

FAI, GAC, Rally Flying Subcommittee, Chairman, 25.Oct.2003

Report 13th WRFC, Rustenburg

1. The event has been conducted in accordance with the Sporting Code and the rules of the event.
2. The specific rally rules as documented in the FAI AIR RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP RULES AND REGULATIONS were complied with; however, the AIMS FOR RALLY FLYING, to handle the task by a team (Rally Crew), was not met. All tasks, official training and the three routes flown, put the main pressure on the navigator and not on the crew (minimum of 18 CP's and 7 PP's / preparation time 15/20 minutes). The result of this situation: the performance of the navigator was more important than the capabilities of the Rally team – the competition was more less a “plotting competition” instead of a “flying competition”.
3. The Organizer received an update (Martin 2.04) for the computer program on 24th July 2003. This program was used only in the last phase of the competition. The delayed usage of the program created quite a few mistakes, resulting in delayed availability of competition results.
4. Whenever the downloading of the flight recorder is done at a location not at or near the computer room a data transfer via internet should be used to avoid unnecessary delays.(Downloading at Rustenburg, transfer of data by car to Sun City)
5. Due to a change of value between USD and SA Rand the price for “extra nights” and the price to hire an aircraft in USD was increased by the Organizer above the value agreed by GAC. This situation created a lot of discussion and frustration between Competitors and the Organizer.

Lessons learned

To overcome the situation described under 2. the rules have to be changed:

- The number of CP's should be limited to: minimum 10, maximum 15
- Preparation time should be granted in relation to number of CP's, (2 minutes per CP)
- PP's should be deleted or at least limited to 3 per task
- Plotting of CP's must be done in sequence (CP 1, CP 2,... not CP 1, CP 8, CP 3, CP 11...)

With the above proposed rule changes the competition will become more easy and more realistic but still difficult enough to get separation between the competitors.

With these changes we will also keep the frustration of the less experienced competitors low, thereby keeping them in future competitions. (Final result: Nr.1 = 752 penalties, Nr.51=17388)

3.: Every Organizer should know that a computer program only works correct with the latest update!

4.: B2.10 of the 2004 Rules and Regulations is modified to solve the problem.

5.: The increase of the price for extra nights and aircraft renting the Organizer has asked for was not agreed by GAC or FAI. To avoid these problems in the future a change of rules proposal will be forwarded today to the delegates. The new rule will ask the Organizer to present the budget of a Class 1 event as part of the local rules to GAC for approval.