

**Minutes**

AX Working Group

FAI CIA Commission

New Delhi

13 March 2025

Ver.1 13.03.2025

# Roll Call

Uwe Schneider GER Delegate, Chairman  
Claude Weber LUX Delegate   
David Bareford GBR alt. Delegate  
Maury Sullivan USA Expert  
Sanne Haarhuis NED Delegate

Observers: Cedric Gauch SUI, Erwin Pellegrom NED, Sylvia Meinl GER, Mike Meinl GER, Andy Baird USA, Branko Abrosic SLO, Lindsay Muir GBR, Hiromi Furukawa JPN, Katsura Endo JPN, Benoit Pelard FRA, Eric Decellieres FRA, Hiropon JPN, Niclas Möre SWE, Troy Bradley USA, Clement Seigot FRA, David Strasmann SUI, Steve Ireland AUS, Imo Singh IND,

# Appologies

Maury absent,

# MER Review

(see also AX internet discussion on <https://forum.cia.fai.org/> )

**Proposed major wording changes in AXMER:**

**Adapting Section II**

II. 18 DETAILS FOR THE USE OF GPS LOGGERS

Text adapted to the actual version of ‘Balloon Live’ app

*f) Anonymized tracks may be used by CIA for analysis.*

**Adding Medical Certificate**

## 1.4 DOCUMENTATION

c. Pilot Medical Certificate (if required)

**Correction of wording**

8.2.2 The Director has the authority to cancel a task(s) for safety reasons ~~and~~ **or** for reasons out of the control of the director, at any time before the official status task scores are published.

12.3.5 Penalty for late declarations that ~~have to~~ **must** be made by a specified time before take-off is 50 task points per minute or part minute late.

**Adaptation of penalty**

13.3.3 Competitors landing within **50 m of** an MMA ~~will not achieve a result in the related task~~ or if no MMA is set, landing within 200 meters of goals/targets or any physical mark of the competitor will be penalised ~~up to~~ 200 task points.

**Improve wording of Respectful Flying Score RFS**

ABBREVIATION LIST

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.3, 13.5 | **RFS** | Respectful Flying Score |

## 13.5 RESPECTFUL FLYING SCORE (RFS) (COH)

The Respectful Flying Score is a method of continuously monitoring the degree of serious infringement penalties accrued by competition pilots around the world.

13.5.1 The following penalties will be used to calculate a pilot’s RFS:

Balloon collision

Dangerous flying

13.5.2 A competitor‘s RFS will be 100% if he has received no applicable penalties in the previous 2 years. The score will decrease with each penalty and will be calculated using the following formula:

RFS = 1 – (Total of all RFS penalties in the previous 2 years) / 1500

13.5.3 RFS status

GREEN – RFS between 100% and 50% - no limitation

YELLOW – RFS below 50% and above 0% - no limitation

RED - A competitor with a RFS of 0% or less will not be permitted to fly in any Category 1 or 2 events. A competitor achieving a RFS of 0% during an event will not be permitted to continue flying the event.

The limitation of red status will only become active after a potential protest has been dealt with. If the protest is lost,all flights since reaching the red status will be considered “no flight”.

13.5.4 Each RFS penalty will be removed from a competitor’s record 2 years after it was incurred.

10.1.3 Competitors causing a collision, in the air or on the ground, will be penalised by up to 1000 competition points. This penalty will also be used ~~considered~~ for calculating the RFS.

10.2.3 (dangerous flying) Penalty points under this rule will also be used ~~considered~~ for calculating the RFS.

## 2.3 QUALIFICATION

Old: Pilots shall have a ‘Respectful flying score’ above 0% at the time of the ~~General Briefing.~~

New: Pilots in command shall have a RFS above 0% at the time of the **flight**.

## 2.5 ~~ENTRY~~

~~The completed entry form and entry fee for each competitor must reach the organisers by the closing entry date, except in the case of extra places offered by the organisers.~~

## 2.5 COMPETITORS RESPONSIBILITIES - ANTI-DOPING

Pilots in command must comply with WADA guidelines and may be tested for prohibited

substances during the events and are required to co-operate with doping control measures.

ENTRANTS WITH A DOCUMENTED MEDICAL CONDITION REQUIRING THE USE OF A PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE OR PROHIBITED METHOD MUST BEFORE THE EVENT CONCERNED HAVE OBTAINED A THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTION (TUE). (GS 4.4.2.4, COH 2.12)

**Making PDG definition clearer**

## 15.1 PILOT DECLARED GOAL (PDG)

15.1.1 Competitors will attempt to achieve a mark close to a goal selected and declared by him **before take-off**.

**APT task :**

15.21 [Altitude Profile Task](https://forum.cia.fai.org/index.php?topic=325.msg1697#msg1697) (APT)

15.21.1 Competitors will attempt to achieve the greatest time within a set airspace. **The airspace is defined by one or two bands around a given altitude profile where the time within the inner band counts 2x, the time within the outer band counts 1x and the time outside the outer band does not count. The task will be started with an electronic mark.**

15.21.2 Task data:

a. description of set airspace(s) (see sketch).

15.21.3 The result is the accumulated time ~~in~~ ~~seconds~~ in the set airspace(s). Greatest result is best.



**COH references inserted**

e.g. CHAPTER 13 – PENALTIES (COH Penalty Guide)

# Input from S&SC, Scoring, Safety and other WG

Input from JB and Safety SC leads to proposed changes towards Respectful Flying Score.

Input from ScWG regarding COH references

Input from CSC regarding RFS red status

# 2025 Cat 1 Rules for approval

23rd EUROPEAN HOT AIR BALLOON CHAMPIONSHIP 2025, Austria

The director is willing to adapt the rules to AXMER2025

Rules with the adaptations to AXMER2025 will be checked by AX-WG and proposed to RSC for final approval. Plenary delegates power to RSC to approve the rules.

# Any Other Business

none

# Election of 2025/2026 WG Members and Chairperson

Proposed 2025/2026 Working Group Members and Chairperson

Present standing (no change):

Uwe Schneider GER Delegate, Chairman  
Claude Weber LUX Delegate   
David Bareford GBR alt. Delegate  
Maury Sullivan USA Expert  
Sanne Haarhuis NED Delegate

# Summary of Recommendations to the RSC

to forward AXMER Changes to the plenary for adoption

# Proposed Motions

Motion 1:

To approve the changes to the AXMER as presented.

Info :

Rules with the adaptations to AXMER2025 will be checked by AX-WG and proposed to RSC for final approval. The Plenary delegates the approval of the rules to RSC.



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