1. Recommendation

Current rule

8.3.4 Ballast
Pilots must comply with the weight limitations set by the glider airworthiness standards. The pilot’s weight is defined as body weight when dressed in jeans, shirt and underwear. Weight can be measured at take-off or landing at the request of the organisers. Pilots may carry jettisonable ballast only in the form of fine sand or water. A pilot must avoid dropping ballast at any time or in a manner likely to affect other competing gliders or third parties. The weight limit for all equipment (without glider), extra clothes and ballast is 25 kg. If a pilot is equipped with a second parachute, the weight limit is 28 kg. The organiser will provide a weight measurement scale. Pilots’ nominal weight may be checked at registration. Pilots may be weighted before taking-off or after landing.

8.5.4 Ballast
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6.3 Specific Penalties

Too much ballast.
1st offence: 100 points.
2nd offence: zero points for the task.
3rd offence: expulsion from the competition.

Recommendation

8.3.4 Ballast
Pilots must comply with the weight limitations set by the glider airworthiness standards. Pilots may be weighted before taking-off or after landing. Pilots may carry jettisonable ballast only in the form of fine sand or water. A pilot must avoid dropping ballast at any time or in a manner likely to affect other competing gliders or third parties. Pilots must be fit to fly with their chosen quantity of ballast. Any pilot experiencing difficulties launching will be required to stand aside and may not be allowed to fly.

8.5.4 Ballast
Remove: duplicate

6.3 Specific Penalties

Flying outside the weight limitations of the glider.

- 1st offence: 10 points.
- 2nd offence: 100 points
- 3rd offence: zero points for the task.
- 4th offence: expulsion from the competition.

Dropping ballast during a flight.
- 1st offence: 10 points.
- 2nd offence: 100 points
- 3rd offence: zero points for the task.
- 4th offence: expulsion from the competition.

Comment: Remove the ballast rule, and only make sure pilots must fly within the weight range of the glider. Adding a penalty for dropping ballast. If a pilot is dropping ballast even after crossing speed section, it is just not possible to check if a pilot was flying within the weight range. Also, penalties should be much lower for the first offence. Even 10 points in today’s standards is a difference of podium of no podium.