

FREE FLIGHT TRIALS RULES 21st June 2020

Preliminary

- P1 The FAI Sporting Code is the governing document for international competition. These rules complement the Code and shall be used to select senior teams for World Championships and Limited International Competitions.
- P2 Teams shall be selected from the results of performance trialling; eligibility requirements defined by the Code; and suitability requirements selected by the MFNZ council.
- P3 Trials shall be held during the calendar year preceding the intended international event in classes F1A, F1B, and F1C. "For New Zealand Nationals only", the calendar is extended by 10 days either side of 1st January. This is to allow for up to two New Zealand Nationals to be included. All other events must fall within the calendar year.

Eligibility for Team Selection

To be eligible for team selection a trialist must:

- E1 Have achieved three total scores of 800 seconds or more in sanctioned events for trials purposes during the selection period, where each total score is the sum of scores from the first five flights of the event with a maximum score of 180 seconds for each of the five flights.
- E2 Be eligible to represent New Zealand under FAI rules.
- E3 Be deemed a suitable representative by the MFNZ Council.

Team Selection

- TS1 The F1A, F1B and F1C teams shall consist of the three highest scoring eligible trialists in each category willing to take a team place. The total score considered for each trialist shall be the sum of the three highest scores achieved in sanctioned events for trial purposes. In the event of ties, the next best score from sanctioned events shall be used to break the tie, this to continue until the tie is broken.
- TS2 Where a team finds itself short of a team member, for any reason, "on the day" the Team Manager may co-opt a flyer to fill the vacancy. Any such flyer must be eligible to represent New Zealand under the eligibility rules E1 and E2. E3 will not be possible at such short notice - The Team Manager is expected to use his or her own judgement.

Sanctioned Events for Trial Purposes

Events from which scores may be submitted for consideration as trial scores are:

- SE1 Specific Trials sanctioned by the Free Flight SIG. The number of Specific Trials is limited to one per calendar month in each of four geographical areas known as Northern, Central, Southern 1 and Southern 2. The Free Flight SIG is responsible for advertising Specific Trials in the Model Fliers World or on the MFNZ website at least one month prior to the date of the trials. Such advertisements must be inserted by the Free Flight SIG. Specific Trials cannot be scheduled in the same month as a Domestic FAI event in the same geographic area – ie the Domestic FAI event will take precedence.
- SE2 FAI events at the New Zealand Nationals.
- SE3 The Trans-Tasman Competition.
- SE4 Events on the International Calendar.
- SE5 Domestic FAI contests run in accordance with MFNZ Flying Rules section 2 Free Flight clause 1.8 after a minimum one months' notice as per SE1.

Scores for Trial Purposes

- ST1 Scores from Specific Trials must be submitted as described in clauses RS4 and RS5.
All other scores must be those released or published by the event Organiser or Contest Director.
- ST2 Where scores gained from contests other than Specific Trials are submitted they shall be normalised by applying the contest maximums flight by flight. Flight time in excess of the equivalent contest flight time shall be deleted from the score.

Rules for Specific Trials

- RS1 Specific Trials are limited to 5 flights which are not required to be flown in rounds but are required to be flown on 1 day between sunrise and sunset. Each flight will have a maximum score of 180 seconds.
- RS2 The date, location of the flying field, and start time, shall be nominated by the organiser and advertised as required by SE1. A wind/rain date is allowed only on the day after a nominated trial date provided that day is either a weekend day or a statutory holiday.
- RS3 Intending trialists should register their interest in trialling with the organiser. The organiser shall notify each registrant which day the trial will be held no later than 12 hours before start time.

- RS4 There is not an absolute requirement for Trials organisers to attend the event, although it is hoped that this will usually be the case. When attending the event the organiser is responsible for submitting scores to the nominated scorekeeper during the following week. If they are unable to attend then the organiser is expected to inform registered trialists of this and the need to organise their own timekeeper/s. The organiser has no responsibility to communicate with trialists who have not registered their intention to attend the event.
- RS5 In the event of an organiser not attending by start time or departing before flying is completed trialists will be entitled to manage the contest themselves and submit their scores to the scorekeeper during the following week. Scores submitted by trialists themselves shall be accompanied by a statement of who timed the flights and who witnessed them in the absence of the organiser.

Definition of Geographic areas for the Purposes of Specific Trials

Northern – Northland, Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Gisborne.

Central – Taranaki, Manawatu–Wanganui, Hawkes Bay, Wellington.

Southern 1 – Tasman, Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast, Canterbury north of the Rangitata River.

Southern 2 – Otago, Southland and Canterbury south of the Rangitata River.