



*Fédération  
Aéronautique  
Internationale*

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# **Paragliding Accuracy**

## **Judging Code**

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## **Judging Code preface**

This Judging Code complements and should be read in conjunction with the FAI/CIVL Sporting Code Section 7C. This document is in continuous development and following proposals from the Paragliding Accuracy Committee, and with Bureau approval, may be modified and new versions published between Plenaries. Such modifications should be subsequently sent to the next CIVL Plenary for information.

### **1.0 General Requirements**

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Refer to Sporting Code Section 7C for the requirements of CIVL PGA judges:

In summary:

Paragliding Accuracy PGA is one discipline in the sport of paragliding and is controlled by the CIVL and Air Sport Commission of the FAI. The FAI is an international federation (IF) recognised by the International Olympics Commission (IOC) and is responsible for the rules and regulations of that sport.

National Airsport Control (NAC) as organisations should nominate PGA judges from their own countries based on their knowledge, training, qualifications and experience. NACs PGA Judge training should be provided by NACs based on the syllabus, presentations and programmes and schedules made available by the PGA Committee Judges Work Group.

The PGA Committee evaluates the nominations and selection of judges for Cat1 events based on criteria such as a judge's integrity, experience, knowledge of the rules, performance in prior competitions, and adherence to the sport's rules.

Judges should record the events in which they participate in a personal logbook, which they should present to the Chief or Event Judge on request.

It should be noted that all Judges are evaluated at each event by the Chief Judge.

If any Judge fails to maintain the standards of this code or those specified in the FAI Sporting Codes, they may have their appointment reevaluated as appropriate.

### **2.0 Approval**

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Refer to the relevant paragraph of the FAI/CIVL Sporting Code Section 7C regarding approval of judges to operate at FAI/CIVL sanctioned events.

### **3.0 Judging Team**

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It is important to refer to the latest version of the FAI Sporting Code Section 7C for the obligatory composition of the Judging Team.

## **4.0 Experience Criteria**

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Judges need to have the following experience in FAI sanctioned events:

### **1<sup>st</sup> Category Events**

#### **Chief Judge**

- Acted at least twice as Event Judge in the last 4 years (at least once at a 1st Category Event)
- and
- Acted at least once as Chief Judge in a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Category Event in the last 4 years.
  - Must have knowledge and understanding of safety limits of paragliding.

#### **Event Judge**

- Acted as Target Judge at least 4 times
- and
- Acted as Event or Chief Judge in at least two 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Category Events in the last 3 years.
  - Must have knowledge and understanding of safety limits of paragliding.

#### **Target and Reserve Judges**

- Performed as Target Judge in at least two 2<sup>nd</sup> Category Events in the last 2 years.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Category Events**

For 2<sup>nd</sup> Category Events, judges should have the following experience in FAI sanctioned events:

#### **Chief Judge**

- Acted as Event or Chief Judge in the last 3 years.

#### **Event Judge**

- Acted twice as Target Judge in the last 3 years.
- Or
- Acted as Event or Chief Judge in the last 3 years.

#### **Target Judge**

- Attended international judging training in the last 3 years or acted as Target Judge in the last 3 years.

## **5.0 Appointment**

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Members of the Judging Team are nominated and appointed by:

### **1<sup>st</sup> Category Events and Test-Events for 1st Category Events**

- Chief Judge: Relevant members of the PGA Committee in consultation with the Event Organiser and approved by the CIVL Bureau.

- Event Judge: CIVL in consultation with the Chief Judge and the Event Organiser.
- Target and reserve judges: CIVL in consultation with the Chief Judge and the Organiser

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Category Events**

- Chief Judge: Event Organiser
- Other Judges: Event Organiser in consultation with the Chief Judge.

## **6.0 Judges' Responsibilities**

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### **6.1 Chief Judge**

The Chief Judge is the leader of the Judging Team. The Chief Judge shall:

- Be available for the selection of the Judging Team and ensuring that all requirements are met.
- In 1st Category Events, be the main Lecturer in the mandatory judging seminar.
- Hold a preparatory meeting for the Judging Team and supporting roles before the official training round.
- Ensure that correct judging standards are maintained by all members of the Judging Team.
- Ensure that all required equipment is available and in working order.
- Approve the automatic measuring device and target area (location, target surface, set up).
- Attend all briefings of competitors and, if necessary, participate in them.
- Confer with the Event Judge and the Meet Director if a request is made to temporarily stop the competition.
- Receive, review, make decisions on and record any initial complaints
- Decide to start a video evidence review according to S7C.
- Stop the competition after conferring with the Event Judge, the Meet Director and the Safety Director if any of these Officials consider that conditions are becoming dangerous.
- Check the score sheet and sign it (with date and time) to confirm the validity of round scores.
- Ensure the results of a competition are correct, published and in accordance with S7C before finishing event flying. (For example, identifying tied scores and notifying the Meet Director the need for fly-offs)
- Keep a record of the Judging Team and provide this information to CIVL Competition Coordinator so the International Judging Database can be updated.

