Year 2 Proposal 2006 Proposal - Microlight Motorgliders

This proposal by FFVV asks for the creation of a Microlight Motorglider Class within section 3 of the FAI Sporting Code.

To create such a class, amendments will be needed in SC3, paragraph 1.0.4.

Current wording is:

1.0.4 GLIDER A glider is a fixed wing aerodyne capable of sustained soaring flight and having no means of propulsion. Class D is the FAI Class for gliders and includes Class DM for motor gliders. For records, gliders fall within one of the following sub-classes:

  a. OPEN any glider.
  b. 15 METRE any glider with a wingspan not exceeding 15,000 mm.
  c. WORLD a PW-5 glider as defined in Chapter 7.7.5.
  d. ULTRALIGHT a glider with a takeoff mass not exceeding 220 kg, and a MICROLIFT glider is an ULTRALIGHT glider with a wing-loading not exceeding 18 kg/m².

MICROLIFT gliders do not have separate world records.

Championship classes are defined in Chapter 7.7.

The amendment should be as follows:

Within paragraph (d) after 220kg replace the comma with a full stop. Delete remainder of sentence and italic note.

Add new sentences: The following classes do not have separate World Records.

  e MICROLIFT a MICROLIFT glider is an ULTRALIGHT glider with a wing-loading not exceeding 18 kg/m².
  f MICROLIGHT MOTORGlider a motorglider whose takeoff mass is, for a single seat machine, less than 300 kg, for a two seat machine less than 450 kg and whose minimum speed is 65kph.

Championship classes are defined in Chapter 7.7.

[Unless world or other international championships for Microlift Gliders and Microlight Motorgliders are required, no additions to Chapter 7 are needed.]

(Explanatory note)
(The definition of a Microlight is shown here is for Europe as supplied by FFVV in their proposal. However; a perfunctory look at other authorities has shown that there are considerable differences between countries in the definitions they call Microlight.)

Recommendation

As the term “Microlight [glider]” is not defined with the same parameters in all countries it could be confusing to retain the above definition. Alternative definitions could be researched and one chosen that covers all others. However it would seem that we are getting rather too many definitions of smaller gliders, it would be more desirable to hold this proposal over for at least one year until the proposed major rewrite of the Sporting Code, when a regrouping or new definition of smaller gliders could be included. It seems unwise to amend as requested in the original proposal at the present moment. If desired, a special working group could be tasked with defining this grouping.

The Sporting Code committee recommends this course of action.

A possible alternative could be a 13 metre class.

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Sporting Code Committee.