8. Microlights

Discipline 8.1: Weight-shift Controlled Microlights

Event Description

Microlight pilots use the weight of their body to control their aircraft and compete in a "triathlon" consisting of three basic tasks: A Speed task (pylon race), an Economy task (pilots have to stay in the air as long as they can with a limited quantity of fuel), and a Precision task (precision take-off and landings). Microlight events can be held very close to the public, thus enhancing their attractiveness for spectators.

The FAI Microlight Commission is currently developing new types of competitions for Weight-shift Controlled Microlights that should be available in time for the World Air Games 2009.

Venue

- *Location:* Main venue. Speed and Economy tasks start/arrive at the main venue, but include cross-country flights allowing other air sports events to be held in the intervening period at the main venue.
- *Air Space Requirements:* Free airspace from ground to approx. 6'000 ft above ground level during flight operations. Maximum radius of 100 km from the main venue for navigation tasks.
- *Event Site:* 2 strips of some 100 x 25 meters are required. Their surface should be tarmac or short mown grass, smooth and free from holes. The spectator area should be established 20 to 30 meters off to one side of each strip.
- *Timing:* At any time between sunrise and sunset for Speed and Precision tasks. Preferably between 11:00 and 18:00 for Economy tasks.

Competitors

- *Competitor type*: Teams
- *Team Composition*: 2 pilots
- *Number of entrants*: 12 teams
- *Support personnel*: 20 (local personnel for technical assistance/May be partly shared with Paramotors event)
- *FAI – CIMA Referees*: 5 (Event Director, Deputy and 3 Jury members/Same persons for Paramotors event)

Duration

- *Practice Days:* At least 1
- *Competition days:* 2 for competitions + 1 for finals (1 to 3 rounds may be flown per day)
- *Reserve Days:* 1 to 2
- *Time per round:* 30 minutes for Precision tasks. Up to 3 hours for Speed or Economy tasks.

Technical Equipment specifically required for this event

- 4 to 6 pylons for turn points. A pylon is a 6-meter high cylinder with a diameter of some 60 centimetres fixed on a platform with a ventilator at its base to inflate the cylinder (electric supply required)*
- Unleaded fuel (consumption : 7 to 15 litres/hour/aircraft)
- GPS Loggers
- Scoring software*
- VHF radios*

** This equipment may be shared with Paramotors event.*

Estimated Operational Budget

- Technical equipment as listed above: Approx. USD 6'000.-

Notes:
This budget does not include the costs for venue, infrastructure, logistics, accommodation, volunteers and technical equipment required for conducting/ presenting the events, or for interacting with the public (see section 'Technical Equipment').