### **6.2 Event Judge**

The Event Judge shall:

- Set out and check the target area.
- Ensure the automatic measuring device is operating correctly. If the automatic measuring device is defective, ensure that the device is removed from service.
- Ensure the smooth running of the target area.
- Position the Target Judges and allocate their tasks.
- Take over any of the duties within the target area if necessary.
- Observe competitors' separation in the air and during final approach.
- Observe pilots' route from take-off to landing.
- In a 1<sup>st</sup> Category Event, participate in the mandatory judging seminar.
- Observe and take competition safety flying decisions with regard to flying standards and weather conditions, particularly at the target area.

- Assess competitors' flights and make fair decisions with regard to re-launches within the SC7C re-launch requirements, including proper evaluation of a pilot's low (insufficient) altitude.

### **6.3 Target Judges**

The Target Judges shall:

- Observe all contacts of pilot and their equipment with the ground and decide if the pilot can be scored or if it is a fall.
- If the pilot is scored, decide whether the first point of ground contact is with the left or right foot, or both feet.
- Mark the first point of ground contact if it is between the automatic measuring device and outer limit of the target and measure the distance between this point and the edge of the dead centre disc.
- If there was more than one point of first ground contact, mark and measure the furthest point of contact.
- Call the score to the Scorer / Recorder.
- The pilot number and their score should be called using individual digits only... for example:
  - Dead Centre:  
" Pilot number – five, seven... Score - zero, zero, zero"
  - Pad score of '5 cms':  
" Pilot number – one, one, five... Score - "zero, zero, five"

At least one Judge is in charge of observing if the pilot can be scored or if it is a fall.

At least one Judge is in charge of observing which foot touches the ground first.

Only one Judge is in charge of calling the score.

### **6.4 Video Measurement Judge**

The Video Measurement Judge shall:

- Observe all contacts of pilot and their equipment with the ground and decide if the pilot can be scored or if it is a fall.
- If the pilot is scored, confirm whether the first point of ground contact is with the left or right foot, or both feet.
- Use the video to measure the first point of ground contact between the automatic measuring device's dead centre disc and outer limit of the target.
- Call the score to the Recorder.
- Review the video evidence with CJ or EJ if consultation is necessary

### **6.5 Scorer**

The Scorer is not a judge but an integral part of the judging team. They hold a vital role and are responsible for the proper capturing, logging and collation of each competitor's scores. The Scorer should be named in the Local Regulations. It is essential that the Scorer understands and knows how to operate the event's software scoring systems, especially with regards to the various categories and the rules of the competition.

The Scorer may be assisted by an additional person whose job is to capture and hand-write each competitor's scores on a paper log sheet for back-up purposes. This person is sometimes called the 'Recorder'.

The Scorer shall:

- Record the start, finish and stand down times of the rounds on the official log sheet.
- Note the award of re-launches.
- Enter scores onto the scoring software application

- Check the accuracy of the scores
- Where applicable post scores onto the internet.
- Ensure CJ checks, dates, times and signs official sheets.
- Post official score sheets on the official notice board.

The Recorder, where used, shall:

- Repeat the score called by the Target Judge.
- Record the score on the official scoring log sheet.

## **7.0 Other Responsibilities**

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### **7.1 Launch Marshal**

The Launch Marshal is an official appointed by the Organisers and although not a judge is listed here because they can drastically affect a competitor's score and must therefore work in close liaison with the judging team.

The Launch Marshal shall:

- Be responsible for the smooth running of take-off operations.
- Have knowledge and experience of local weather and flying conditions.
- Have background of being a paragliding pilot and experience of local flights.
- Open and close the take-off area.
- Call pilots to prepare.
- Ensure pilots take off in accordance with the published flying order list.
- Allow launches out of flying order in special cases.
- Communicate closely with the Chief Judge, Event Judge and Meet Director regarding flying conditions, safety and the efficient running of the competition.
- Communicate with pilots on take-off regarding safety and competition logistics.

### **7.2 Wind Speed Monitor**

The Wind Speed Monitor is also not a Judge but works directly with and for the judging team. The Wind Speed Monitor is appointed by the Organisers. A Wind Speed Monitor may not be required if there is an automatic wind recording system operating within an electronic AMD.

