion will be the competitor who gains the highest number of points in the programmes which have been completed, and also the World Champion in each programme will be the competitor who gains the highest number of points in those programmes which have been completed.

1.3.2. Continental Championships and International Competitions

1.3.2.1. "U"

Rules 1.3.1.1, 1.3.1.4 and 1.3.1.7 should apply, except as indicated below.

- a) If there are insufficient men and women competitors to establish separate men's and women's divisions, then the championships may take place in one single division, provided that the number of competitors and national aero clubs taking part are at least that required under rule 1.2.3.1.

1.3.2.2. "A"

Rules 1.3.1.2, 1.3.1.5, and 1.3.1.8 should be applied.

1.3.2.3. "G"

Rules 1.3.1.3, 1.3.1.6, and 1.3.1.9 should be applied.

1.4. CONTEST BODIES

1.4.1. The International Jury

- 1.4.1.1. The International Jury is the supreme arbitration body of international aerobatic events and shall be responsible for:
 - a) Interpreting the general rules, the judging rules and the general regulations of the contests;
 - b) Supervising the activities of the Chief Judge and the Board of Judges; during judging, members of the International Jury must not remain in the vicinity of the International Judges;
 - c) Supervising the technical commission;
 - d) Dealing with protests from competitors.
 - e) Overseeing the administration of the contest and ensuring that the organisers of international contests meet the requirements as stipulated in the checklist provided to the organisers for such events.



1.4.1.2.

- a) The International Jury at World and Continental Championships will be appointed by the International Aerobatics Commission (CIVA) and will consist of a chairman and 4 members with adequate reserves, who must be members of different national aero clubs. The Chief Judge shall be an advisory member of the International Jury and the Contest Director shall be adviser to it. The President of CIVA or one of the Vice Presidents will be chairman of the International Jury and will supervise its activities on the basis of Appendix 1 to Section 6 of the Sporting Code: "Duties of the International Jury".

"A"

For Advanced Championships, the International Jury will be appointed by CIVA.

"G"

For Glider Aerobatic World and Continental Championships the chairman of the International Jury can also be the chairman of the Glider Aerobatics Sub-Committee of CIVA, even if he or she is not President or Vice President of CIVA. Members of the International Jury can also be members of the Glider Aerobatics Sub-Committee of CIVA, even if they are not delegates or alternate delegates to CIVA and, if necessary, qualified persons nominated by the competing teams, under the provisions of the Sporting Code, General Section 4.3.2. A chairman and four members are required.

- b) When the International Jury is taking a decision which concerns the team or a competitor of the same national aero club as a member of the International Jury that member of the jury shall abstain from voting.

- 1.4.1.3. At International Competitions the jury will be appointed and guided by the organisers. If possible, each participating aero club should be represented in the jury, and the chairman should be a member of CIVA.

- 1.4.1.4. At least three members of the International Jury must be available to hear appeals or protests submitted by competitors.

- 1.4.1.5. Any decision taken by the International Jury by majority vote is final.

- 1.4.1.6. The International Jury may temporarily vary any rules approved by the International Aerobatics Commission (CIVA) during a contest under the following circumstances:

- a) There is 100% agreement within the International Jury, with no abstentions, when conducting a vote to introduce a temporary variation to the regulations, **and**
b) There is 100% agreement amongst the participating teams' Chief Delegates, with no abstentions, when conducting a vote to introduce a temporary variation to the regulations.

- 1.4.1.7. In the event that the rules of the Sporting Code, Section 6, and CIVA Regulations and their appendices are not adhered to at a World Championship, or if the International Jury is not provided with sufficient information to perform their duties in accordance with the rules, the International Jury may stop the contest until matters are remedied.

If remedial action is not taken, the International Jury has the power to declare that the requirements of a World Championship have not been fulfilled in accordance with the rules and that the event has only the status of a World Competition. If this latter action is taken, the International Jury shall prepare a full report for submission to the next meeting of CIVA at which their decision shall either be endorsed or reversed.



