

F1A – GLIDERS

3.1.1. Definition

Model aircraft which is not provided with a propulsion device and in which lift is generated by aerodynamic forces acting on surfaces remaining fixed in flight except for changes of camber or incidence. Model aircraft with variable geometry or area must comply with the specifications when the surfaces are in minimum and maximum extended mode.

3.1.2. Characteristics of Gliders F1A

Surface area (St) 32 - 34 dm²

Minimum weight 410 grams

Maximum length of launching cable loaded by 5 kg..... 50 m

Rule B.3.1.a of Section 4b does not apply to class F1A.

F1A models may use radio control only for irreversible actions to restrict the flight (dethermalisation). Any malfunction or unintended operation of these functions is entirely at the risk of the competitor.

3.1.3. Number of Flights

- a) Each competitor is entitled to seven official flights in World and Continental Championships. For other international events the number of official flights is seven unless a different number has been announced in advance and approved by CIAM.
- b) Each competitor is entitled to one official flight in each round of the event. The duration of rounds must be announced in advance and may not be less than 30 minutes or greater than 90 minutes.

3.1.4. Definition of an Official Flight

- a) The duration achieved on the first attempt unless this attempt is unsuccessful under the definition of 3.1.5. (If the attempt is unsuccessful for reason 3.1.5.f and a second attempt is not made then the duration of the first attempt is recorded as the official flight time).
- b) The duration achieved on the second attempt. If the second attempt is also unsuccessful under the definition of any of 3.1.5.a, 3.1.5.b, 3.1.5.c, 3.1.5.d, or 3.1.5.e, then a zero time is recorded for the flight.

3.1.5. Definition of an Unsuccessful Attempt

An attempt is classed as unsuccessful if the model is launched and at least one of the following events occurs. If this happens on the first attempt then the competitor is entitled to a second attempt.

- a) The model returns to the ground without release of the cable.
- b) The moment of release of the cable cannot properly be established by the timekeepers.
- c) When a part of the model becomes detached during the launch or during the flight time.
- d) It is apparent to the timekeepers that the competitor has lost contact with the cable and the competitor or his team manager chose to declare an attempt.
- e) It is apparent to the timekeepers that the competitor has lost contact with the cable and the cable is controlled by a person other than the competitor himself.
- f) The duration of the flight is less than 20 seconds and the flight was not terminated by dethermalising.

3.1.6. An attempt may be repeated when:

- a) the model collides with a person, other than the person who launched it, when being launched.
- b) during towing, the model collides with a model in free flight (but not with a model being towed or with a towline) and towing cannot continue normally.
- c) during the flight the model collides with another model or a towline other than its own towline.

Should the model continue its flight in a normal manner, the competitor may demand that the flight is accepted as an official flight, even if the demand is made at the end of the flight.

3.1.7. Duration of Flights

The maximum duration to be taken for the official flights in world and continental championships is three minutes thirty seconds for the first round and three minutes for subsequent rounds. In other international events a maximum of three minutes will be used for all rounds unless different durations (not exceeding four minutes) have been announced in advance in the contest bulletin for specific rounds.

In the event of model recovery problems or to suit meteorological conditions the Jury may permit the maximum for a round to be changed. Such a modified maximum must be announced before the start of the round.

Maximum durations greater than three minutes should only be used for rounds at times when wind and thermal activity are expected to be at a minimum.

3.1.8. Classification

- a) The total time for each competitor for each of the official flights defined in 3.1.3. is taken for the final classification. This total time achieved is also used to determine team classification.
- b) In order to decide the individual placings when there is a tie, additional flights shall be made after the last flight of the event has been completed. The maximum time of flight for the first of the deciding flights shall be five minutes and the maximum time of flight shall be increased by two minutes for each subsequent flight. The time of the additional flights shall not be included in the final figures of the classification for teams; they are for the purpose of determining the individual placing.
- c) The organiser will establish a 10 minute period during which all fly-off competitors must tow and release their model. Within these 10 minutes the competitors will have the right to a second attempt in the case of an unsuccessful first attempt for an additional flight according to paragraph 3.1.5. Starting positions will be decided by draw for each fly-off.
- d) If for meteorological reasons or poor visibility or model recovery problems, a fly-off must be postponed to be flown in the morning, it will be flown as early as daylight and visibility permit in order to avoid thermal activity. The maximum duration of the first flight will be a minimum of ten minutes.
- e) In the event of exceptional meteorological conditions or model recovery problems, the Jury may permit the maximum for a round to be changed. Such a modified maximum must be announced before the start of the round.

3.1.9. Timing

- a) See Section 4b, para B.13.
- b) The timing of flights is limited to the maximum durations specified in 3.1.7. and 3.1.8. The total flight time is taken from the release of the model from the launching cable to the end of the flight.

3.1.10. Number of Helpers

The competitor is entitled to have one helper.

3.1.11. Launching Devices

- a) The glider must be launched by means of a single cable and its length, including release equipment and the launching device shall not exceed 50 metres when subjected to a tensile load of 5 kg. This tensile load shall be applied by means of an appropriate apparatus available to the competitors before and during the competition and also to officials during the competition when checking at least 20% of the gliders. Metal cables are prohibited.
- b) Launching of the glider by means of this cable may be carried out with the help of various devices such as winches, single or multiple pulley trains, or by running etc. These devices (except the launching cable) must not be thrown by the competitor, under penalty of cancellation of the flight. The competitor may release the launching cable and a lightweight marker (such as a ring, pennant or small rubber ball) at its end.
- c) To facilitate observation and timing, the cable must be equipped with a pennant, having rectangular shape of a minimum area of 2,5 dm² and the smallest side of at least 5cm, attached directly to the main cable.

- d) All types of auxiliary stabilising devices on the cable are forbidden. A parachute may be substituted for the pennant provided it is not attached to the glider and remains packed and inactive until the release of the cable.

3.1.12. Organisation of Launching

- a) The competitor must be on the ground and must operate the launching device himself (jumping allowed).
- b) All freedom of action and movement is permitted to allow the best use of the cable, except throwing of the launching device.
- c) The model must be launched within approximately 5 metres from the starting position marker.