

INTERNATIONAL GLIDING COMMISSION (IGC) - PROPOSAL FORM

Submit the proposal via email to IGC Secretary.

Date: 30 December 2022

Proposal submitted by: Germany

This proposal is a:

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

Title: Data communication - Mobile phones

Type the text changes in the space below:

Therefore 5.3.1. b should be deleted from Annex A as a rule which is and cannot be controlled and will (unfortunately) not prevent pilots from using their phones in flight.

Type the reasons in the space below:

Current rules:

5.3.1 b. prohibits the use of data communication except for safety/anti-collision or as stated in the local procedures.

In 2022 all local procedures for IGC sanctioned championships stated:

The following forms of data communication are not allowed.

- Mobile phone usage except as data relay for onboard devices
- Mobile Phones for voice and audio communications while flying
- ..

Noncompliance with these rules will be considered as cheating and subject to penalties.

And from the Annex A (also written in the List of Penalties):

- ii. Any pilot, team member, or team found to be cheating will be disqualified from the competition.

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

In Tábor (JWGC) as well as in Pociunai (EGC, WGC) and Szeged (WGC) there were pilots from various nations who uploaded photos/videos online directly during the flight on social media. Some of these pictures were even shared by the organizer on their social media channels. The organizers also could not know whether the purpose of posting these photos/videos was for fun or for tactical reasons e.g., to send weather information.

This means that the organizers knew that there were rule violations, which according to IGC/Local procedures are so severe that the pilots would have to be disqualified from the competition immediately (including further investigations by FAI and the NAC). And this is then simply ignored by the organizers, the stewards, and all team captains despite it being such a "severe" violation causing a disqualification? Just to compare it to other violations: "Cloud flying, hazardous manoeuvres..." results in 100 penalty points for the first violation, flying under alcohol gives a day disqualification and posting a picture on Instagram during the flight results in a disqualification from the competition - but the last rule is the only one which is not actually controlled/penalized.

And to be honest, also in the upcoming competitions there will never be a chance to actually check this rule, especially if non-public channels are used.

The proposal should be applicable from: October 2024

Sporting Code: SC3, Annex A, 5.3.1. b

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.

Overall Votes Cast: For: Against: Abstain:

ADOPTED: Yes: No: