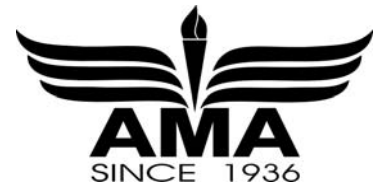


# Academy of Model Aeronautics

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## **2013 FAI FREE FLIGHT TEAM SELECTION PROGRAM<sup>(FN)</sup> (Parts pertaining to the Finals)**

The AMA document entitled “World Championship Teams, 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 covered under the FAI Procedures document. In the event of a dispute or discrepancy, the FAI procedures document shall take precedence over a team selection program.

The use of “shall” and “must” implies that the aspect concerned is mandatory. The use of “should” implies a non-mandatory recommendation; “may” implies what is permitted or what might happen, and “will” indicates what is going to happen.

**The membership of the 2013 United States Free Flight World Championship Team shall be determined using the following process.**

### **I. PROGRAM DEFINITION**

**A single site, two contest Finals format will be used.**

**The Finals will be scheduled over four days during which the finalists shall compete on two days and time on one day with the fourth day used to complete any unresolved contests.**

**The individual Team members for each class shall be determined as follows.**

**Team Member #1 is the winner of the first-day contest.**

**Team Member #2 is the winner of the second-day contest**

**Team member #3 is the lowest total placement score from the first- and second-day contests.**

**Example: 2<sup>nd</sup> + 2<sup>nd</sup> = 4**

**2<sup>nd</sup> + 3<sup>rd</sup> = 5**

**If a tie exists for the #3 Team Member or Alternate:**

**a. First tiebreaker shall be the total time of all regular rounds from the two contest days.**

**b. Second tiebreaker, if required, shall be the total time of all regular rounds plus all fly-off rounds.**

**c. Third tiebreaker, if required, shall be a fly-off.**

Foot Note: 2013 US Team Selection Program (edited for internet publication). Note: bold type represents program changes since the previous cycle. For a complete copy of the document, please contact Chuck Etherington at [chuck.etherington@jeppesen.com](mailto:chuck.etherington@jeppesen.com).)

## II. PROGRAM ENTRY

A participant must be a United States citizen or have been a legal resident of the United States for a minimum of three consecutive years immediately preceding program entry. Additionally, they may not have represented another country in any FAI aero-sport activities during that period. A participant must have a current AMA license. Participants may enter the **2013** Free Flight Team Selection Program by paying \$75 per event to the AMA for those flyers who are 25 years or older at the time they enter the program, and \$25 for those flyers who are 24 years or younger at the time they enter the program in advance of program participation. (Caution: allow 10 days for mail delivery to AMA headquarters.) AMA will issue a “**2013** Free Flight Team Selection Program Entry Form” upon receipt of your check and a letter indicating the event(s) you wish to enter. No on-site entries will be permitted.

## III. CERTIFICATION OF MODELS

In order to comply with the current FAI Sporting Code, (see Volume ABR, Section 4B, Para. B.17.6, B.17.8 and Annex B1a, B1b). Each model must have processing vouchers as described below.

A. Each model must have a FAI model specification certificate filled out prior to processing at the Finals. See Appendix B, which may be copied and used for processing at the Finals.

B. A sticker, or marking to the pattern of the sticker, shall appear on each model. (See Appendix C). These are available from AMA upon payment of the Finals fee.

C. Each model shall carry a model identification code (letters and/or numbers that are at least 10 mm high). The identification code is to appear on each part of the model (wing[s], tail, front and rear fuselage, if detachable), so that the individual parts of a competitor's different models may be separately identified. The identification code of the nominated models will be recorded on the scorecard.

An example is depicted in Appendix C. Other regulations are as specified for that model type in the FAI Sporting Code.

## IV. ADVANCEMENT TO THE FINALS

There will three options for advancement to the Finals.

Option 1 - The program participant must accumulate a total of 75 minutes flight time in the event(s) entered for advancement to the Finals. This flight time must be accumulated during the period from April 1, **2011**, and up to **thirty (30)** days prior to the Team Selection Finals. Only contests that are sanctioned by the AMA and have scheduled F1A, F1B, and F1C or FAI Combined can be flown to accumulate time. Contests sanctioned for the sole purpose of accumulating time to qualify will not be permitted. Only 7 flights per contest will count toward time accumulation. In the case of contests with more than 7 flights, only the first 7 flights will count toward time accumulation. Fly-off round times will not count. 3-minute maximums will be allowed for each flight with a maximum of 7 flights or 21 minutes maximum time accumulation possible per contest. There is no limit as to the number of contests entered. The Contest Director for that contest, for tabulating and recording, will send the results of each sanctioned FAI contest to the Team Selection Committee Qualifying Time Keeper. However, it is the responsibility of the flyer to insure that they get their **2013** Free Flight Team Selection Program **card filled out** by the Contest Director at each contest they fly for qualifying-time accumulation. Contests that have less than 3-minute maxes, due to field or wind conditions, will have their **max** scores normalized by the Team Selection Committee to reflect a score as if a 3-minute max was flown. **Only maxes will be normalized, not dropped round scores.** Copies of the results of each sanctioned FAI contest will also be sent to AMA Headquarters, Competitions Department.

Option 2 - The **2011** team members (a team member is a person who actually participates in the World Championship as a member of the U.S. Team), Team Manager, Assistant Team Manager, and any current or previous U.S. Free Flight World Champion will be allowed to advance to the Finals, providing the program entry fee and Finals entry fees are paid. The manager and assistant manager may fly in one event of their choice. The team members will advance in the event they flew on the **2011** team. Additional events may be flown through the normal program. A previous World Champion who represented the United States when they won the World Championships will advance to the Finals in the event in which they were the World Champion upon paying the program and Finals entry fees.

Option 3 – In lieu of accumulating 75 minutes (Option 1), a program participant may enter the Finals by paying the \$75 program entry fee plus a \$200 fee for waiver of the 75-minutes qualification time and the Finals entry fee, for a total of \$475. All such fees are due according to the same schedule as for Options 1 & 2. No credit will be given for partial time accumulation.

To qualify for a team position, reigning U.S. World Champions must declare in advance of the Final Team Selection Contest that they will participate as a member of the U.S. Team if they qualify, forfeiting any right to drop off the team and fly in the World Championship as defending World Champion.

The cost of the entry for the Finals will be \$200 per event for those flyers who were 25 years or older at the time they enter the program and \$50 for those flyers who were 24 years or younger at the time they enter the program. Flyers who are pre-qualified to attend the Finals (**2011** team members, manager, assistant manager, and all previous United States World Champions) will be assessed the \$75 program fee and the \$200 Finals fee. Fees are to be paid to AMA headquarters no later than **30** days prior to the Finals. (Caution: allow 10 days for mail delivery to AMA headquarters.)

Those qualified for the Finals must declare their intention to attend and pay their entry fee(s) **30** days prior to the Finals. Allow 10 days for mail delivery to AMA headquarters. The only exception is when time accumulation by the participant is being completed up to **30** days prior to the Finals. In this case the participant has an additional 5 days to notify and pay AMA their Finals entry fee

## **V. FINALS**

**For this cycle the Free Flight Team Selection Committee decided to hold the Finals at Lost Hills, CA, in October 2012 (dates TBD). Future programs and future sites will be determined based upon the type of program and availability of fields that meet the Finals site requirements. The concept of an East/West Finals rotation remains viable and the Flying Site Search Subcommittee remains active.**

**Because this will be the first time for the new format (with its inherent complexities), our site of choice needs to offer as much flexibility as possible. The TSC believes the use of the Lost Hills site provides the requisite flexibility and therefore the best chance for success.**

**In addition, it has become increasingly difficult to expect a local club to offer a site and provide the organization and staffing to run the Finals. Therefore, after careful consideration, it has been determined that the TSC will be responsible for the organization of the 2013 Finals. In this role the TSC will be responsible for the selection of the Finals Administrator/Contest Director (subject to AMA approval) and any other Finals administrative personnel the TSC deems appropriate. Their responsibilities are defined in Sections VII, E through H.**

**As noted in section VIII. J, neither the TSC, nor the chairperson, shall have authority at the Finals. All decisions required at the Finals shall be made by the Contest Director and the Jury.**

(Note: Per the AMA's document "World Championship Teams" the head jurist is the highest authority at the Finals contest.)

A. Competition Protocol:

- 7 normal rounds must be flown on the contest day before fly-offs can take place that day.
- If in a class on a contest day 7 normal rounds have been completed and ties exist and conditions permit, fly-offs will commence that day. If at the end of the day ties still exist the contest will proceed to a 10 minute fly-off the next morning.
- The completion of 5 normal rounds is required for a contest day to be considered official.
- If in a class on a contest day, at least 5 normal rounds have been completed and conditions prevented more rounds being completed and ties exist, fly-offs for that contest will proceed to a 10-minute fly-off the next morning.
- If in a class, for either the first- or second-day contest, less than 5 rounds have been completed by the end of that contest day, the scores for that class and contest day will be carried over to the reserve day and continued until 5 rounds are completed for that contest day. If at that time ties exist, fly-offs will commence. Note that on the reserve day any fly-offs from day 3 shall take precedent.
- If in a class at the end of the reserve day a team cannot be determined the standings and scores shall be carried over and completed at a later date.
- Once a person is declared a Team Member that person will cease participating in that class.

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B. Procedures and Rules for the Finals:

The Finals will be conducted in accordance with the FAI Sporting Code except as amended below.

1. Models must be launched from a line and pole position that is approximately perpendicular to the wind direction. The Contest Director has the discretion to lay the flight line appropriate to the conditions of the field.
2. Models must be launched within 5 meters of the specified launch position. For F1A, the helper must launch the model within 5 meters of the launch position. For F1B, winding stoooges and other support equipment will be set up at least 15 meters downwind of the flight line.
3. Selection of the initial launch position for each day a contestant flies shall be by random draw prior to the contest. From thereon, pole advancement will be per the FAI Sporting Code. **For each class the number of starting positions to be moved is established by dividing the number of starting poles by the number of official flights (7), the result to be rounded up to the next whole number above. Each competitor in the fly-off is allotted a starting position by draw for each fly-off round.**

4. The launch area is defined as a distance of plus or minus 15 meters from the launch line in F1B and F1C, and plus or minus 65 meters in F1A.

5. Only the flyer and a maximum of two helpers are permitted in the launch area. No devices more than 3 meters high are allowed in the launch area.

6. The use of thermal-finding models (goats) will not be permitted.

7. The use of a motorized vehicle to attempt to influence the flight of a model is considered to be a safety hazard, and is therefore prohibited. Finalists who violate this rule will be disqualified from the Finals and forfeit all fees paid. Any non competitor violating this rule will be asked to leave the field.

**8. 20% of the participant's models in each class will be spot checked during the normal rounds for compliance with the FAI Sporting Code.**

**C. Finals Rounds Format:**

**Four (4) day Finals: Two contests per class, consisting of 7 rounds each plus fly-offs, if required. The fourth day is reserved first for the completion of any 10 minute fly-offs required from days three, one and two and next for the completion of the minimum required 5 rounds plus fly-offs of any unfinished contest day. (See Reserve Day Protocol.)**

F1A flies days 1 (early round) and 2 (late round) and times day 3

F1B flies days 1 (late round) and 3 (early round) and times day 2

F1C flies days 2 (early round) and 3 (late round) and times day 1

The first-round max each day shall be:

F1A - **210** seconds

F1B – **240** seconds

F1C – **240** seconds

The maxes for the remaining rounds each day are 180 seconds

**Proposed Round Schedule:**

**Note: For Bakersfield, CA- Oct 5-8, 2012 (first weekend) sunrise 6:55 am, sunset 6:30 pm**

**Day 1**

**F1C Times**

<b>Rd.</b>	<b>F1A</b>	<b>F1B</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>8:00-8:25</b>	<b>8:30-8:55</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>9:00-9:25</b>	<b>9:30-9:55</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>10:00-10:25</b>	<b>10:30-10:55</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>11:00-11:25</b>	<b>11:30-11:55</b>
<b>Break 11:55- 12:30</b>		

5	12:30-12:55	1:00-1:25			
6	1:30-1:55	2:00-2:25			
7	2:30-2:55	3:00-3:25			
If req'd to complete min. no. of rds.—OR—Fly-offs					
8	3:30-3:55	4:00-4:25	F1A	F1B	
9	4:30-4:55	5:00-5:25	4:30-4:40	5:00-5:10	5 minutes
10	5:30-5:55	6:00-6:25	5:30-5:40	6:00-6:10	7 minutes

**Day 2**

10 minute fly-off from Day 1 if required- Timers recruited from F1A and F1B participants not in the fly-off

	F1B	F1A
	7:15-7:25	7:45-7:55

**F1B Times**

Rd.	F1C	F1A
1	8:00-8:25	8:30-8:55
2	9:00-9:25	9:30-9:55
3	10:00-10:25	10:30-10:55
4	11:00-11:25	11:30-11:55

Break 11:55- 12:30

5	12:30-12:55	1:00-1:25
6	1:30-1:55	2:00-2:25
7	2:30-2:55	3:00-3:25

If req'd to complete min. no. of rds.—OR—Fly-offs

8	3:30-3:55	4:00-4:25	F1C	F1A	
9	4:30-4:55	5:00-5:25	4:30-4:40	5:00-5:10	5 minutes
10	5:30-5:55	6:00-6:25	5:30-5:40	6:00-6:10	7 minutes

**Day 3**

10 minute fly-off from Day 2 if required- Timers recruited from F1A and F1C participants not in the fly-off

	F1A	F1C
	7:15-7:25	7:45-7:55

**F1A Times**

Rd.	F1B	F1C
1	8:00-8:25	8:30-8:55
2	9:00-9:25	9:30-9:55
3	10:00-10:25	10:30-10:55
4	11:00-11:25	11:30-11:55

Break 11:55- 12:30

5	12:30-12:55	1:00-1:25
6	1:30-1:55	2:00-2:25
7	2:30-2:55	3:00-3:25

If req'd to complete min. no. of rds.—OR—Fly-offs

8	3:30-3:55	4:00-4:25	F1B	F1C	
9	4:30-4:55	5:00-5:25	4:30-4:40	5:00-5:10	5 minutes
10	5:30-5:55	6:00-6:25	5:30-5:40	6:00-6:10	7 minutes

## Reserve Day Protocol:

Starting time for any required flying is 7:15

1. 10 minute fly-offs if required from day 3- Timers recruited from F1B and F1C participants not in the fly-off
2. 10 minute fly-offs if required from day 1
3. 10 minute fly-offs if required from day 2
4. Complete 5 rounds from day 1
5. Complete 5 rounds from day 2
6. Complete 5 rounds from day 3
7. 10 minute fly-offs for day 1 rounds completed on reserve day
8. 10 minute fly-offs for day 2 rounds completed on reserve day
9. 10 minute fly-offs for day 3 rounds completed on reserve day
10. 10 minute fly-offs to resolve any ties for the #3 Team Member or Alternate

**Note:** Timers required for 2 through 9 will be recruited from the timer pool.

(Note: It is the Contest Director's discretion to lower round max times, providing extenuating circumstances arise resulting directly from site and/or weather conditions.)

## D. Flyer Timing:

Each flyer or his designate is responsible to time all day for one day ***and on the Reserve Day be available for a timer pool for timing assignments as required***, including those who fly more than one event. Also, each flyer will be required to pay a \$200 deposit regardless of the number of events entered, which is refundable at the end of the contest, after the flyer's timing duties have been fulfilled. This deposit must be paid to the Event Administrator at Processing. Payment is to be made in the form of a check or money order payable to the AMA. Deposits not collected will be shredded. Forfeited deposits will be added to the Free Flight Team fund. Flyers 24 years old and younger are exempt from this deposit, but not their timing responsibility.

Additionally, to alleviate any imbalance of contestants (and thus timers) in various events, a qualified timer pool is to be created. Each timer will be compensated for each complete day of timing. This rate will be \$100/day.

(Note: It is recommended that all timers should provide themselves with at least 7-power binoculars.)

## E. Interruption of the Contest:

1. As many rounds as possible (to the maximum number of rounds scheduled per day) shall be completed.

2. The contest should be interrupted or the start delayed by the Jury in the following circumstances and in other circumstances decided by the Jury:

a. The wind is continuously stronger than 9 m/s measured at 2 meters above the ground at the starting line (flight line) for at least 20 seconds.

b. The visibility prohibits proper observation of the models or due to atmospheric conditions it would be dangerous to continue the competition.

- c. It is necessary to reposition the starting line. This may only take place between rounds.
- d. The prevailing conditions are such that they lead to unacceptable sporting results.
- e. Any incident affecting safety or requiring access for emergency services.

In the event of an interruption during a round, the Jury must decide the action to be taken to complete, repeat, or cancel the round. The remainder of the round may be completed as soon as conditions allow, with adequate notice given to all competitors.

#### F. Number of Models Allowed

During the initial processing the flyer will be allowed to process an unlimited number of models. Each Finalist will be allowed to compete with no more than four models per **contest day**, which according to the FAI Sporting Code, must be declared prior to the first round each day. If further flying is required to complete the **contest day**, only **the 4** models declared on the first day of **that** competition shall be used.

#### G. Protest

All protests must be presented in writing to the contest director and must be accompanied by a deposit of \$20. The \$20 deposit is returned only if the protest is upheld. An unreturned protest fee shall be deposited into the team fund.

1. Prior to the first flight of the contest, protests may be lodged, for example, against the validity of an entry, contest rules, flying contest area, processing of models (if done before flying starts), or contest officials.
2. During the contest, a protest may be lodged against a decision of contest officials (excluding the Jury) or against an error or irregularity committed during an event by another competitor; but the protest must be lodged in a timely fashion, in accordance with FAI rules.
3. Protests may be lodged up to one hour after the announcement of results. □

(Note: A complaint may also be filed. The purpose of a complaint is to obtain a correction without the need to make a formal protest. Complaints are made to the Contest Director and may be verbal [see **VII, F, 8**]).

H. No **Free Flight** FAI contest **shall** be scheduled at the site sooner than two days after the fourth day of the Finals.

### **VI. FINALS SITE SELECTION CONSIDERATION**

See original document

### **VII. PROGRAM FINANCES AND BUDGET**

See original document

## VIII

### **FINALS CONTEST DIRECTOR, FINALS OVERSIGHT SUBCOMMITTEE, EVENT DIRECTORS and JURY**

The following identifies the duties and responsibilities of designated officials. It is the responsibility of the FAI FF Team Selection Committee to make the appointments as noted.

#### **D. Finals Oversight Subcommittee:**

This Subcommittee is responsible for interviewing proposed Finals Contest Directors available for the program's Finals, whether native to the proposed site or imported. The purpose of the interview process is to ensure that a qualified Contest Director will direct the Finals. This Subcommittee will present their interview findings and resulting recommendation to the TSC for final CD approval.

The Finals Oversight Subcommittee will meet with the CD and Head Jurist immediately prior to the start of model processing to insure that the CD and Head Jurist fully understand all program rules and procedures. Each will be required to have a copy of the FAI Sporting Code, the AMA World Championship Teams and the FAI Free Flight Team Selection Program in their possession for review during this meeting.

Members of the Subcommittee are:

Paul Crowley (**Chairman**)

**Charlie Jones**

**Chuck Etherington**

George Batiuk

#### **E. Finals Contest Director/Administrator (CD/A):**

**The choice of the CD/A must be acceptable to the AMA Technical Director. The CD/A may not be a competitor in the finals contest.**

**Prior to the Finals contest, the CD/A is responsible to the TSC Program Chairperson. When the contest commences, the CD/A is responsible to the Head Jurist/Jury. After the contest, the CD/A is responsible to the AMA Technical Director.**

**The intent of combining the contest Director and Administrator position is to insure the early involvement of the CD. In addition to the duties listed below, the CD/A is responsible for adhering to the Finals Time Schedule.**

