



FAI SPORTING CODE GENERAL SECTION



2018 Edition

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RIGHTS TO FAI INTERNATIONAL SPORTING EVENTS

All international sporting events organised wholly or partly under the rules of the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) Sporting Code¹ are termed FAI International Sporting Events². Under the FAI Statutes³, FAI owns and controls all rights relating to FAI International Sporting Events. FAI Members⁴ shall, within their national territories⁵, enforce FAI ownership of FAI International Sporting Events and require them to be registered in the FAI Sporting Calendar⁶.

An event organiser who wishes to exploit rights to any commercial activity at such events shall seek prior agreement with FAI. The rights owned by FAI which may, by agreement, be transferred to event organisers include, but are not limited to advertising at or for FAI events, use of the event name or logo for merchandising purposes and use of any sound, image, program and/or data, whether recorded electronically or otherwise or transmitted in real time. This includes specifically all rights to the use of any material, electronic or other, including software that forms part of any method or system for judging, scoring, performance evaluation or information utilised in any FAI International Sporting Event⁷.

Each FAI Air Sport Commission⁸ may negotiate agreements, with FAI Members or other entities authorised by the appropriate FAI Member, for the transfer of all or parts of the rights to any FAI International Sporting Event (except World Air Games events⁹) in the discipline¹⁰, for which it is responsible¹¹ or waive the rights. Any such agreement or waiver, after approval by the appropriate Air Sport Commission President, shall be signed by FAI Officers¹².

Any person or legal entity that accepts responsibility for organising an FAI Sporting Event, whether or not by written agreement, in doing so also accepts the proprietary rights of FAI as stated above. Where no transfer of rights has been agreed in writing, FAI shall retain all rights to the event. Regardless of any agreement or transfer of rights, FAI shall have, free of charge for its own archival and/or promotional use, full access to any sound and/or visual images of any FAI Sporting Event. The FAI also reserves the right to arrange at its own expense for any and all parts of any event to be recorded.



[Link for FAI Statutes and By Laws](#)

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- 1 FAI Statutes,Chapter 1,para. 1.6
 - 2 FAI Sporting Code, Gen. Section,Chapter 4,para 4.1.2
 - 3 FAI Statutes,Chapter 1,para 1.8.1
 - 4 FAI Statutes,Chapter 2,para 2.1.1; 2.4.2; 2.5.2 and 2.7.2
 - 5 FAI By-Laws,Chapter 1,para 1.2.1
 - 6 FAI Statutes,Chapter 2,para 2.4.2.2.5
 - 7 FAI By-Laws,Chapter 1,paras 1.2.2 to 1.2.5
 - 8 FAI Statutes,Chapter 5,paras 5.1.1, 5.2, 5.2.3 and 5..2.3.3
 - 9 FAI Sporting Code, Gen. Section,Chapter 4,para 4.1.5
 - 10 FAI Sporting Code, Gen. Section,Chapter 2,para 2.2.
 - 11 FAI Statutes,Chapter 5,para 5.2.3.3.7
 - 12 FAI Statutes,Chapter 6,para 6.1.2.1.3

AMENDMENT_RECORD

Amended versions of the Sporting Code General Section (GS) are published by the FAI Secretariat, acting for the Air Sport General Commission

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INTRODUCTION TO THE SPORTING CODE OF THE FAI

The Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI), is a world organisation that is concerned mainly with air sport competitions, records, including space activities, and other certified performances.

The FAI unites National Air Sport Control (NAC) organisations, who administer air sports activities in their own countries. The NACs, which are members of FAI, when assembled in the annual General Conference, are the highest FAI policy-making body.

The policies and decisions of the General Conference are implemented by the FAI Executive Board and the Air Sport Commissions. The Executive Board ensures that the Statutes, By-Laws and the Sporting Code, are duly observed.

The FAI Sporting Code consists of the General Section and the Specialised Sections.

The FAI Sporting Code deals with two major areas: organized sporting events, such as championships and competitions, and records.

