



Local Procedures

Guide to the procedures used for the
38th FAI WGC – Uvalde, Texas
August 14th – August 31st, 2024

Revised July 30, 2024, Changes in YELLOW

A. CHAMPIONSHIP DETAILS

Name of the Event

38th FAI World Gliding Championship

Location of the Event

Garner Municipal Airport
 ICAO - KUVA
 LAT 29° 12.68' N / LONG 099° 44.62' W
 Elevation – 941 ft / 287 m
 Time Zone = UTC - 5 hrs (CDT)

Organising NAC

National Aeronautic Association (NAA)

Organising Club

Uvalde Soaring Association

Official Entry Period Begins	March 31, 2024
Final entries due	May 31, 2024
Deadline for approval of new GNSS FRs	May 31, 2024
Airfield availability for training flights	August 11, 2024
Registration period begins	August 11, 2024
Registration period ends	August 16, 2024
Technical inspection period begins	August 11, 2024
Technical inspection period ends	August 16, 2024
Configuration change closes	August 16, 2024
Mandatory Safety Briefing	August 16, 2024
Unofficial training begins	August 11, 2024
Unofficial training ends	August 13, 2024
First official Team Captains' briefing	August 14, 2024
Official training begins	August 14, 2024
Official training ends	August 16, 2024
Opening Ceremony	August 17, 2024
Contest flying begins	August 18, 2024
Contest flying ends	August 30, 2024
Farewell party	August 30, 2024
Closing Ceremony and Prize giving	August 31, 2024

B PROCEDURES

1. GENERAL

1.1 Additional Objectives of the Championship

Promote the sport of soaring in the United States

Maintain the role of the United States in the promotion and competition of soaring internationally

Promote Uvalde, South Texas and the region as a tourist destination

1.2.1 Documents applicable to this Championship;

The competition will be conducted in compliance with:

FAI Sporting Code - General Section

https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/fai_sporting_code_general_section_2024_v1_1.pdf

Sporting Code Section 3 – Gliding – Version 2023

https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/sc3_2023.pdf

Sporting Code Annex A Version 2023

https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/sc3a_2023.pdf

1.3.1 Championship Classes;

18m Class

Open Class

20m Multiseat Class

1.4.1 Name of NAC

Organizing NAC – United States National Aeronautic Association

Gliding Federation - Soaring Society of America

Local Organization running the event – Uvalde Soaring Association

1.4.1.1 Contact Information for the event

Website – www.wgc2024uvalde.com

Email - Mark Huffstutler – Deputy Director - mark.huffstutler@wgc2024uvalde.com

Sherman Griffith – Contest Manager – sherman.griffith@wgc2024uvalde.com

Mail - Uvalde Soaring Association
122 Howard Langford Drive
Uvalde, Texas 78801

Mobile - (830) 591-4750 (Deputy Director)
(214) 244-3685 (Contest Manager)

1.4.1.2 Units of measurement

Unless otherwise stated, the following units will be used:

Distance: kilometers (km)

Altitude: Feet above Mean Sea Level (MSL)

Height: Feet above Ground Level (AGL)

Ground Speed: kilometers per hour (kph)

Vertical speed: Knots (kts)

Wind speed: Knots (kts)

Mass: Kilograms (kg)

Time: Local time (UTC -5), 24h

1.4.1.3 Primary digital messaging by the organisers

Digital messaging during the event by WhatsApp groups

1.4.2 An Online Safety Box may be used

1.4.5 Instructions for obtaining navigational charts

- Aviation Paper Charts are available through retail vendors online.
- Sectional Aviation Charts – 1:500,000 scale – the task area is covered on the San Antonio and Brownsville charts
https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/flight_info/aeronav/productcatalog/vfrcharts/sectional/
- A competition map will be made available to all competitors as part of registration. This is not to scale but will cover the task area and include control points.

