



Proposal Argentina – WPRS Pn (Pilot Number)

Introduction

The CIVL World Ranking value of a competition is based on several parameters, one of which is the number of pilots participating in it. It is a good rule to encourage competitions to grow in size, but probably up to a certain point.

Actual rule has no limit, so with the average number of competitors we had on 2023, on average a comp needed 109 pilots competing so that the comp is not devalued due to “low” participation. This number went up to 112 in certain weeks.

So there is an incentive for organizers and competing pilots, to try to reach those numbers, and encourage registration of more pilots, regardless of other factors.

On the other hand, some competitions have a hard time trying to be even near those numbers. This happens especially in countries that are far away from Europe with a lower pilot population.

These comps get devalued just because they cannot reach such big numbers. This devaluation also happens to some European comps of high level but not full field.

We think that a comp with 80 pilots is enough in terms of numbers so as to get full validity. Indeed we think the number is lower, but to be prudent, we could start with that number. Many national competitions have 20 or 30 “top” pilots that really compete for the podium places, and the rest have a lower level and many fly with Sport gliders (En C). So the addition of more pilots of similar or lower level does not change at all the results of the competition. But with today’s rule it changes the value in WPRS.

All this is referred to Paragliding XC, which is the discipline that suffers today from this problem.



Actual Rule

The actual formula and rule is the following:

“ 2.4 Number of Participants (Pn)

$Pn = \text{square root} (\text{"number of participants"} / \text{"avg. number of participants in competitions last 12 months"})$

if ($Pn > Pn_max$) $Pn = Pn_max$

$Pn_max = 1.2$, saying that a competition with slightly more than average number of participants is a good benchmark. “

The proposal is to set a minimum number of pilots that make the competition fully valid and avoid the problems described before. For Paragliding XC that number is proposed at 80 pilots. In order to reach that number, we have to fix 55 as a maximum denominator in the formula. So the formula change would be:

“ 2.4 Number of Participants (Pn)

$Pn = \text{square root} (\text{"number of participants"} / N)$

if ($Pn > Pn_max$) $Pn = Pn_max$

$N = \text{min} (55, \text{"avg. number of participants in competitions last 12 months"})$

$Pn_max = 1.2$, saying that a competition with slightly more than average number of participants is a good benchmark. “

Also we think the following paragraph should be erased as it is outdated

~~“Looking at WPRS data on 01.01.2007 the average number of pilots in PG XC competitions is 69 pilots. In HG class 1 the average number of pilots in competitions at that date is 43 pilots.”~~

The number proposed of 55 will start devaluating only comps with less than 80 pilots. By using the min formula, other disciplines are not affected.

If there is consensus to create a different maximum N for the other disciplines, this proposal could be amended to reflect that consensus.

We hope for your support in the next CIVL Plenary meeting.

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