The Wind Speed Monitor shall:

- Observe the wind speed by using a wind speed-measuring device in the period of 30 seconds before a competitor's landing.
- If the wind speed exceeds the stated maximum value, record the value on the official wind speed log sheet and notify the Event Judge.

In 2nd Category Events, Wind Speed Monitor service can be simplified by using mechanical instruments but, in case of marginal winds, the Organiser must provide a person for observing and continuously reporting wind speed to the Event Judge.

## **8.0 Equipment**

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### **8.1 Automatic Measuring Device**

Refer to Sporting Code 7C para. 5.4.2



## **8.2 Other measuring and scoring equipment**

Judges shall have necessary equipment to work efficiently at the target. Refer to the Chief Judge's check list located at <https://www.fai.org/civil-documents> - (other documents).

## **8.3 Clothing**

Refer to Sporting Code Section 7C

## **8.4 Communication**

Refer to Sporting Code Section 7C:

## **8.5 Shelter**

Refer to Sporting Code Section 7C

# **9.0 Judging seminars**

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CIVL Judging seminars can be organised by the CIVL, by an Event organiser, and/or by a NAC.

There shall be various types of seminars:

### **1. Ab Initio (New) Judges**

The seminar shall typically comprise teaching target judges how to correctly mark a competitor's point of landing and is typically run at Club or national events. It will be run by an NAC's experienced judge.

### **2. International – Cat2**

This seminar should be comprehensive and is required to teach judges all aspects of the Sporting Code Section 7C, the Paragliding Accuracy Judging Code and all aspects of judging at Category 2 PGA events. It is usually run prior to and in conjunction with Cat 2 PGA events. This type of CIVL Judging seminar should be programmed in-line with the CIVL Judging seminar syllabus. The seminar leader must be as a minimum a Cat2 experienced Chief Judge.

### **3. International – Cat1**

The Judging Team members shall participate in a judging seminar directly prior to the start of the event. The seminar is conducted by the Chief Judge and is to ensure all judges are current, have a common and correct understanding of the latest editions of the rules and can work as a team.

This CIVL seminar is obligatory and shall be organised just prior to each 1st Category Event and their pre-events. It is required to ensure all judges at the event are experienced, current, proficient and know and understand all aspects of the Sporting Code Section 7C, the Paragliding Accuracy Judging Code and are qualified to judge at Category 1 PGA events. It should be noted that the judges are required to speak English to partake in this seminar. The seminar leader must be a PGA recognised Cat1 qualified Chief Judge approved by the PGA Committee.

4. Judges Continuation Training – International Cat 1 and 2

This level of seminar is a 'follow-on' event for experienced judges. This is **not** a simple repeat of the comprehensive Cat 2 seminar comprising CIVL Judging Presentation, it is interactive workshop format and intended to update the currency of the judges and to test, challenge and improve their PGA knowledge. The seminar leader must be a PGA recognised Cat1 qualified Chief Judge approved by the PGA Committee.

5. Event and Chief Judge Training - International Cat 1 and 2

This seminar is for judges who wish to progress onto the more senior level of judging. These seminars will be organised by the Judging Working Group of the PGA Committee. As well as learning how to manage and lead judging teams, the participants will develop their abilities to run seminars on behalf of the CIVL. The seminar leader must be a PGA recognised Cat1 qualified Chief Judge approved by the PGA Committee.

The latter three levels of CIVL Judging seminars shall be approved by CIVL Bureau at least 60 days before they are run and shall be made public on CIVL website.

The main lecturer shall typically be a Chief Judge who is experienced at the level of the event i.e. National, Continental, World, etc. Other contributing lecturers may be Event Judges or relevant experienced CIVL Officials (Stewards, Jury and/or Bureau Members).

Depending on availability of funds, CIVL may cover travel expenses for some lecturers.

NACs may organise their own international seminars for judges at 2nd category competitions using the syllabus and judging seminar material provided on the CIVL website. It is intended that each NAC will qualify and compile their own list of judges up to Cat2 level. The CIVL can provide the necessary support for such seminars.

## ***10.0 Judging register***

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Refer Sporting Code Section 7C

The CIVL category 1 judges list has been compiled and is maintained by CIVL.

All Judges attending CIVL's judging seminars and appointed to act as judges at Category 1 competitions or their pre-events are recorded on the list. It should be noted that a CIVL seminar's syllabus includes judging theory, practice and consolidation, each of which must be completed before a judge is registered on the CIVL database.

CIVL judging seminar organisers are responsible for collecting and submitting data on judges to CIVL.

## ***11.0 Logbooks***

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All Judges should have and maintain their own Judging Logbooks and should get the Chief or Event Judges to sign it off at the end of the event.

All Judges shall present their Judging Logbooks to the Chief or Event Judge on request.