1.4.5.2 Control Point file format

- The official Control Point format shall be the *.cup* format
- Control Point files will be posted on SoaringSpot.com

1.4.5.3 Forbidden Airspace

The official forbidden airspace file format shall be in the “OpenAir” format and posted on SoaringSpot.com.

Note: for the contest, the tops of all forbidden airspace areas are set to 17,999 feet MSL. Therefore, no overflight of forbidden airspace is permitted.

2. CHAMPIONSHIP OFFICIALS

COMPETITION OFFICIALS

Championships Director	Eric Mozer
Deputy Director	Mark Huffstutler
Task Setter	Mark Huffstutler
Contest Manager	Sherman Griffith
Operations Director	David Coggins
Chief Scorer	John Godfrey
Chief Meteorologist	Walt Rogers

INTERNATIONAL JURY

President	Angel Casado (ESP)
Member - remote	Brian Spreckley (GBR)
Member- remote	Peter Eriksen (DEN)

STEWARDS

Chief Steward	Frouwke Kuijpers (NED)
Steward	Andras Gyöngyösi (HUN)

3. NATIONAL TEAMS

3.4.2

The Entry fee is €1,237 as approved by the 2023 IGC Plenary

Tow Fees as approved by the 2023 IGC Plenary

- €83 - Open and 20M
- €78 - 18M
- €12 - self launch

Banking Details

Wire funds to:
 First State Bank of Uvalde
 200 E. Nopal
 Uvalde, Texas 78801
 ABA 114902405
 Swift FRSTUS44
 For credit to **Uvalde Soaring Association**
 Account 9289430

3.4.3a Number of allowable entries per NAC

18 Meter Class - 2 entries per NAC + 2022 and 2023 Women's World Champions

Open Class - 2 entries per NAC

20 Meter Multi-seat Class - 1 entry per NAC

3.5.4b Documents required to be carried on board the sailplane

- i. Valid Certificate of Airworthiness or equivalent (see 4.1.2); and
- ii. Third party insurance certificate for the sailplane.
- iii. All documents specified in the aircraft Certificate of Airworthiness, Experimental Certificate, or Permit to Fly.

3.6.1 Third Party Insurance coverage

- i. Third party insurance is required for each participating glider.
- ii. Proof of insurance applicable to the registered sailplane and pilot(s), effective through the final scheduled competition day, showing coverage of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage liability, with no reduction in coverage for persons outside the insured sailplane.
- iii. Documentary proof of third-party insurance coverage must be provided in English.

4. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

4.1.1c Flight Tracking Devices to be carried on board

- Tracking will be performed by IGC trackers provided by the organization.
- The organisation will provide IGC trackers to pilots, or their crew, each day from the start of the official practice period.
- Pilots must securely install the tracker to ensure good visibility of GPS satellites and mobile cell towers.

- Pilots must use the tracker each day and return it to the competition office each day to be recharged. The tracker must be returned to the office within 60 minutes of landing, except in the case of an outlanding when the tracker must be returned as soon as possible.
- If a pilot voluntarily switches off the tracker during the flight, it will be captured in the tracking data, and will be considered unsporting behaviour as per SC3a 8.6.5B.
- Tracker time delay will be 15 minutes. Access to the live tracking data is only by approval of the Director and is restricted to the approved technical support staff when required to support problem resolution for the trackers and the tracking website. All access to live tracking data must be reported to the Chief Steward within 24 hours.
- The organisation will recover trackers at the end of the Championship. Trackers not recovered will be charged to the NAC (€300).

4.1.1d Additional Equipment

- Portable devices such as Instruments, PDAs, GPS navigators, mobile phones for connected instruments, etc. must be securely mounted in the glider in such a way that the pilot's vision is not affected.
- To support potential SAR activities in remote locations, pilots are required to carry one or more of the following; mobile phone, ELT, PLB, Spot, or other satellite communications device, and to provide the phone number or beacon ID to the Organisers.
- Each Team Captain and each Competitor is required to have a smartphone with data plan to be able to receive official information from the Organiser using the WhatsApp application (www.whatsapp.com).

