2028 F1D TEAM SELECTION PROGRAM
"Fly well – Fly often"

Schedule: 2026 Qualifying contests for the 2028 Team Selection Program

2027 Qualifying contests for the 2028 Team Selection Program
Single site Team Selection Contest

1/2028 Renewal for 2028 Team Selection Program

Program goals:

a. Promote the development of F1D talent in the US through competition and frequent flying
b. Select the best team available to represent the US at the World Championships
c. Generate the largest number of Team Selection Contest participants possible

Program Entry:

a. Current AMA membership required. While an FAI competition stamp is required for participation in a World Championship, it is not required to participate in qualifying contests or the Team Selection Contest.
b. To enter the program, an Indoor F1D Team Selection Program Participation Form must be submitted directly to AMA, postmarked at least 14 days before the Team Selection Contest, accompanied by a $40 fee for Open fliers or $20 for Juniors. These fees are separate from any Team Selection or Qualifying Contest entry fees.
c. All qualification supporting evidence must be received by the team selection committee chairman 14 days prior to the team selection contest.
d. Prior Team Selection Program finalists who live more than 500 miles from the nearest qualifying contests can attend the Finals by petitioning the Team Selection Committee in advance and paying a $50 penalty fee. Participants selecting this option will be given 75 qualifying points.
e. Junior age qualification, per the FAI: A competitor is a junior up to and including the calendar year in which the age of 18 is attained. All other competitors are classed as seniors.

All qualifying and team selection contests will be conducted in accordance with the FAI Sporting Code and AMA's procedures governing the academy's sponsorship of FAI teams, except as outlined in this document. All qualifying events and team selection contests must be sanctioned in accordance with AMA's competition regulations (for qualifying events and contests held in the US), or the regulations of the appropriate national modeling organization (for qualifying events held outside the US).

All models must be processed before each official flight.

All motors must be processed after each official flight. Rubber lube may be wiped off. O-rings may be tared using equivalently sized O-rings (per the practice at the World Championships).

Qualification:

The 2026 US F1D Team Selection program offers two paths to the Team Selection contest: “Fly well” or “Fly often”.

Fly well:

a. Achieve 75 points or more at a contest featuring F1D (aka a qualifying event)
b. A qualifying event must have at least 3 F1D event participants to count for “Fly well”. Each participant must make at least two official flights. Juniors and seniors may be combined to reach 3 entrants.
c. The best qualifying event score is counted for each competitor.
d. There is no restriction on the number of qualifying events that can be entered, or on cross-region flying.
e. Scoring: Total best 2 out of 6 flights. Top qualifying event score counts 100 points. Other Open flyer scores are a percentage of the top scored, based on contestant’s 2-flight total divided by the winning 2-flight total. Juniors are awarded 100 points for competing in a qualifying event

Fly often:

a. Accumulate 2 hours or more of scoring flights at qualifying events
b. There is no minimum number of F1D participants required at qualifying events for “Fly often”
c. Scoring: Best 2 out of 6 flights at each qualifying event
d. Flyers accumulating the required amount of time are awarded 100 points.

Qualifying events occurring between January 1 of the year starting the program and 14 days before the Team Selection Contest count toward the Team Selection Program.

Qualifying event organizers and participants are encouraged to advertise the contest through all available channels, including online forums, newsletters, email lists, etc.

Team Selection Contest:

a. A single site Team Selection Contest will be conducted over a 3-day period. The Team Selection Contest is scheduled based on site availability
b. Flying will be conducted in rounds, 3 rounds per day
c. Scoring: Total best 2 out of 9 flights. Top Team Selection Contest score counts 1000 points. Other scores are a percentage based on the contestant's 2-flight total divided by the winning 2-flight total.
d. Team Selection Contest entry fees: $50 for Open flyers, $25 for juniors. These fees are in excess of the Participation Fee and are paid at the Finals site. An additional site access fee for both Open and Junior flyers may be required.
e. The Team Selection Contest will use a three-person jury unless waived by the AMA Executive Council in accordance with current AMA policies (currently outlined in the Procedures Governing the Academy’s Sponsorship of FAI Teams). We have applied for, and received, a waiver of the jury requirement for past cycles.

Team Selection:

a. The U.S. Team is selected by adding each competitor’s best qualifying score and team selection contest score. The maximum score attainable is 1100 points. The top 3 places

form the team. The team manager will be appointed in accordance with current AMA policies (currently outlined in the Procedures Governing the Academy's Sponsorship of FAI Teams).

b. If any one of the 3 team members withdraws from the team after a Team Selection is held, the open team position will be offered to the next highest placed contestant, subject to approval by the Team Selection Committee.

Special considerations for Juniors:

a. The Junior Team Selection Contest may be adjusted to support participation by available Juniors, per majority approval by the F1D Team Selection Committee.
b. If any Junior Team members withdraw, alternates will be assigned per the Team Selection Contest standings. If no Junior alternates are available via the Team Selection Contest, an alternate may be assigned from other Team Selection Program participants, per majority approval of the F1D Team Selection Committee.

Proxy Steering:

Any competitor who has a disability, either temporary or permanent, that affects their ability to steer may request a proxy steerer at qualifying events or team selection contests, subject to approval of the CD of the event or contest in question.

Stopwatches:

Electronic stopwatches capable of displaying 1/100th of a second up to 40 minutes will be mandatory for all official flight times. An electronic stopwatch is interpreted to be any stopwatch that uses a battery for power rather than a wound spring. Mechanical stopwatches or electronic stopwatches that cannot display 1/100th of a second up to 40 minutes will be allowed for accumulating prop stop time during steering.

Stopwatches will be checked for accuracy during the pilots meeting before the first round of the Team Selection contest.

Contingency in case of cancellation of Finals:

Every effort will be made to provide a backup Team Selection contest site in case the primary site is withdrawn or otherwise rendered un-flyable. If the site is lost the Team Selection Committee will re-schedule at an alternate site on the same dates, or as soon as practical following the original dates.

Program Renewal:

Renewal of this program each 2-year cycle is subject to approval by the F1D Team Selection Committee and the AMA FAI Executive Committee.