

FAI SAILPLANE GRAND PRIX SERIES

VENUE SPECIFICATIONS FOR BIDDERS

November 2007

This document is intended for any FAI Member Association, Club or event organiser that would be interested in bidding to host a FAI Sailplane Grand Prix (GP) event.

The FAI Sailplane GP series is a showcase of events for the sport of gliding.

The primary goals for the Sailplane GP series are:

1. To determine the Champion in the FAI World Sailplane GP.
2. To make gliding competitions more easy to understand and more attractive for the public and the media
3. To promote worldwide expansion of the public image of soaring
4. To provide a public spectacle of a gliding event.
5. To create publicly recognisable gliding “heroes”

Pilots qualify to compete in the FAI World Sailplane GP Final through “Qualifying GP” events.

In order to achieve these goals organisers must always plan to maximise public viewing opportunities. Organizers should ensure that the pilots understand that they may be asked to participate in media interviews.

The successful hosting of a Sailplane GP event will depend on a combination of factors including those normally associated with a gliding competition (local infrastructure, access to airspace and predictable weather conditions) combined with additional factors that help to attract and hold the interest of media, sponsors and the public.

Venues

The following specifications will be met by successful bidders to host a Sailplane GP :

1. The venue will be the existing home of a well-organised and active gliding club.
2. No additional building or construction will be required at the venue to accommodate a field of up to 20 gliders plus their pilots.
3. Unrestricted access to soaring airspace will be available to enable racing tasks of up to 250 km in length.

4. The local surrounding task area will include one of the following :
 - a. Spectacular scenery, or
 - b. Significant and recognisable man-made features, or
 - c. Recognisable monuments or prominent terrain features
5. Support must be available for the local club and club members to provide:
 - a. Weather briefing facilities
 - b. Expert assistance with task setting
 - c. Facilities for daily briefings and flight planning
 - d. Facilities for officials and scoring
 - e. Tow planes and pilots to support up to 20 gliders
 - f. Secure facilities for three technicians to support the media presentation of the event
 - g. Phone and internet connections
 - h. Management and security of media and spectators on the airfield
6. There should be adequate accommodations within easy reach of the venue.
7. The venue should be in relative proximity to a large population centre.
8. The airfield operating areas must be able to be secured to prevent unauthorised public access.
9. Parking areas and sanitary facilities must be available for the public.