The General Section consists of matters which are common to all air sports and is the responsibility of the FAI Air Sport General Commission (in French, CASI).

The Specialised Sections of the Sporting Code contain rules and procedures for specific air sport activities, and are the responsibility of the appropriate Air Sport Commission (see 2.2.)

Wording: The use of “shall” and “must” implies that the aspect concerned is mandatory; the use of “should” implies a non-mandatory recommendation; “may” indicates what is permitted and “will” indicates what is going to happen. Words of masculine gender should be taken as including the feminine gender unless the context indicates otherwise.

Words importing the singular will include the plural and vice versa.

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3. SPORTING LICENCES

3.1 SPORTING LICENCE

- 3.1.1 **STATUTORY RIGHTS:** only FAI members holding FAI Sporting Powers have the right to issue FAI Sporting Licences.
- 3.1.2 **HOLDER'S RESPONSIBILITY:** the holder of a Sporting Licence acknowledges that he knows and understands the FAI Sporting Code and commits himself to abide by it. Only holders of a valid FAI Sporting Licence are permitted to participate in FAI sporting events, record attempts and badge flights.
- 3.1.3 **ISSUE OF SPORTING LICENCES:** each NAC has the delegated power to issue FAI Sporting Licences on proof of identity to those of its individual members who are either citizens or residents of that NAC's country.

A Sporting Licence shall be considered to have been issued, if the holder is listed on the FAI Sporting Licence database by the authority that is issuing the particular Sporting License together with all the required information and the period of validity of that particular Sporting License.

The required information in the database must include, but is not limited to, the name of the issuing authority, the name and contact details of the holder and a number given by the NAC.

A Sporting License may be issued for one airsport discipline (see 2.2 above) or for multiple airsports disciplines. This information must be clearly indicated in the Sporting License database.

An FAI Sporting Licence shall be recognised by all NACs.

- 3.1.3.1 Identification
- 3.1.3.1.1 The citizenship of a person is proved by an identification document stating his citizenship and issued by or on behalf of the government of the country concerned. This document shall be in English and, if not, it must be accompanied by an official English translation.
- 3.1.3.1.2 The residency of a person means the place where a person usually lives for at least 185 days in each calendar year because of personal and occupational ties, or in the case of a person with no occupational ties, because of personal ties which show close links between that person and the place where he or she is living. The residency of a person is proved by an identification document stating his residence and issued by or on behalf of the government of the country concerned or by a sworn statement signed by the NAC President. This document shall be in English and, if not, it must be accompanied by an official English translation.
- 3.1.3.1.3 The identity of a person without nationality is proved by the residence permit issued by or on behalf of the government of that country of residence. This document shall be in English and, if not, it must be accompanied by an official English translation.
- 3.1.3.2 A person shall not, at the same time, hold a Sporting Licence issued by more than one NAC. An individual, who under the provisions of 3.1.3.6 elects to transfer from one NAC to another, may be issued a sporting licence by his new NAC only after notification to his former NAC and after withdrawal of any valid

sporting licence issued by that former NAC. The Sporting License database will be updated directly by the FAI Secretariat once documentation from both NACs has been received.

