

F1 Subcommittee

Report by Ian Kaynes, November 2022

The subcommittee for 2022-23 has 18 members, but 2 have been completely inactive.

An altimeter had been approved by EDIC last year and for a period component shortages meant that no more altimeters could be produced to be available for purchase. The FFSC advised that altitude flyoffs should be suspended. The suspension was lifted when altimeters became available again. The situation has now been improved by the approval of a second altimeter.

There was further discussion of the 2022 proposal for RDT to be available on F1C before they were launched to cover for the possibility of launching without starting the timer, which switch also activates the RDT. There were strong views in favour and against. The result was that a revised proposal has been submitted for the 2023 Plenary

Discussion points included that there would be a benefit to safety, how few times an experienced flyer would make this mistake, other reasons for RDT not functioning after launch, the possible model damage if used during the power phase, and the need to make significant modifications to one of the commercially available timers to make this possible. Without significant agreement on some of these factors no proposal was submitted with voting 7 in favour and 4 against and 2 abstentions. Another proposal was considered, to require that the indicator light showing the timer was switched on should be visible to the flyer when the model was in the launch position, but this did not have majority support.

Other proposals for the 2023 Plenary have included promoting F1Q to a championship class and to use it for Junior Championships in the place of F1P.

A 2022 Plenary proposal from Serbia to define exact limits for altitude flyoffs was considered by the Subcommittee but it concluded that some criteria would have been hard to measure and often the choice would be influenced by a degradation of a number of factors rather than one extreme condition.

The quality of timekeeping at World Cup events was discussed and a proposal made to emphasise the need for 2 timekeepers.