

Annex 11 - Proposals to CIVL 2012 Plenary for safety improvements

by Bulgarian National AeroClub – active member

Bulgaria Proposal 1 Create two competition classes

1. Create two separate competition classes:

For the purpose of this document we will name the classes “Class 1” and “Class 2”. Separate completely WPRS results for both classes, as it is done now for the different disciplines.

Make possible organizing events (Category 2) with both classes at the same time. Make Category 1 events single class only. Make Category 1 events for “Class 1” every even year and for “Class 2” – every odd year.

Definitions:

- “Class 1” – all wing models with sizes certified by EN or LTF standards cover the requirements for this class.
- “Class 2” – all wing models with sizes certified by EN or LTF standards and wing models certified by “New CIVL Competition Certification” cover the requirements for this class. “New CIVL Competition Certification” to be developed by Working Group explicitly founded for this task to guarantee the wings will cover minimum of safety requirements. Tests for the certification to be made by factory pilots and to be documented by the manufacturer. All test documentation to be public.

Voting:

- Two classes or one.
- Separate Category 1 events or combined.
- Definitions for both classes.

Explanation:

Two separate classes will remove the pressure for some pilots to fly wings above their comfort and ability to handle safely, just to be competitive. In-house but standardized testing will improve significantly safety for prototypes and wings specifically designed for competitions.

Bulgaria Proposal 2

Recommendations to EN Certification body

2. Recommendations to EN for certification improvements:

- a. Shortening of the certification program to 3 years.

Voting:

- To recommend shortening or not
- How many years

Explanation:

Shortening the certification term will make possible tuning the certification to cover better the new technological developments.

- b. Together with the letter (A, B, C or D) to put an index showing average score in all tests within possible limits. All possible letter and index combinations are: A1, B1, B2, C1, C2, C3, D1, D2, D3, D4

Voting:

- To recommend index or not
- How to calculate the index

Explanation:

The index will help pilots to make better choice of wing matching their ability.

- c. Make mandatory publication of test results (external link or on-site document) along with the certification class.

Explanation:

Easy access to test results will help pilots to make better choice of wing matching their ability.

Bulgaria Proposal 3
Improve Incident data collection, analysis & presentation

3. **Make better information infrastructure for pilots regarding the safety:**
 - a. Organize better collection of accident data and better investigation of severe accidents.
 - b. Make informative and easy accessible web site for presenting the accident data and analyses.

Bulgaria Proposal 4

Lift suspension on Competition Class gliders

4. Immediate end of the temporary suspension of “Competition Certification”

Lift the suspension introduced at the Piedrahita Worlds and remove the recommendation to the NACs to restrict wings in their events.

Voting:

- End the temporary suspension or not.
- Remove the recommendation to NACs or not.

Explanation:

Removing the recommendation will return the designer's focus on “true competition wings” and will stop the race for performance in EN certified wings.

Bulgaria Proposal 5

Introduction of discards in Cat 1 events

5. Change the rules for Category 1 events:

- a. Introduce discards – one discard in case of 4 or more valid tasks.

Voting:

- To introduce discards or not.
- Conditions for applying discards.

Explanation:

Discards will account for the inherent element of chance in paragliding racing and encourage more individual decision making among competitors. Discards will decrease the stress and the pressure among competitors, thus increasing their safety and enjoyment.

- b. Make events every year. In case of separate two-class events - “Class 1” event every even year and “Class 2” event – every odd year. In case of one class or combined events – every year.

Explanation:

Events every year will reduce the pressure for top pilots giving them a chance for good ranking more often.

- c. Introduce qualifying events (Cat 2) for Cat 1 events – bids for qualifying events to be submitted at least 6 months before their start; For Cat 1 event qualify first X% from the qualifying event.

Voting:

- To introduce qualifying events or not.
- Qualification based on rank position or based on % of winner score.
- % limit.
- Procedure to award events with “qualifying event” status.

Explanation:

Qualification events will guarantee appropriate pilot’s level at Category 1 events and will reduce significantly the risks of accident.

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Paragliding Commission – discipline cross-country:

Daniel Dimov
Dimitar Valkov

George Jordanov