FLARM

- The installation and use of FLARM is mandatory.
- FLARM must be operational throughout all flights.
- At technical inspection, competitors will be required to demonstrate that the FLARM is operational and provide:
 - a recent FLARM log file for range analysis.
 - a .pdf of a recent FLARM Range analysis from <https://www.flarm.com/support/tools-software/flarmrange-analyzer/>
- Pilots may be required to provide a FLARM log file during the contest period to allow random checks of function and range to be carried out to ensure that FLARM transmission and reception is satisfactory for adequate collision avoidance.
- Any FLARM configuration is allowed providing that collision avoidance transmissions are enabled.

4.1.1 b Instruments that must be removed or disabled;

- Bohli, Schanz, KT1 or another gimballed compass, Turn Indicator, Artificial Horizon (AH) or any other device to assist with cloud flying must be removed from the glider or disabled and secured for the duration of the competition to the satisfaction of the Organizers
- Flight computers or other instruments with embedded Artificial Horizon capability:
 - Unless the AH capability is disabled to the Organizers satisfaction, flight log files from any flight computers or other instruments containing embedded AH capability must be submitted each day flown during the contest period, regardless of whether the FR is primary, secondary, or extra.
 - Such devices must provide a secure IGC log file that contains a log entry when the AH capability is enabled.
 - Flight log files from extra FRs (i.e. not primary or secondary) will not be evaluated for the purpose of scoring.

4.4.1 Radio frequencies to be used during the Championships - Frequencies (MHz):

- 123.3 – official contest frequency: official announcements, launches, opening of the starts
- 123.5 – backup contest frequency, pilot-to-pilot and pilot-to-crew communication
- 122.8 – Uvalde CTAF (common traffic advisory frequency), used by power traffic
- 124.175 – local AWOS (automated weather observation)
- Transponder code for transponder-equipped gliders: 1202

5. GENERAL FLYING PROCEDURES

5.3 External Aid to Competitors

Clarification of Annex A

- a. Reception of data by a fixed mobile phone for display on a flight instrument is allowed. There is no restriction on the information contained in that data.
- b. Reception of data from the ground must be from publicly available sources.
- c. Two-way voice communication on VHF between members of the Team (including the Team Captain) is not restricted in any way.
- d. Reception of data from airborne transmitters is not restricted in any way.

7. COMPETITION PROCEDURES

7.1e Daily weighing

- During daily weighing any security seals will be checked.
- Up to 3 litres of drinking water, small snacks, maps, task sheets, portable navigation equipment (e.g., Oudie), and a mobile phone, may be added to the glider on the launch grid without consulting one of the Stewards . No other items may be added and if detected may be cheating as per SC3a 8.6.5.
- Water ballast that has leaked out of the glider may only be replaced under the supervision of a Steward.

7.2.2 Contest site boundaries

Will be published in Self Briefing for approval by the Chief Steward

7.3.2 Launch procedures for Motor gliders

Will be published in Self Briefing for approval by the Chief Steward

7.3.2a Maximum altitude of climb after self-launch

The MoP must be shut down in the designated release area at or below 3200 feet MSL.

7.3.3 Release areas and release heights.

The standard release altitude will be 3000 feet MSL.

- A depiction of the release areas will be published in Self Briefing for approval by the Chief Steward

7.3.3d Thermalling direction

- Thermalling within 5 KM of the airport will be to the left as viewed by the pilot

7.4.2 Start Options

- The PEV start may be used

7.4.3 Start geometry to be used.

- Start geometry to be used is a line of 10 kilometres in length.

7.4.5b Pre-Start Altitude

- May be used

7.4.5c Conditions for cancelling the Task after the start gate is open.

