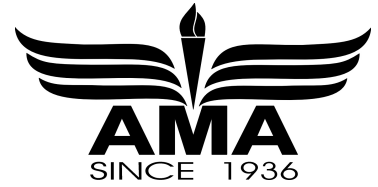


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2024 OFFICIAL FAI F5J SOARING TEAM SELECTION PROGRAM (V8)

March 11, 2024

QUALIFICATION

There shall be no pre-qualifying required. Any AMA member may participate subject to the eligibility requirements of the current AMA Blue Book

(https://www.modelaircraft.org/sites/default/files/AMA_Blue_Book.pdf):

A. To enter a Team Selections Finals for an event, an individual must meet the following conditions:

- 1. Must be an Adult AMA member for minimum 6 months or have a Youth membership.**
- 2. Need not possess a USA-issued FAI Sporting License but must be able to meet the requirements for one at the time of the Team Selection Finals.**
- 3. Must hold NO FAI Sporting License from any other country.**
- 4. Must be a US citizen, or a documented legal resident with two years US residency and expectation of residency at the time of the World Championship.**
- 5. Cannot be a current World Champion in the event who has committed to participating in the pertinent World Championships as the defending World Champion.**
- 6. In addition to meeting the FAI requirement “3.5.4 Change of Representation” for the pertinent World Championships, must not have been a competitor for any other country at the immediately preceding World Championships for the event.**

TEAM SELECTION COMPETITION

- The one team selection competition will be held between June 1, 2024 and August 15, 2024. The site and date will be determined by a vote of

the Team Selection Committee (see Team Selection Competition Site Bids).

- If three or fewer juniors register for the scheduled Team Selection, the juniors do not need to attend as they will all make the team by default. However, they must attend at least 2 F5J Tour events to demonstrate competency prior to the World Championships. Declaring the intention to compete for a junior spot is sufficient for appointment to the team. If 4 or more juniors declare the intention to compete the TSC may define an alternate competition separate from the Senior TS event in order to accommodate School or work commitments that may preclude a junior from participating.
- All pilots must be AMA members and meet the current Blue Book requirements for participation (detailed above).
- The team selection competition entry fee is \$100 for Seniors and is waived for juniors and must be postmarked or paid directly to the AMA no later than 30 days prior to the start of the competition. A junior is a pilot that will be under 19 before the completion of the WC event. A separate program entry fee of \$25 is required to enter the team selection program in order to be eligible to enter the team selection competition. The start of the competition will begin on the day of on-site registration, check-in, or any pre-contest meeting which competitors are required to attend, if held prior to the actual competition date.
- Refund requests for the competition fee must be submitted in writing to AMA Headquarters, postmarked no later than five business days following the conclusion of the competition.
- There will be no pilot or team protection.
- The team will be selected at the competition where the top three finishers will constitute the team. If a female is also a competitor then the team can be 4 pilots. If a female is one of the top 3, then whoever is 4th is the final member of the team. If the top 3 are all males, then the highest ranking female fills the #4 slot. The alternate is the next highest ranking pilot.
- The contest rules will be in accordance with the FAI sporting code, excepting the modifications listed in this program. A lead jurist will be recommended by the TSC Chairman and the contest director and appointed by the FAI Executive Committee. The lead jurist will select 2 other jurists to adjudicate any and all protests. Protests must be submitted in writing within one hour of an infraction, accompanied by a \$20 fee. If the protest is rejected, the fee will be deposited in the F5J team fund. The protest fee shall be returned to the protester if the protest is allowed to stand.
- The F5J team selection competition shall be conducted over a three day period.
- Program Deviations:
 - The competition will consist of 3 days with 10 minute target times.
 - One throw-out round per pilot applies for the entire event.

- Official timers are not required for every lane. Random auditing and a subset of official timers may be used for official scoring verification.
- Per the FAI rules for non-Category 1 events, restart will be allowed with a zero score for the flight.
- The junior competitors shall compete in the same flight groups as the senior competitors. If more than seven juniors compete at the team selections, they will be flown in a separate group.
- Only F5J approved altimeters shall be used. The TS Committee will provide a list of approved devices and configurations. Devices will be checked to ensure compliance. Flights completed with a non-compliant device will be recorded as a zero.
- Scorecards are to be verified by either an official timer or other organizer appointed official that observes the altitude device and watch prior to exiting the flight line. Observed results of the altitude measuring devices and watches are final.

