

Academy of Model Aeronautics

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OFFICIAL 2016-2017 F3D~RC PYLON TEAM SELECTION PROGRAM

I. Purpose

The 2016 FAI Pylon Team Selection Program shall select three pylon teams (pilot, caller/mechanic) to represent the United States in the FAI World Championships in 2017. Alternates will also be chosen to back up the team in the event of withdrawal of any of the primary teams.

II. Method

The team and alternates will be selected by flying in a single elimination contest. The Team Selection Committee shall determine the actual contest date. The contest shall be held between July and December of 2016.

Bids to host the team trials must be submitted to AMA no later than April 15, 2016.

III. Qualification

Any modeler wishing to qualify for the U.S. Pylon Team must be a current U.S. resident and a member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics.

A fee of \$20 is required to enter the program. This fee is mailed to AMA Headquarters.

The Team Selection finals fee of \$50 must be mailed to AMA Headquarters postmarked no later than thirty (30) days prior to the starting day of the Finals. (Caution: Allow 10 days for postal delivery.) An on-site late entry fee of \$100 may be paid to the contest director up to one hour before the advertised starting time of the Finals.

IV. Contest Criteria

A. Finals - The team selection finals shall be a two-day event. A minimum of seven rounds and a maximum of twelve rounds shall be flown. The contest director shall determine the maximum number of rounds at the beginning of the first race day. The winner of the event is the competitor who has accumulated the lowest score after the conclusion of all heats. If four or more rounds are flown, each competitor's worst (highest) score shall be discarded. If eight or more rounds are flown, each competitor's worst (highest) two scores shall be discarded. If twelve or more round are flown, each competitor's worst (highest) three rounds shall be discarded. The contest shall be flown strictly in accordance with the current FAI Sporting Code.

B. Protests - A complaint may be made in writing to the contest director. If the contestant is not satisfied with the result of the complaint, a formal protest may be submitted in accordance with the document entitled, *A World Championship Team Procedures Governing the Academy's Sponsorship of FAI Teams*. A fee of \$20 shall accompany the written protest. If the jury rejects the protest, the fee shall be deposited into the Pylon Team Fund. The fee will be returned if the protest is upheld.

C. Scores - After each round, an itemized score will be publicly posted. This score will include the lap time and the FAI score.

D. Final Results - The results shall be posted within one half hour of conclusion of the last race. The scores will become official one hour after posting or after the resolution of any protest.

E. Official Team - The official United States Team shall be comprised of the pilots for the first three scoring positions. The first alternate shall be the pilot with the fourth place score. The second alternate shall be the pilot with the fifth place score. Upon registration for the World Championship, the pilot shall designate his official mechanic/caller. This will be the official U.S. Team.

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

Pre-Finals. 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 finals, and that person may not further participate in the selection program if he/she is so enrolled.

Post-Finals. When there are more than four months between the finals contest and the world championships, the team manager may be selected after the finals.

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

Nominations for team manager will be accepted from the AMA membership community; groups which can be involved in this 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, he or she must be thoroughly knowledgeable of the rules of the event for which he/she is being considered.

Appointment. AMA headquarters and the FAI Executive Committee in consultation with the chairman of the appropriate team selection committee shall make the actual appointment. The FAI Executive Committee of 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.

V. Finances

A. AMA's FAI budget for each team covers \$1000 per official team member.

1. A sum of \$1000 will be deposited into the Team Fund from AMA general funds for each officially funded team member. The team fund is the source of funding for all team expenses, including entry fees, banquet, hotel, food, travel and any other necessary expenditure's.

B. The official FAI Pylon Team Fund will be held in an account at AMA Headquarters under the control of the Team Selection Committee. All entry fees, additional income and/or donations shall be kept in this fund.

C. Team trial expenses, including those paid to the host club shall be no more than 25% of the entry fees accrued at the team selection finals.

D. The Team Selection Committee may allocate from the Team Fund, monies for the following team expenses:

1. Travel expenses not paid by AMA
2. Vehicle rental
3. Baggage expenses
4. Team uniforms

5. Expenses approved by the majority vote of the current Team Selection Committee

E. FAI Pylon Team Fund monies can only be spent on team expenses and the team selection contest.

VI. Jury (as per AMA Bylaws)

The AMA shall appoint an FAI jury. The jury shall consist of three people and shall be named and/or appointed in accordance with the A World Championships Teams Procedures Governing the Academy's Sponsorship of FAI Teams.

The document entitled *A 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 by this document. In the event of a dispute or discrepancy, this document will take precedence.