**The CD/A shall:**

- 1. Be directly responsible for the fair conduct of the Finals contest.**

2. Have knowledge of the FAI rules for the classes and shall run the contest according to those rules and the approved program.
3. Abide by the instructions from the AMA concerning the organization and financial arrangements that have been established by the TSC and coordinated by the AMA Technical Director.
4. Submit to the TSC Chairperson and the AMA Technical Director a proposed budget as soon as possible (prior to the event). Obtain a sanction from AMA Competitions Department.
5. Arrange Finals logistics, including, but not limited to, site facilities, a PA system, scoreboards, impound areas, processing equipment, meeting facilities, port-a-johns, motels, camping, etc.
6. Arrange for the contest officials, workers and any other personnel specified by the TSC.
7. Prepare and have distributed by AMA site maps, directions, lodging information, meeting schedules, and all other pertinent details so as to inform the participants. Post competition results as the contest progresses.
8. Accept and respond to complaints from the competitors. The purpose of a complaint is to seek correction without resorting to a formal protest. Complaints may be made verbally at any time during the contest. Complaints need not be presented in writing unless the technicalities would be better understood in such fashion. The CD/A may respond verbally to either mode of complaint.
9. Accept, implement and abide by the decisions of the Jury.
10. Oversee spot processing of models.
11. File a report to AMA's Competitions/Technical Department after the event, submitting competitor's documents and a financial statement regarding money received and disbursed.
12. Receive from the current World Champion his or her intent to participate in the contest before the start of the event.
13. Attend the Finals Oversight Subcommittee's pre-Finals meeting.

#### **F. Finals Time Schedule:**

The TSC Chairperson shall be responsible for arranging the actual dates of the Finals, working closely with local flyers that make the schedules for the field for a year.

After the CD/A has been appointed, he or she shall be responsible for adhering to the following schedule:

1. Three months prior:
  - a. Appoint Timer and Event Administrators.
  - b. Send Bulletin #1 (via AMA) to all participants. This bulletin shall contain general information about the Finals, including location, maps, motels, dates, etc.
  - c. Submit a complete Finals budget to the TSC Chairman.

**d. Apply for a sanction for the contest from AMA.**

**2. Two months prior:**

**a. Arrange for all contest equipment that will be needed for the Finals.**

**b. Contact all Event Administrators, making sure that they understand their duties at the Finals.**

**c. Arrange for F1C fuel to be purchased and delivered to the field.**

**3. One month prior:**

**a. Send Bulletin #2 (via AMA) to all Finals participants. This bulletin should contain all pertinent information about the Finals, including basic procedures, timing assignments, pole positions, etc.**

**b. Be on the field at least 3 days in advance of the Finals to set up the field, including laying out lines, establishing areas, parking, etc.**

**G. Timer Administrator:**

1. Is appointed by **and report directly to** the Contest Director/Administrator.

2. Recruits the timer pool.

3. Trains inexperienced timers.

4. Assigns pole positions for all timers.

5. Collects timer deposits from Event Administrators, and holds the deposits for return.

6. Returns deposits at the end of each day to flyers that have successfully completed their timing duties. Shreds deposits of those flyers who successfully completed their timing duties, but did not pick up their deposits.

**H. Event Administrators:**

**1. Are appointed by and report directly to the CD/A.**

**2. Are responsible for the following duties:**

**a. Before the Finals: checking current AMA licenses, pre-flight processing, and collecting timer deposits for his/her event.**

**b. During the Finals: responsible for duties assigned by the CD/A, i.e. scorekeeping, spot processing, etc. It is the intent of the TSC that the CD/A run the actual contest, not the Event Administrators.**

**c. After the Finals: responsible for final processing of the three winners and the alternate for his/her event. Processing shall include all models flown, and each shall be checked for correct weight and area, per the FAI Sporting Code in the presence of the Head Jurist or his representative.**

## I. Head Jurist/Jury:

Each AMA team selection Finals shall be assigned a jurist to deal with protests and to monitor the conduct of the event. The Head Jurist is the highest authority at the Finals contest.

Travel and lodging expenses for the Head Jurist will be paid in accordance with current AMA policies and budget.

