

Annexe 34 b - CIVL Bureau recommendation

for the approval of the 2024 Pan-American Championship in La Rioja, Argentina

1. Review of competition site:

Launch Site

- a. The main launch area is essentially flat with a vertical cliff in front. There is insufficient slope before the cliff for pilots to safely inflate their wings without having to be directly on the edge of the cliff.
- b. The launch area is very narrow and only has room for 2 gliders to be laid out ready to launch.
- c. There is a steep, rocky, drop-off directly behind it covered with trees. If a pilot was blown backwards, this would likely result in serious injury.
- d. There also is an upper launch, but it has even more of an issue of a steep drop-off behind launch than the main launch.

Landing Out Area(s)

- a. Currently there is a vast stretch of land below the mountains that run north-south that essentially offers no good landing options., This area is tens of kilometers long, much of it is trees and scrub brush and along the main route that is often used for tasks.
- b. The few clear areas to land are private farms.
- c. Retrieve vehicles cannot access the area and would result in a pilot having to walk hours in extremely hot conditions. This is unacceptable.

Rescue

During the 2021 PWC, a pilot used his rescue parachute and landed in difficult terrain at 2:05 p.m. No helicopter was available. He was rescued only the next day. Luckily, he was not badly injured.

2. Conditional Requirements

Before the event can be approved, the following improvements must be met:

2.1 Launch Site

Ideally, the upper and lower launches could be combined and enlarged backwards, with an adequate slope to allow a safe launch (inflation of gliders well before approaching the cliff edge). Regardless of how this is accomplished, there should be a good, safe launch area capable of having at least 3 gliders ready to launch in order to hold a competition of 125 or more pilots.

2.2 Land Out Area

Some areas could be cleared along the task route to provide land-out options. If this is not possible, then tasks should not be called that would put pilots in a position where they might have to land in this no-land zone.

2.3 Rescue

- Rescue/recovery facilities must be made available.
- In the landing-out area, suitable vehicles must be organised to allow rapid recovery.
- Helicopter rescue standby capability must be provided.

2.4 Test Event

To validate that the site is appropriate for the quantity and quality of pilots likely to attend the 2024 Pan-Americans, the requirements must be met before the 2023 test event.

Proof of having met the requirements will be required.

CIVL may send one or more representatives to site before the test event at the organiser's expense to assess the site changes.