

# INTERNATIONAL GLIDING COMMISSION (IGC) - PROPOSAL FORM

Submit the proposal via email to IGC Secretary.

Date: 31 December 2022 (**LATE PROPOSAL**)

Proposal submitted by: USA

This proposal is a: 

Year-1	X
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Year-2	
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Other	
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 mark the boxes with ✕ as appropriate

Title: Pre-start altitude limit possibility

## Type the text changes in the space below:

Restore the deleted rule SC3A 7.4.5b:

7.4.5b

A pre-start altitude (MSL) limit may be imposed. After the start gate is opened and before making a valid start, the pilot must ensure at least one fix below the specified pre-start altitude limit. Failure to do so will be penalized. The Local Procedures will state whether this procedure will be used.

## Type the reasons in the space below:

This is a proposal to restore a rule (SC3A 7.4.5b) that was deleted when a new rule (SC3A 7.4.6) was introduced. The deleted rule gave the Director the option to require one fix below a specified height before starting. The new rule requires the use of a maximum start height.

We surmise that the old rule was deleted because it was assumed that the new rule would supersede the old rule, making it unnecessary. This logic applies in typical cases, but it does not apply when the maximum start height is very high, such as in mountainous terrain.

The need to establish fair starting conditions when the maximum start height is very high (or the launching operation is slow) has not changed. The new rule does not address this situation.

Summarizing:

- Rule 7.4.6 (Energy Control at the Start) provides fair conditions at the moment of making the start.
- Old rule 7.4.5b (pre-start fix) provides a fair opportunity for all pilots to reach the maximum starting altitude.

The rules are independent, and both are needed. Restoration of the old rule has no effect on the new rule.

Finally, since we consider this to be a correction, we propose that the old rule be restored in the 2023 edition of Annex A.

## Provide supporting data or reference to external documents for the proposed technical amendments in the space below:

The proposal should be applicable from: October 2023

Sporting Code: SC3, Annex A, 7.4.5b

**Final Wording of Proposal:** The final wording about an updated FAI Flight Recorder system depends on the work of the proposed new FAI Working Group.