1. Jury Composition/Selection — The Jury shall consist of three persons. The Head Jurist will be selected by the TSC and approved by the FAI executive Committee. The two additional jurors shall be selected from the event group that is timing each day and will be excused from their timing obligations with no penalty, replaced if required by paid timers.

All of the Jury members will be selected, and asked to participate, well in advance of the Finals, so that they can adequately prepare themselves. In the event that extra days are needed to determine the team for a class, the Head Jurist will select two additional jurists from the pool of six used, who are not involved in the fly-off.

(Note: Per the FAI Sporting Code — The Jury must be announced before the start of the event. Members of the Jury may not compete in the event except when the contest is subdivided into categories. In that case, one or two members of the Jury may compete in a category and must then be replaced by alternate Jury members [not competing in that category] for all matters involving that category.)

Jury members must be knowledgeable of relevant portions of the general and the aero modeling sections of the FAI Sporting Code. Jury members must also have a working knowledge of the specific event rules of the Finals to which they are assigned.

2. Decision/Voting-The Jury members shall act as a body with all three individuals contributing to a decision. It is preferable to have a unanimous decision, but if that is not possible, a majority shall carry i.e., two of three.

If a Jury member is unable or unavailable to perform, the other Jury members must attempt to select a replacement from among the knowledgeable modelers present who are not otherwise directly involved with the competition, even if the service is temporary.

In order to be thoroughly acquainted with all the details of the selection program and the relevant rules upon which they may have to deliberate for a decision, the Head Jurist will obtain from the AMA Competitions Department in advance of the Finals contest all relevant documents published or distributed to the finalists, as well as the FAI Sporting Code.

## 3. Authority:

a. The Jury's authority is limited to the period of the Finals contest.

b. The Jury is empowered to make all decisions dictated by any circumstances that may arise during the Finals and to rule on any dispute.

c. The Jury shall not directly run the contest, but is empowered to advise the Contest Director. The Jury has the authority to require correction of any discrepancy that may conflict with the applicable rules governing

team selection.

d. The Jury is the final authority concerning contest-rule interpretation, also delays or duration affected by weather factors, in accordance with the FAI Sporting Code.

e. The Jury may clarify and interpret the FAI rules for the contest, either by its own discretion or in response to questions submitted to the Jury by way of the Contest Director. The Jury shall avoid discussion with the competitors regarding the operation of the contest, the rules involved and actions of the officials, except in response to official protests or upon a request from the Contest Director.

When an issue is presented to the Jury for a ruling, the Jury will apply the contest rules from the Sporting Code and other appropriate documents. The Jury will render a strict interpretation of the text as to its ordinary meaning. The Jury will not attempt to infer intent.

f. The Head Jurist, in addition to being Chairman at the Jury meetings, has the right to require the Organizers to abide by the FAI Sporting Code, and the published rules and regulations for the event. If the organizers fail to do so, the Head Jurist has the power to stop the event until a Jury meeting has considered the situation. The Jury has the right to terminate the event if the organizers fail to abide by the FAI Sporting Code and the published regulations.

#### 4. Responsibilities:

a. The Jury is responsible for ensuring that the contest is conducted in accordance with the general and particular portions of the FAI Sporting Code pertaining to the events being flown.

b. The Jury is responsible for acting on all protests officially submitted before or during the contest, or before the results of the contest are verified and approved by the Jury.

c. The last responsibility and action of the Jurist/Jury is to verify and approve the competition results. The Jury must name in its report the competitors who shall comprise the teams selected. This report must be one hour after the posting of results, which are unofficial until the Jury certifies them as official. If there is a protest during this hour, before the official verification has been pronounced, the Jury will act expeditiously to minimize delay.

d. The Jury's decision regarding team makeup will be final and without recourse to any other authority.

5. The Head Jurist must attend the Finals Oversight Subcommittee's pre-Finals meeting.

#### J. Limitations of Authority of the FAI FF TSC:

Neither the FAI team selection committee, nor the chairperson, shall have authority at the Finals contest. All decisions required at the Finals site shall be made by the Contest Director and the appointed Jury.