1.4.2. Board of Judges

- 1.4.2.1. Details concerning the employment of the Chief Judge and the composition of the Board of Judges and the appointment and disqualification of its members are laid down in the "Judging Rules for World and Continental Aerobatic Championships and International Aerobatic Competitions" (2.1 below).

1.4.3. Contest Management

- 1.4.3.1. The Contest Director will be responsible for the regular and orderly performance of the contest. The Contest Director is responsible to the International Jury for the efficient administration of the contest.
- 1.4.3.2. The contest management will be composed of:
- a) The Contest Director,
 - b) The Flight Director,
 - c) The Chief Judge,
 - d) The Chairman of the Technical Commission.

1.4.4. Technical Commission

- 1.4.4.1. The Technical Commission will be composed of 3 to 5 engineers or mechanics. CIVA compiles a list of capable engineers or mechanics nominated by the national aero clubs; written evidence as to qualification, experience and technical knowledge must be submitted by the national aero clubs. CIVA selects from the list of approved engineers and mechanics the members of the Technical Commission for World Championships; if possible, the selection of the members of the Technical Commission should be guided by the type of competing aircraft operated during the contest.
- 1.4.4.2. The representative of the organisers will be nominated as the Chairman of the Technical Commission.
- 1.4.4.3.
- a) The Technical Commission is responsible to the International Jury for the inspection of competing aircraft and of aircraft documentation; for certifying compliance with the airworthiness regulations of aircraft after inspection; for a qualified and objective inspection in case of defects of the technical equipment; and for finding the causes of defects which have occurred during the competition flights. The Technical Commission will advise and inform the International Jury on any points of technical importance.
 - b) The Technical Commission is also responsible for blocking radio sets to use only the official 'Safety Frequency'.

1.5. PROTESTS

- 1.5.1. Protests will be accepted from individual competitors and teams only. They will be dealt with in compliance with the FAI General Section of the Sporting Code, Chapter 5. All protests must be submitted to the President of the International Jury or Contest Director in writing, either directly or through a member of the jury, with a deposit, not later than two hours after the occurrence, decision or publication of results which causes the protest to be made. "Non-working" hours, as defined in local regulations for the specific championships



or competitions will not be counted. Every protest must refer to the rule or rules to which it relates. The amount of the deposit shall be stated in the local regulations for the championships or competition. It should not exceed \$100.

- 1.5.2. The deposit will be returned if the protest is upheld. The International Jury may request the attendance of the protesting competitor if it considers this desirable. The decision of the International Jury is final.

1.6. FINAL REGULATIONS

1.6.1. Interpretation

- 1.6.1.1. International aerobatic events will be carried out in compliance with the General Section and Section 6 of the FAI Sporting Code, CIVA Regulations and local regulations of the organisers.

- 1.6.1.2. Any differences arising during an event will be dealt with by reference to the above rules. For the interpretation of the text at championships, a standard version written in one of the official FAI languages (English, French, Russian, Spanish) shall be taken as the authority. CIVA will select one of the FAI languages as the basis for interpretation.

1.6.2. Competitors' Pledge

- 1.6.2.1. All competitors undertake, by signing the entry form, to comply with the General Section and Section 6 of the Sporting Code of the FAI, the Regulations of CIVA and any local regulations made under rule 1.6.3.1 (below).

1.6.3. Supplementary Rules

- 1.6.3.1. The organisers will, within the scope of these rules and CIVA Regulations and the approval by CIVA, prepare such local regulations or specialized details as are relevant and necessary for clarification of organisational problems and duly distribute them to all FAI national aero clubs (see 1.2.1.1 and 1.2.1.3).
- 1.6.3.2. The technical and organisational preparations of World Championships will be checked by CIVA regarding their compliance with the general rules before the beginning of the event.

1.6.3.3. "U" and "A"

The organisers shall publish in the agreed FAI language(s) and send to the national aero clubs which have indicated a preliminary intention to participate, not less than 6 months prior to the World Championships (Unlimited or Advanced powered aircraft category):

- a) the Known Compulsory Programme to be flown as Programme Q ,
- b) the local regulations containing only local operating procedures and administrative details including details of the aerodrome at which the Championships will be held.

