



CIVL 2024 PLENARY – ANNEXE XX
PROPOSAL - CREATE A MASTER CATEGORY AND WPRS RANKING

NAC Slovenia, Chile and Colombia

Background

This is a joint proposal from Chile (Chilean Paragliding Federation - FECHPA), Colombia (Air Sports Federation – FEDEAEREOS), Cuba (Club de Aviación de Cuba), Slovenia (LETALSKA ZVEZA SLOVENIJA), and the USA (United States Hang-gliding and Paragliding Association – USHPA) to amend the FAI Sporting Code, Common Section 7, to include a ranking category to be called Masters Category. Many pilots over the age of 50 have stopped participating in organized competitions, but have stated they would do so, if there was a category and podium recognition for them. Pilots over 50 have the time and resources to travel, and event organizers would benefit from having this group of pilots participate. Competitions that have included a Senior or Masters category have been enthusiastically well attended by this category of pilots, and feedback has been very positive, with the overwhelming majority of these pilots calling for officially creating the category.

NOTE: The USA has a Masters category, but recently increased the age from 50 to 55, and would prefer FAI CIVL Masters start also at 55. Cuba and Colombia have no age preference for the category. Chile and Slovenia prefer 50 as starting age. USA also wants to discuss the proposal within the hang-gliding committee, as a Masters class for HG may be significantly older, and the committee may opt to exclude HG from this proposal. Similarly, a PG Masters class for Aerobatics may have a younger starting age. So, the first issue for this proposal to discuss and vote by the committee is on having a Masters class, something all the parties agree with (with the aforementioned caveat for HG). If the committee agrees on the category, the second issue then is to determine the starting ages for the different modalities and editing this proposal accordingly.

Proposal

FAI Sporting Code, Common Section 7 - 1st May 2023

I. Current rule

2.2.2. Categories

First and Second Category events may take part in the following categories: Individual, Team Overall, Men, Women, Junior.

Junior categories are called Junior U-XX (for Under XX-year of age). The age is determined by the calendar year in which the pilot has his birthday. If the category is Junior-26, a pilot being 26 or younger can still compete for the Junior class.

The categories are

- XC: Junior U-26.
- Accuracy: Junior U-26.

- Aerobatic: Junior U-23.

Recommendation:

2.2.2. Categories

- **First Category events**

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The categories are

- XC: Junior U-26.
- Accuracy: Junior U-26.
- Aerobatic: Junior U-23.

- **Second category events**

On top of the categories allowed to be used in category one events, other categories may also be used.

Masters class are called Masters M-XX (for Over XX). The age is determined by the actual age of the pilot on the 1st official day of competition. (If the category is Masters-50, a pilot's 50th birthday can be on the 1st official day of competition of the specific event).

The categories are

- XC: Masters M-55
- Accuracy: Masters M-50
- Aerobatic: Masters M-XX (TBD).

II. Current rule

14. THE WORLD PILOT RANKING SYSTEM

The WPRS (Sporting Code S7 E) is a system designed to rank all pilots who fly in competitions that are, or have been, FAI sanctioned around the world. A separate ranking is produced for each of the flying disciplines of hang gliding and paragliding.

Inside flying disciplines ranking are produced by the following categories: Overall, Women, Junior, Nations, Continents.

Each ranking is calculated only from the results of FAI sanctioned competitions.

Results received by CIVL are deemed to be correct and all pilots will be ranked accordingly.

The current WPRS formula gives each pilot ranking points.

Nation rankings are calculated by aggregating the individual WPRS points of a specified number of pilots from each nation.

Rankings are also currently produced by Continent.

Junior class shall be called Junior U-XX (for Under XX)

Junior rankings are calculated by aggregating the individual results of pilots of following ages:

—XC and Accuracy events: Junior U-26.

—Aerobatic events: Junior U-23.

The age is determined by the calendar year in which the pilot has his birthday.

Under exceptional circumstances, the CIVL Bureau has the right to allow WPRS ranking points from competitions that have not been FAI sanctioned or pilots without FAI Sporting Licenses.

CIVL Ranking WPRS Website: <http://civlcomps.org/>

It is mandatory for organizers of First and Second Category events to register their event in the CIVL EMS (civlcomps.org).

It is mandatory for pilots competing in First and Second Category events to be registered in the CIVL EMS.

In case of issues, only the information as found on the FAI Sporting Licences database is taken in consideration. Physical or virtual FAI Sporting Licences issued by NACs (which are not present in FAI Sporting Licence database) are not considered.

It is the responsibility of pilots to check that the information entered in the FAI Sporting Licences

database are correct (name, discipline, date of validity, etc.)

Results received by CIVL are deemed to be correct and all pilots will be ranked accordingly.

NACs may control all results and rankings published on the CIVL website and ask for adjustment, especially in consideration of pilots not having FAI Sporting Licences.

All results and rankings published on the CIVL website will be deemed to be final after 3 months have elapsed since the last day of the competition.

Recommendation:

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Junior class shall be called Junior U-XX (for Under XX)

Junior rankings are calculated by aggregating the individual results of pilots of following ages:

—XC and Accuracy events: Junior U-26.

—Aerobatic events: Junior U-23.

The age is determined by the calendar year in which the pilot has his birthday.

Masters class shall be called Masters O-XX (for Over XX)

Masters' rankings are calculated by aggregating the individual results of pilots of the following ages:

—XC events: Masters O-55.

—Accuracy events: Masters O-50.

—Aerobatic events: Masters O-XX (TBD).

The age is determined by the actual age of the pilot on the 1st official day of competition. (XX birthday of the pilot must be prior to the 1st official competition day of the specific event.)

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We would also like to add the tool, to filter out results by age group determined by the user.

Summary of activity during 2023

Already during the PanAm Accuracy in Colombia we first started with scoring Masters in their own category. It was good and brought a loth of interest to the competing pilots. We also tried it out in some other event, and during all of them if was really a great experience.