

<i>Subject:</i>	Proposal from the Czech Republic to change the FS & AL CRs	Annex No. -	17.3a
<i>Author:</i>	Jiri Blaska, Delegate the Czech Republic	Agenda ref. -	17.3
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FAI International Parachuting Commission IPC Plenary Meeting 2019

Introduction

The Aeroclub of the Czech Republic respectfully requests to include this letter into the agenda of the IPC Plenary Meeting 2019 and consequently a possibility for a delegate of the Aeroclub of the Czech Republic to make a presentation at the open meeting for style and accuracy about collective decision-making of judges at the accuracy landing competitions.

Aim

The main aim of the presentation is to ensure that the rules of a sports performance assessment (evaluation) in the accuracy landing competitions are applied in practice:

- three judges independently assess the landing and indicate by a visible signal (i.e. by three visible signals) 6.1.1.1. CR,
- the decision is made by simple majority 6.1.1.1. CR,
- these are the principles that must always be retained. 4.9.2. GS,

Current state and respective comments

At many international competitions, a "speaker" (rules do not mention or describe this function though), who assesses the sports performance on his / her own, is often appointed. The principle of eliminating possible human error by simple majority is then being lost. A one-person assessment cannot represent the simple majority. It is incorrect to claim that the silence of the other two judges means consent. Each of the three judges should have the obligation to express a consensus or disagreement with the assessment of the sports performance by a clearly visible (e.g. hand) signal. Different independent assessments need not be the result of judges' mistakes, usually they are the evidence of a non-convincing, collision landing of a competitor. Then the simple majority decides.

Current rules and its evolution

In 2015, the IPC meeting changed Article 6.1.1.1. Style and accuracy competition rules. Both, the previous text, valid for approximately 15 years, but also the new one express well the judges' work system and both versions determine the same principles of assessment. The new version is only more specific and more accurately describes the procedure of assessing a sports performance in the accuracy landing by hand / arm signals itself. (In 2018, there was a proposal to change these principles. That proposal was not accepted.)

However, the practice is different at many competitions. Via presentation and discussion, I wish to contribute to the correct application of the article rules in practice.

The following are the articles of the rules which should be applied in practice properly:

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Style and accuracy competition rules

6.1.1.1 Three judges positioned at or near the target will independently assess the landing and indicate by visible signal (hand / arm, predetermined by the Chief Judge) if the displayed score is valid / invalid. The decision of the judges will be made by simple majority.

General section

4.9.2. Second category events: General Regulations and Competition Rules for Second Category Events shall be based, as appropriate, on those for First Category Events and must not conflict with them in principle.

Other comments

- 1) Many judges believe that hand signals to confirm the assessment are determined by the IPC rules. It is not true. They are determined by the Chief Judge. Every Chief Judge can determine them differently.
Unfortunately, at the last championship – at the technical conference before the competition the judges did not answer the question about which hand / arm signals the chief judge would determine.
- 2) I believe, the independent assessments and the simple majority principles should be retained in the video assessment as well (detailed in another Czech agenda item). The Chief Judge does not reassess the collective judgement of the three judges – he / she can only decide to use the video record for the final assessment of the sports performance and it will be done again by simple majority and the three judges who assess the sports performance again independently.

Conclusion

May we thank in advance to the IPC and all the meeting participants for their consideration.

Jiri Blaska, delegate of the Aeroclub of the Czech Republic
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