1.6.3.4. "G"

Not less than 6 months prior to the World Championships, the organisers shall publish in the agreed FAI language(s) and send to national aero clubs which have indicated a preliminary intention to participate:

- a) the Known Compulsory Programme to be flown as Programme 1.



- b) the local regulations containing only local operating procedures and administrative details including details of the aerodrome at which the Championships will be held.

Organisers must ensure that at the time of the formal opening of the championship all technical preparations are completed and all required personnel are available.

1.6.4. Duties of the International Jury

The duties of the International Jury are laid down in Appendix 1 to Sporting Code, Section 6.



2. JUDGING RULES FOR WORLD AND CONTINENTAL AEROBATIC CHAMPIONSHIPS AND INTERNATIONAL AEROBATIC COMPETITIONS

2.1. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

2.1.1. Board of Judges

Judging during World and Continental Aerobatic Championships and international aerobatic competitions will be carried out by an International Board of Judges in compliance with the following rules.

2.1.2. Representation on the Board of Judges

- a) At World and Continental Championships all participating aero clubs have, if they wish, the right to nominate an International Judge for the Board of Judges. For World Championships, this nomination must be made by 1st March of the year in which the Championships are held. Judges are subsequently selected in accordance with the Internal Regulations of CIVA and approved by the Bureau.
- b) For Continental Championships, Judges' nominations need only be approved by the Bureau; no selection process is held.
- c) For international competitions, International Judges will be invited by the organizers

1.1.1.1.

- d) All International Judges nominated by national aero clubs or invited by the organisers of International Competitions must have been approved by the International Aerobatics Commission (CIVA) of FAI and listed in the FAI official document to that effect.
- e) To be a current FAI judge at FAI aerobatic championships, an FAI International Judge must additionally fulfil the following currency requirements:

2.1.2.1.e.1. In the year in which the championship is held or during the previous calendar year, the judge must have either judged at a national or international aerobatic championship at appropriate class or flown in that level competition as a pilot, or served as an official team trainer whose duties include critiquing appropriate level team members.

2.1.2.1.e.2. Before the championship is held, the judge must also have satisfactorily completed a study course on the current rules and regulations. This study course will be composed and administered by CIVA. It can either be completed in advance of the championship or on the contest site. The study course will be available no later than six months prior to the beginning of the championship.

2.1.2.1.e.3. In addition, prior to the championship, the Chief Judge shall conduct an oral interview with each prospective International Judge. This interview will determine the judge's basic competency and knowledge of the rules. This examination shall include but not be limited to: judging criteria, familiarity with the FAI Aerobatic Catalogue, and the ability to immediately interpret complex figures and sequences. The Chief Judge will also insure that the judge is in possession of current regulations with appropriate translation if necessary. The International Jury, in conjunction with the Chief Judge, shall have the authority to disqualify any International Judge from the championship if



it determines that the judge is continuously biased or not competent.
This decision will be final and cannot be protested or appealed.

- f) If the minimum number of judges cannot be achieved by applying clause (b) above, the next preference in choice of judges will go to the FAI judge(s) whose currency most nearly matches those requirements.

"G"

- g) In order for a judge to have a "G" rating on the FAI International Judges List, he or she must have been an assistant judge for an entire FAI glider aerobatic championships. Judges must be rated as "G" or "P & G" but not "P" only. However, a judge with a "P" rating can be invited (at least two weeks prior to a championship) with the agreement of the CIVA Glider Aerobatics Sub-Committee.

2.1.2.2. In the case that a member of the Board of Judges abandons his or her function at an FAI championships, the International Jury will replace that Judge with the next highest JPI-rated Judge from previous programmes. If such judges are not available and the minimum of 7 judges are not present, the International Jury will use its discretion in filling the available slot. The Jury should strive to avoid having judges on the line from the same national aero club.

2.1.2.3. If a substitute International Judge is appointed under 2.1.2.2 above, he shall only take his place on the Board of Judges at the start of the subsequent programme, and the marks of the departed judge for the programme he did not complete will be deleted.