JURY

A jury shall be impaneled at the team selection competition to adjudicate disputes and/or protests arising over interpretation or implementation of the Sporting Code or team selection contest rules. The lead jurist is required to be on-site and will select 2 alternates who may be on-site or available by tele/video call to adjudicate any and all protests. Protests are official disputes to be filed to appeal decisions of the contest director. Authority of the jury is as described in document entitled "World Championship Teams Procedures Governing the Academy's Sponsorship of FAI Teams". There will be no appeal from decisions of the jury.

TEAM SELECTION COMPETITION SITE BIDS

- Bids shall be submitted to AMA Headquarters postmarked no later than March 15, 2024. The bid should include:
 1. Host club or organization, name, address, and daytime phone number of the contact person;
 2. Site location description, date (must be between June 1 and August 15, 2024), expected weather conditions, local accommodations, approximate cost, and distance to site;
 3. Officials other than jury, especially the name of the contest director;
 4. Additional equipment or personnel assistance;
 5. Local help, assistance, cooperation;
 6. Estimated budget.
- Any club officer, club member, or team selection competition official may be designated to receive correspondence or inquiries, however the

individual should be an open AMA member approved by the organizer. The contest director must be named; it is recognized that organizers may have several possible choices for CD and may present more than one name.

- Probationary or new CD's are not permitted to serve as a team selection competition CD. The contest director is subject to final approval by AMA and the Team Selection Committee.
- Any officials (judges, event directors, etc.) must be AMA members and have demonstrated competence within their assigned duties. Assigned timers and other support staff need not be AMA members but must be adequately trained for their duties.
- Organizers may assess a surcharge to help defray the competition costs -- surplus funds are to be returned to AMA Headquarters for deposit into the team fund. Receipts for all expenditures are required to account for any surcharge not submitted for deposit into the team fund. Additionally, receipts must accompany requests for reimbursement from the team fund. Allowable expenses from the team fund include items such as port-a-john rental, minimum travel expenses for officials (which should be local individuals if possible) and supplies (staples, pencils, rope, tape, etc.). Costs for bid preparation, socials or banquets, and trophies or awards are prohibited. Socials and banquets should be self-supporting, however, banquet expenses for officials may be submitted for approval in consideration of time and expenses donated to the operation of the competition.
- Once the bid is prepared, specify whether the club will require reimbursement and indicate a maximum amount expected. Note that the total budget allowance for expenses cannot exceed 50% of the competition entry fee income.
- The Team Selection Committee will review all bids to assure adequate accommodations and suitable flying site. The Team Selection Committee will approve the competition site by simple majority vote of those members responding to the ballot.

TEAM MANAGER

The team manager will be selected in accordance with the "World Championship Team Procedures Governing the Academy's Sponsorship of FAI Teams".

Pre-Competition. When there are less than four months between the team selection event and the World Championships, the team manager must be selected prior to the team selection, and that person may not further participate in the selection program if he/she is so enrolled.

Post-Competition. When there are more than four months between the team selection contest and the World Championship, the team manager may be selected after the competition.

Nominations. Any person wishing to be considered for team manager must submit their name in writing to AMA Headquarters not later than 14 days after the

conclusion of the team selection competition. Nominations for the team manager will be accepted from the AMA membership community; groups which can be involved in the process may include: program participants, the presidents of AMA recognized Special Interest Groups; previous and current team members and helpers, AMA Headquarters, and the Team Selection Committees.

A prospective team manager need not have been an FAI competitor. However, they must be thoroughly knowledgeable of the rules of the event for which they are being considered.

Appointment. The actual appointment of the team manager shall be made by AMA Headquarters and the FAI Executive Committee, in consultation with the chairman of the appropriate team selection committee. The FAI Executive Committee or Headquarters may select someone of their own choosing if not satisfied with the names submitted. The FAI Executive Committee has the authority to replace a team manager or team members.

In addition to those duties described in the "World Championship Teams Procedures Governing the Academy's Sponsorship of FAI Teams", the team manager must submit to the Team Selection Committee a report documenting problem areas for future reference. The report is to be independent of the world championship report but should be sent to AMA Headquarters for distribution within 60 days after the world championship.

BUDGET

- Up to 50% of the team selection competition entry fees collected may be used for the team selection expenses. The remainder of the fees go to the F5J team fund. The TSC shall allocate from the team fund monies for the following team expenses, but only to the limit of the fund:
 1. Travel expenses not paid by AMA, such as vehicle rental and fuel for vehicles;
 2. Baggage charges for model boxes (AMA does not pay for model box transportation)
 3. Any other expenses approved by majority vote of the Team Selection Committee.

GOVERNING PRECEDENCE

The document entitled "World Championship Team Procedures Governing the Academy's Sponsorship of FAI Teams" describes the standards by which all team selection programs are governed. Any items not specified within a team selection program will be deferred to the "Blue Book".