- This may be done for reasons of safety due to adverse weather, an accident or if a fair contest day does not seem possible.
- Such cancellation will be announced on the contest frequency and to the team captains via the Team Captain WhatsApp Group.
- Competitors whose task has been cancelled must make every effort to return to the contest airfield immediately after the cancellation.

7.7.1a Procedures for communicating real outlandings.

- LowCrop Aero will be used to communicate all outlandings, or pilots may communicate via text message if LowCrop is unavailable.
- LowCrop Aero can be found at <https://lowcrop.aero/>
- Team Captains must enter and update the status of their pilots retrieve in LowCrop.Aero.
- The organisation will provide login details for each Team Captain and Competitor

7.7.3 Provision of and requirements for aero tow retrieves

- Aerotow retrieves may be available from airfields only. The outlanding must be reported via LowCrop.Aero and requested by telephone to the Outlanding Office to determine if this is possible.
- The Organisers will allow contest tow planes to be used for aerotow retrieves if the Outlanding Office and tow pilot determines that it is fair and safe to do so.
- Each aero-tow retrieve must be arranged with the Outlanding Office by the Team Captain.
- The cost of an aero-tow retrieve is independent of all other fees.

7.8.2 Finish geometry to be used.

- Finish geometry to be used is a finish ring with a minimum finish altitude in feet MSL described at briefing and on the task sheet.
- The normal finish ring will have a radius of 3km, 5km, or 10km and will be described at briefing and specified on the Task Sheet.

7.8.4 a. Finish procedures

- Arrivals must be announced on the official contest frequency - 123.3 mhz,
- The following phrases shall be used: (Contest number), (distance to finish ring),
- Call first at 10 km from the finish ring and then crossing the finish ring,
- After crossing the finish ring, switch to the Uvalde CTAF frequency of 122.8 mhz,
- Finish procedures will be included in the Self Briefing document.

7.10.1 Landing procedures

- Preferred landing will be to the south using runway 15 and the parallel taxiway unless conditions favour landings to the north,
- The procedures for joining the circuit of the runway in use for speed finishers will be specified in the Self Briefing document,
- Landing sailplanes will use the Uvalde CTAF frequency of 122.8 mhz,

7.11 Flight documentation

- Flight documentation must be submitted in secure IGC log format, to an email address that will be provided in the self-briefing and on the daily task sheet,
- Required flight documentation must be submitted within 60 minutes after landing back at the airfield or return to the airfield after outlanding,
- If the backup flight recorder contains an AH device (see 4.1.2) the log from the backup device must also be submitted daily without specifically being requested.
- All competitors are encouraged to submit the log from the backup recorder at the same time as the log from the primary recorder. In any case, flight log files from the backup Flight Recorder (and a FLARM log if requested by the Director) must be submitted within 60 minutes after being requested by the Organisers.

8. SCORING

8.1 The scoring system for the championships

Will be 1000-Points Scoring System – Classic.

8.1.1 Scoring software to be used.

SeeYou Version 10.51 or higher. The script to be used for scoring will be posted on GitHub.

C ADDITIONAL LOCAL PROCEDURES REQUIRING APPROVAL BY IGC BUREAU

D WAIVERS AND LIMITATIONS

Common Procedures for 2024

23 April 2024

1. Clarification of 5.4f

Competitors must submit a Flight Log for evaluation on each day (from the beginning of the official training period until the Closing Ceremony) on which a launch was made, regardless of the outcome of the flight(s). If the submitted Flight Log does not provide data from all flights made during the day, the submission of additional Flight Logs is required, for the purpose of covering all the flights made that day.

2. Extension of 2023 waiver through 2024 (optional use of para. 7.4.6)

The use of Energy Control at the Start is optional at the discretion of the Director. Each day at Briefing and on the Task Sheet, it must be stated if the procedure described in Annex A para. 7.4.6 will be used.

3. Change to Annex A para. 8.7

Penalty for PEV start outside of PEV interval: 1 point per second up to a maximum of 60 points.