2.1.3. The Chief Judge

2.1.3.1. For World Championships the Chief Judge will be selected and appointed by CIVA; he/she may not be a citizen of the organiser's country (exceptions to this must be accepted by CIVA).

2.1.3.2. For Continental Championships, the Chief Judge must be approved by CIVA.

2.1.3.3. In any case, the Chief Judge must be an International Judge listed in the FAI official record and must have previous experience of serving as Chief Judge at a national or international aerobatic championship (or a major national competition) run under FAI rules.

2.1.4. Composition of the Board of Judges

2.1.4.1. At World and Continental Championships and international competitions the International Board of Judges will be composed of:

- a) The Chief Judge;
- b) A maximum of 10 International Judges and 20 assistants and a minimum of 7 International Judges and 7 assistants for marking the quality of aerobatic manoeuvres and positioning if the electronic tracking instrument is not in operation;
- c) Positioning judges for operating the electronic tracking instrument and for recording the violations of the prescribed performance zone, or 4 line judges for the conventional recording of infringements of the performance zone. Positioning or line judges, although recommended, are not mandatory for international competitions;
- d) The administrative secretary, supervised by the Contest Director, who will be in charge of the documentation of results and of the evaluation office.



- 2.1.4.2. Should there be more than 10 suitably qualified International Judges present at Championships (to include those nominated by the National Aero Clubs and those selected by CIVA, if applicable) the following procedure will be used for the selection of the Board of Judges:

Programme Q

- a) All judges who wish to be represented on the Board of Judges will judge Programme Q with no limit on number, provided that they have a qualified assistant as required in CIVA Regulations, (Appendix 4, The Judges, paragraph 1). Any Judge who does not provide a qualified assistant will be excluded. JPI's derived by the International Jury after Programme Q will be used to select the panel of judges. The panel of judges will always be a minimum of 7 judges and may exceed 10 judges, however only a maximum of 10 judges will be used at any one time. JPI's used will be those which are derived before the scoring system deletes judges' scores which are outside the TBLP window.

Programmes 1-4

- b) In the event of the International Jury having selected a panel of judges exceeding 10 in number, the top 10 judges will be used for Programme 1. Subsequent programmes will utilise those judges not used for Programme 1, having dropped from each subsequent programme the required amount of judges on the basis of the JPI ratings for each individual programme. An individual judge may be dropped on more than one occasion.
- c) The International Jury may exclude a judge from the Board of Judges after the completion of any programme if that judge's JPI significantly deteriorates from that initially established in Programme Q.
- d) Any judges not utilised in Programme 1 or subsequent programmes on the basis of the above selection, will be required to carry out other duties as required by the contest organisers or International Jury, provided their expenses have been paid by the organisers as an international judge.
- e) At international competitions the same procedure will be used.

- 2.1.4.3. The positioning judges working at the electronic tracking instrument may be nominated by the organisers. The positioning judges, whether at championships or at international competitions, shall be supervised by members of the International Jury or their delegates. If an electronic tracking instrument is not operated, the work of the positioning judges and their supervision is organised on the same basis.

- 2.1.4.4. The administrative secretary of the Chief Judge will be nominated by the organisers.

2.1.5. Timekeepers and Evaluators

- 2.1.5.1. The Chief Judge and his assistant will record the timing of flights, ideally an evaluator checking paperwork will be appointed.

2.1.6. Position of Judges

- 2.1.6.1. The judges (under 2.1.4.1.b)) will be posted by the Chief Judge at positions appropriate for observing the competitors, the positions of the judges being at least 15 m apart. The distance of the positions of the judges from the end points of the x/y axes will be a minimum of 150 m and a maximum of 250 m.



2.1.7. Role of Judges

- 2.1.7.1. The International Judges appointed for marking the quality of the manoeuvres will mark the manoeuvres and infringements of the lower and upper height limits in compliance with the judging rules.

2.1.8. Judges' Assistants

The assistant(s) has (have) the following tasks:

- a) Telling the judge prior to the performance the sequence of the figures, details of the various figures, and any other special features.
- b) Recording the mark given by the judge for each figure and writing down into the marking sheet any remarks concerning the rating. Any amendment of record must be signed by the judge.
- c) Giving general assistance.

