

## **Procedures for Slope Aerobatics Contests**

### **Electric Powered Aircraft and Electric Assisted Sailplanes**

When these aircraft are in use, a pilot must turn off the motor at least 15 seconds before the start of a manoeuvre, at which time clearly voicing the words, "motor off". A pilot cannot turn on the motor again until after finishing the manoeuvre. The Contest Director can vary this time depending on the circumstances. The intent is to ensure that pilots do not accelerate into a manoeuvre with the motor turned on. If the Contest Director can achieve this by other means and keep within the spirit of the rule, setting a time may not be necessary.

Should a pilot turn on the motor after making it known it has been turned off in readiness for a manoeuvre and/or has commenced a manoeuvre but not completed it, the pilot may be given a score of zero. Possible reasons for aborting a manoeuvre might be as follows:

- Inclement weather or a sudden drop in lift.
- At risk of colliding with another aircraft.
- At risk of crashing one's own aircraft.
- Endangering lives.
- Accidentally switching on the motor.
- Unforeseen circumstances

It will be at the discretion of the Contest Director to decide whether or not a second attempt at a manoeuvre will be allowed, depending on the circumstances at the time.

### **Flight Order**

Contestants' names are to be selected at random except for first-timers, who are to be placed at random towards the end of the flight order.

### **Scoresheets**

A template for a Scoresheet (greyscale and colour) is available in PDF format on the MAAA's website.

### **Contestant's Manoeuvres Card**

A template for a Manoeuvres Card is available on the MAAA's website.

### **Electronic Scoring Program**

A Microsoft Excel Scoring program is available for downloading from the MAAA's website. The program provides a convenient display of the progressive scores (including the k-factors) and eventually tallies the final scores and placings.

### **Judging Guidelines**

Each manoeuvre should start on the horizontal plane. A distinct horizontal flightpath must be clearly noticeable to the judges during the flight. The aircraft should finish along this horizontal flightpath at the same altitude with the exception of the spins and landings.

A pilot should announce both the start of a manoeuvre by clearly voicing the word, "commence" prior to entering the horizontal plane (or flightpath) and the finish of the manoeuvre by clearly voicing the word, "complete" on exiting the horizontal flightpath, after travelling along a discernable exit line, once the manoeuvre proper has been performed.

### **Landing Requirements**

The contest director should provide four markers (e.g. witches hats or the like) which can be placed in a rectangular formation in an area deemed safe for landing. Suggested size: Approximately 8 metres long by 6 metres wide.

### **Final Results**

Contest Directors should ensure that the final results (including a break-down of every judge's scores for each contestant's rounds) are sent or made available to the contestants. Posting the results on a website could also be helpful. Results of State championships should be sent to the State's governing association.

### **Protests**

If a contestant finds inconsistencies, he or she is advised to contact the contest director as soon as possible.

### **Judges Scoreboard**

A template for making a Judges Scoreboard is available in PDF format on the MAAA's website. Attached to it should be the diagrams for the Judges Viewing Window, the Basic Scoring Guide and the Downgrading Guidelines. The overall size would be equivalent to an A4 sheet of paper.

### **Whiteboard**

A whiteboard or the like could be used where and when practical. This would help contestants assess their progress throughout an event and plan their rounds accordingly. Recommended board size: 1 metre wide x 0.8 metre high.

### **Aerobatics Tutorial**

A tutorial on slope aerobatics, including ribbon drawings of the aerobatic manoeuvres, is available for downloading. Go to [ompac.net.au/~iancole](http://ompac.net.au/~iancole) then go to the AEROBATICS PLUS page.