

FEDERATION AERONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE
COMMISSION D'AEROSTATION DE LA FAI
FAI BALLOONING COMMISSION



**FAI World Online Contest - Ballooning
Rules**

Draft v.0.3

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The CIA - World Online Contest

1. Goals

The goal of the FAI World Online Contest (FAI WOC) - Ballooning are:

- a timely web-based scoring of balloon flight performances, free from the burden of national, geographical, seasonal and economical limitations, to allow an easy and up-to-date comparison of decentralised balloon flight performances.
- promoting the sport of ballooning, connecting pilots from around the world to easily compare their performances as well as reinforcing friendship amongst pilots of all nations.

2. Documentation

Documentation of the flight is achieved with GPS based flight recording.

There are two kinds of flight recorders:

- *"IGC-approved"*: These IGC approved GNSS flight recorders generate IGC-files that deliver secured flight data. A current list of IGC approved GNSS flight recorders is available at the IGC-website (<http://www.fai.org/gliding/gnss/>).
- *"IGC-compatible"*: All other recorders which do not generate IGC files directly but with software which is approved by the WOC-team. A current list of the WOC-team approved software for these recorders will be published at the FAI WOC website. Flights recorded with these IGC-compatible recorders will be scored but can not be awarded a prize.

Official observers are not required, but can be used to witness a performance so it can be scored for awarding.

3. Flight scoring

The flight performance has to be achieved in free flight, in accordance with the FAI Sporting Code.

The task consists of a longest distance flight and will be ranked in three competitions:

"WOC-Global"

The flight track has no limitation to a country. Longest distance between start and end point is best.

"WOC-National"

The whole flight track, including take off and landing must be in the same country. For scoring, the nationality of the competitor is of no importance in relation to the "WOC-National" country he is flying.

"WOC-Special"

A special award will be given for the flight track crossing the greatest number of countries.

All 3 competitions will be scored in the 2 separate balloon categories AA and AX.

4. Country of scoring

If there is a National or Regional scoring of flight performances, the achieved scores will be ranked in the national or regional scoring of the respective point of departure.

5. Score calculation

For WOC-Global and WOC-Special, the minimum scoring distance is 50 km. Shorter flights will be displayed but they do not count. The distance in kilometers will be taken as score.

6. Flight altitude

The minimum flight altitude must be at least at a minimum height of 500ft, except for take off and landing approach.

The start point and time will be given when reaching the minimum flight altitude after take off.

The end point and time will be the first descent below the minimum flight altitude.

7. Scoring period

The scoring period normally starts 1st of January and ends 31st of December.

8. Flight claiming

Flight claims will only be accepted at FAI WOC website. Claims have to be submitted within 1 week after the completion of the flight.

The track file has to be submitted as part of the flight claim.

By submitting the flight the participant certifies that the flight took place as claimed.

9. Publishing of data

By transmitting the track log to the CIA, the participant agrees to transfer his rights regarding the transmitted data to the FAI and that his flight data and flight-routes will be published on the Internet at the FAI WOC website.

10. Validation

Flights and scores will be accepted if no complaints have been filed against them within 4 weeks after the score and flight have been published. A complaint may be filed with the FAI in accordance with the Sporting Code rules.

Flight data in the form of IGC data files must be kept by the participant until one month after the end of the current competition.

11. Winners and prize giving

At the CIA Webpage, all flight performances will be ranked as soon as possible, and winners will be honored at the Hall of World Online Contest Winners. The prize giving will take place at the following CIA plenary.

12. Eligibility and participation

The contest is open to all pilots that have a valid FAI WOC licence. Participants are individual pilots. Participation is free of charge.

Registration can only be made online via the form published at FAI WOC website and has to be made for every year.

By their registration the participants agree to the FAI WOC rules.

13. Airspace Violations

The FAI WOC-team within the CIA has to assume that the participants in the contest will not violate restricted airspace during their flights. ATC clearances are necessary to enter certain airspace. The WOC-team will not check if a pilot has obtained the necessary clearance. However, if any complaint or investigation will prove that there has been an obvious violation of airspace, the competitor may be penalised up to disqualification.