2.1.9. Control of Timing, Programme Interruption, Infringements of Height Limits and Wing-Dipping

2.1.9.1. "U" and "A"

- a) Checking the duration of flight will be the duty of the timekeepers assigned to the Chief Judge.
- b) Recording programme interruptions, and giving penalty points for such interruptions or for infringements of the lower and upper height limits, and the infringement of penalty point rule 2.2.1.3 of CIVA Regulations concerning wing dipping three times in Programme 4 for the Unlimited category, will be carried out under the responsibility and control of the Chief Judge. Further entries on the marking sheet concerning positioning will be made on the basis of the positioning sheets after evaluation in the evaluation office.

2.1.9.2. "G"

- a) Checking the time of super slow rolls will be the duty of the timekeepers (at least 2) assigned to the Chief Judge.

2.1.10. Electronic Tracking Instrument

- 2.1.10.1. If an electronic tracking instrument is operated, the position of the aircraft will be indicated by the instrument and recorded with indelible ink by one of the positioning judges (i.e. instrument observers) on the positioning sheet, which will immediately be signed by an International Judge appointed to this end by the International Jury. The evaluation will be made in the evaluation office using a special positioning table.

2.1.11. Line Judges

- 2.1.11.1. If an electronic tracking device is not operated and line judges are to be used, they shall be placed at each corner of the performance zone. Line judges should, if possible, be international. If they are operated by the organiser, a permanent supervision must be provided by the International Jury.
- 2.1.11.2. Line judges will be supplied with radio transmitters to enable contact with the Chief Judge's workstation. Two frequencies will be used with one diagonal pair of line judges on



each frequency. Performance zone infringements will be reported in real time and noted both by the line judges concerned and at the Chief Judge's station.

- 2.1.11.3. Only box outs reported on both frequencies (independent confirmation) and observed at the Chief Judge's workstation to be realistic will be taken into account on the Chief Judge's score sheet submitted to the scoring system. A record of each line judge's recorded infringements and those verified at the Chief Judge's workstation will be kept and will be made available to competitors.

2.1.12. Collection of Marking Sheets

2.1.12.1. "U" and "A"

- a) Immediately after a competitor has completed a competition flight and the judges have finished their marking, the score sheets will be collected for perusal at the Chief Judge's workstation. Once any required actions are taken (conference, penalties added, indexes checked etc.) the score sheets will be forwarded to the scanner for entry into the scoring system. The individual judges themselves must sign off any changes to their score sheets.
- b) In Programme 4, Judges will keep all the marking sheets until all competitors have completed the programme. Should the completion of all flights in Programme 4 be interrupted, all Judges' marking sheets shall be collected and secured by the Chief Judge until flying resumes.

2.1.12.2. "G"

- a) Immediately after a competitor has completed a competition flight and the judges have finished marking, the marking sheets will be collected by an assistant of the Chief Judge and taken to the evaluation office. The positioning sheets will be turned in at the end of each programme.

2.1.13. Publication of Results

2.1.13.1. "U" and "A"

The total results for each competitor in each of the competition flights shall be available to the competitors, in the agreed working language(s), prior to the start of the subsequent programme. The current results of each programme will be published on an information board to indicate the placings of the competitors. The final evaluation and placing will be found and announced after checking by the International Jury, not later than the following day.

2.1.13.2. "G"

The total results for each competitor in each of the competition flights shall be available to the competitors in the agreed working language(s), prior to the start of the next programme but one. The current results of each programme will be published on an information board to indicate the placings of the competitors. The final evaluation and placing will be found and announced after checking by the International Jury, not later than the following day.



2.1.14. Public Announcements

- 2.1.14.1. Prior to the take-off for and during the performance of a programme, details concerning the competitor concerned may be published by any means (radio commentary, etc.).

2.1.15. Protests, Decisions of International Jury, Confidentiality

- 2.1.15.1. All protests will be dealt with by the International Jury, in cooperation with the Chief Judge if his assistance is required and his duties permit. Decisions taken by the International Jury are final and must not be changed later. The judges are advised to keep activities of the Board of Judges and of the International Jury strictly confidential.

