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AMA Competition Regulations Rules Change Proposal Form

The current issue of the Competition Regulations must be referenced.

Proposal Number: RCFWS24-03

Received Date: 2/24/2023

Revised Date:

Version Number:

Proposal Type: Basic

Applicable Competition Regulations this proposal relates to:

RC Fixed-Wing Scale

Give Brief Summary of the Proposed Change:

Change wording of Fun Scale Expert rule to match FAA definitions and intent of original rule change.

State exact wording proposed for the Competition Regulations. List paragraph number where applicable. Example: Change "quote present rule book wording" to "exact wording required".

For event 520 paragraph.

Change: "The intent of Fun Scale is to provide an RC scale event which is, and is to remain, simple in concept. There are two divisions of RC Fun Scale. Novice Division is for the novice contestant only. This is purely an ENTRY LEVEL division for RC scale competition. Expert Division is open to any contestant with previous RC scale competition experience. There are two Divisions within Expert.

1. Standard:

Aircraft modeled after full-scale aircraft with less than 200 HP engines, and without retractable landing gear, flaps or a controllable pitch propeller.

2. High-Performance:

Aircraft modeled after full-scale aircraft with 200 HP or more for power. They also may have retractable landing gear, flaps and a controllable pitch propeller."

To:

"The intent of Fun Scale is to provide an RC scale event which is, and is to remain, simple in concept. There are two divisions of RC Fun Scale. Novice Division is for the novice contestant only. This is purely an ENTRY LEVEL division for RC scale competition. Expert Division is open to any contestant with previous RC scale competition experience. There are two Divisions within Expert.

1. Standard:

Aircraft modeled after full-scale aircraft with 200 HP or less engines for power and may include flaps and / or retractable landing gear.

2. High-Performance:

Aircraft modeled after full-scale aircraft with over 200 HP engines for power and may include flaps and

/ or retractable landing gear.

State logic behind proposed change, including alleged shortcoming of the present rule(s).

Competition Class 520,

Fun Scale Expert is currently a collector class of experienced flyers, and many are top scale competitors, for those flying aircraft without scale documentation. I understand the original intent for dividing Fun Scale Expert into two divisions was because competitors flying relatively simple aircraft felt they did not have fair opportunity flying against fast aircraft, such as fighter aircraft or turbines claiming mechanicals, piloted by very experienced competitors, some who have flown in such events as Top Gun and the FAI World Championships.

Unfortunately, the wording of the rule change eliminated many possible aircraft choices for modeling. The FAR 61.31 definition for High Performance aircraft is aircraft having over 200 hp. engines. Therefore, aircraft with 200 hp. or under for engine power are not high performance. Notice that the definition makes no mention of flaps, retractable landing gear, or controllable propellers. The FAR 61.31 definition for Complex aircraft is aircraft having flaps, retractable landing gear, and controllable pitch propellers. Notice that the definition requires all three options to be a complex aircraft. Therefore, an aircraft with only flaps is not complex, and neither is an aircraft with flaps and retractable landing gear. An aircraft with flaps and a controllable pitch propeller is also not a complex aircraft.

The current wording of the rule, “and without retractable landing gear, flaps or a controllable pitch propeller.” eliminates many potential-modeling subjects, a partial list follows.

PT-19 200hp Flaps Fixed Landing Gear Fixed Propeller
Cessna-150 100hp Flaps Fixed Landing Gear Fixed Propeller
Cessna-172 160hp Flaps Fixed Landing Gear Fixed Propeller
Piper Arrow 200hp Flaps Retract Landing Gear Controllable Propeller
Piper Super Cub 180hp Flaps Fixed Landing Gear Fixed Propeller
Piper Comanche 180 180hp Flaps Retract Landing Gear Controllable Propeller
Piper Tomahawk 112hp Flaps Fixed Landing Gear Fixed Propeller
All Van’s RV aircraft Flaps Fixed Landing Gear Fixed or Controllable Propeller
Numerous Other Homebuilt Aircraft.

In the list above the only complex aircraft are the Piper Arrow and Piper Comanche 180, even though some may have flaps and retractable landing and none are high performance.

Since there are many aircraft having part of the complex equipment, I feel the high performance criteria is appropriate so that aircraft speed is more matched in the Fun Scale Expert Divisions, but should not restrict the aircraft equipment features. I have left the controllable pitch propeller listing since there has been some model development work in that area.

The contest CDs may not fully understand the division within Fun Scale Expert and I have not had direct experience with the application of the class division. In fact, the 2022 Scale NATS fully ignored the rule and the normal aircraft models were included in Fun Scale Expert.

If this proposal is for a new event, include all event test data/information here. Please provide information on what testing of this new event has taken place to include number of

participants and number of contests.

State effect, if any, on current AMA records:

None

Note: The Contest Board Chairman may, in coordination with the submitter of the proposal, at any time prior to submitting a proposal to the contest board for Final Vote, edit proposal wording to increase clarity and to avoid ambiguity, provided the proposal intent is not changed.

Submitter Information:

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