PROPOSAL TO IGC PLENARY 2015
YEAR 1

Proposed by Netherlands

It is Proposed that:

The scoring formula be modified to a formula that will reduce the point spread on distance days without affecting the value of safe and fair competition days.

This Proposal affects:

SC3A 8.4 (Calculation of Scores)

Reasons to support the Proposal:

A “distance day” is a day in which there are no finishers or very few finishers. In the current rules, the winner of a distance day may receive 1000 points. There is no argument that the winner of a safe and fair competition day should receive 1000 points.

In modern contests, we expect a large number of finishers. A day in which there are no finishers or very few finishers is a day in which something went “wrong”. This could be an unrealistically difficult task or a sudden change of weather, but still is part of the competition.

The problem on distance days is that the point spread on these days is significantly greater than on racing tasks, with no apparent skill reason. The smaller the task, the bigger this effect.

It looks like the main factor of this effect is caused by the points/km which a pilot can get, this is still based on glide ratio of an older generation of gliders. With one thermal to 1000 meter height the glide ratio was 1 :32 (ka-6), nowadays it can be 1 :60 (JS1).

Criteria for the modification:
- a distance day can be a fair and safe competition day, and can be a 1000 points day.
- the maximum points to be earned (1) and the point spread on a distance day (2) must be in comparison with a normal racing day.
- ad 1: 1000 points when flight duration and distance is f.e. > 3 hrs and > 250 km just like the racing tasks criteria
ad 2: the point spread must be reduced and must be comparable to the racing days, (focusing on the small task days.)

This Year 1 proposal asks the Annex A Committee, in consultation with pilots and Stewards, to find a formula that will reduce the point spread on distance days without affecting the value of safe and fair competition days.