2.1.16. Procedure for the Mark of Zero

- 2.1.16.1. A mark of zero can be deserved for one of two reasons: The figure flown may have a single, gross error (e.g. a geometrical error of 90 degrees or more, or simply the wrong figure), or the figure may be basically correct but contain a number of smaller errors that cause the grade to fall to zero by accumulation of downgrading points. The first such zero is called a 'Hard Zero' and is marked on a score sheet with the annotation "HZ". The second type of zero is a 'Soft Zero' and is marked on a score sheet by the annotation "0.0".
- 2.1.16.2. Detailed instruction for the handling of situations where the panel of judges is not unanimous in grades of zero are given in Appendices 4 to the CIVA Regulations Parts 1, 2 and 3.

2.1.17. Reprimand and Disqualification of Judges

- 2.1.17.1. The reprimands and/or the disqualification of judges by the International Jury shall be administered in compliance with the appropriate Appendix to CIVA Regulations.
- 2.1.17.2. In case of a disqualification of a judge, the marking which was the reason for the disqualification will not be counted for the programme in question. CIVA will decide upon the further use of the disqualified judge on the recommendation of the International Jury.
- 2.1.17.3. On the basis of judging data, which have to be available promptly, it is the duty of the International Jury to monitor the performance of the judges.



APPENDIX 1

DUTIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL JURY

- 1. The activities of the International Jury will be organised systematically by the chairman of the International Jury from the opening of the contest, i.e. from the beginning of training flights. The chairman of the International Jury should allot duties to each of the members of the jury every day.**

The various duties include:

- 1.1. Attending the meetings of the International Board of Judges (dealing with familiarisation, evaluation, checking the marking sheets).
- 1.2. Direct supervision of the International Board of Judges, which is primarily conducted by the Chief Judge. This is to include the calculation of the JPI's for all judges.
- 1.3. Supervision of the line judges and/or supervising and checking the operation of the electronic positioning device.
- 1.4. Supervision of the activities of the evaluation office.
- 1.5. Supervision of the activities of the Technical Commission.
- 1.6. Supervision of the activities of the meteorological centre.
- 1.7. Checking the publication of contest results; making visits to the pilots' camp to gather or give information.
- 1.8. Supervision of briefings and the drawing of secret lots.
- 1.9. Checking the availability and accuracy of medals and trophies at the beginning of the competition
2. Discussion of protests, if necessary in cooperation with the Chief Judge, the Flight Director, the Chairman of the Technical Commission, and the Contest Director. Taking down on record the proceedings in meetings or activities where decisions are sought (e.g. a note of comments, resolutions, etc.). The International Jury will publish the results of all protests and decisions. The meetings of the International Jury must not impede the progress of the contest.
3. If required, holding daily evaluation meetings (after the daily contest programme has been completed).
4. Explanatory discussions with chief delegates and team managers to explain measures taken by the Jury; interpretation of the Sporting Code of the FAI and all regulations. This should be done after completion of the daily competition programme or before the beginning of competition flying (i.e. in any case without impeding the progress of the contest).
5. Control of the Unknown Compulsory Programmes in accordance with CIVA Regulations; including supervision, composition, and explanation, as appropriate.



6. Final meeting of the International Jury. Evaluation of the activities of the International Jury and of the development of the contest and a preliminary assessment of the experience gained during the contest.
7. The organisers of international aerobatic events must provide the necessary material and technical conditions and the required number of staff in order to enable the International Jury to carry out its functions.



RECORD OF AMENDMENTS

{PRIVATE }Amendment	Date Inserted
1	1 January 1991
2	1 January 1992
3	1 January 1993
4	1 January 1994
5	1 January 1995
6	1 January 1996
7	1 January 1997
8	1 January 1998
9	1 January 1999
Version 1.01	16 April 2000
Version 2001-1	28 February 2001
Version 2001-2	22 March 2001
Version 2003-1	14 February 2003
Version 2003-2	19 May 2003
Version 2004-1	15 January 2004
Version 2005-1	1 January 2005