- 3.1.3.3 Although a NAC has the power to issue Sporting Licences, a NAC may delegate that power to other aeronautical bodies within its country and involve such bodies in their distribution. In the event of a Sporting Licence, valid for one airsport discipline, being withdrawn from an individual for disciplinary reasons, the NAC must ensure that all other Sporting Licences issued to that individual (3.1.3.2) by that NAC are also withdrawn.
- 3.1.3.4 An NAC may refuse to issue a Sporting Licence.
- 3.1.3.5 In compliance with FAI Statute 1.8.2, the Secretary General, authorized by the FAI Executive Board or the ASC concerned, may issue a Sporting Licence to an individual who cannot obtain a Sporting Licence under the provisions of 3.1.3.6. This right shall not be exercised with regard to individuals who are either citizens or residents of a country with a NAC that has paid the required annual subscription fees before the due date of March 31 or is under suspension in accordance with 3.1.3 above.
- 3.1.3.6 Rights of representation
- 3.1.3.6.1 A citizen of a country may be issued with a FAI Sporting Licence to represent the NAC of that country in First Category sporting events and to participate in Second Category sporting events and in record attempts. For the FAI definition of citizenship, see 3.1.3.1.1 and for changes of representation see 3.1.3.6.4.
- 3.1.3.6.2 Resident. For the FAI definition of residency, see 3.1.3.1.2.
- 3.1.3.6.2.1 First Category Events. A resident of a country who is not a citizen of that country may be issued with a FAI Sporting Licence to represent the NAC of that country in First Category sporting events, subject to 3.2.3.6.4 on changes of representation.
- 3.1.3.6.2.2 Second Category Events and other FAI Activities. A resident of a country who is not a Citizen of that country may be issued with an FAI Sporting Licence by the NAC of his country of residence to participate in Second Category sporting events and such activities as record attempts, subject to 3.1.3.2. which prevents the holding of two sporting licences at the same time.
- 3.1.3.6.3 Multiple Citizenships. A person who has multiple citizenships may freely select the NAC of one of those countries of citizenship to apply for an FAI Sporting License. If such a person subsequently wishes to change to another country of his/her citizenship, this may be done regardless of place of residence, subject to 3.1.3.6.4 on changes of representation.
- 3.1.3.6.4 Change of Representation - First Category Events. If a competitor has represented a country in a First Category Event, that competitor must not represent another country in any First Category Event during the twenty four months, or a longer period as specified by a particular ASC, following the month in which the First Category Event, in which the competitor represented the first country, takes place.
- Also, see 3.1.3.2, which prevents the holding of two Sporting Licences at the same time. In the exceptional circumstance where, due to geopolitical change and not personal choice, a competitor becomes resident of another country and is no longer eligible to hold a Sporting Licence in the prior country, this time period can be reduced on the condition that the NACs concerned give their written approval and the case is reviewed and approved by the CASI Bureau.

- 3.1.4 **VALIDITY OF SPORTING LICENCES:** the holder of a sporting licence may be required to produce an official document bearing his photograph and signature in proof of identity.
- 3.1.5 **WITHDRAWAL OF SPORTING LICENCES:** a Sporting Licence may be withdrawn by the FAI or the NAC that issued it.
- 3.1.6 **OTHER USE OF SPORTING LICENSE DATABASE DATA:** A NAC may use information from the FAI Sporting Licence database such as FAI ID, while producing other internal documents such as membership cards and proficiency certificates.
- 3.1.7 **UAV RECORDS:** for attempts on Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) records under Section 12 of the Sporting Code, an FAI UAV Record Licence will be issued. Other Chapter 3 procedures apply, replacing the term “Sporting Licence” by “UAV Record Licence”. Such a licence may be issued to a corporate organisation rather than to an individual, normally to the operating authority for the particular type of UAV concerned.

3.2 SURRENDER OF SPORTING LICENCE

- 3.2.1 A competitor who has been disqualified from participation in an FAI sporting event shall be considered to have surrendered his Sporting Licence to the Event Director. Each ASC will determine the grounds for any disqualification.
- 3.2.2 The disqualified competitor shall have no right to claim back any part of his entry fee and will not be eligible for any prizes awarded during the event. Any delay in the surrender of the Sporting Licence shall be added to the period of surrender.
- 3.2.3 During the period of surrender of the Sporting Licence, participation in any FAI sporting activity, including attempts on records, is prohibited. The NAC will determine any period of surrender in addition to the disqualification provided for in 3.2.1.
- 3.2.4 Disqualification will be grounds for disciplinary action by the NAC concerned, and the Event Director shall send details of the surrendered licence to the disqualified competitor's NAC at the end of the event, together with a written summary of the circumstances. The NAC will be responsible for updating the Sporting License Database within seven days with any change resulting from such disciplinary action.

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