



March 17, 2003

## U.S. Spacemodeling Team Selection Flyoffs Rules

*Please take note of all information in italics and bold!*

### **PROLOGUE:**

A competition Finals (flyoffs) **for seniors** will be held at the AMA National Flying Site, Muncie, Indiana 4-5 October 2003 for the purpose of selecting a US Spacemodeling Team for the 2004 World Championships. This event will determine the members of the team that will represent the United States at the 15th World Spacemodeling Championships to be held in Poland, September 2004. Senior AMA members will participate in the following eight FAI events: **S1B** Altitude, **S3A** Parachute Duration, **S4A** Boost Glider, **S5C** Scale Altitude, **S6A** Streamer Duration, **S7** Scale, **S8E/P** Precision RC Rocket Glider and **S9A** Gyrocopter Duration (*IMPORTANT: S3, S4, S6 and S9 model dimensions for Senior competition must conform to FAI "B" impulse class sizes and weight! Max round times for A impulse class will be used.*)

**Junior** Contestants (born after October 1, 1986) will participate in a competition to be held in Evansville, Indiana, the weekend before NARAM-45 (August 2-3) in the following events: **S1B** Altitude, **S3A** Parachute Duration, **S4A** Boost Glider, **S5B** Scale Altitude, **S6A** Streamer Duration, **S7** Scale, **S8D** RC Rocket Glider and **S9A** Gyrocopter Duration. Please note the different events for different age classes.

### **GENERAL FINALS RULES AND SCHEDULE:**

To qualify for a position on either the Senior or Junior US Spacemodeling Team, all candidates must participate in the Finals. Both the Senior and Junior team selection is based on the Selection Procedures below. Ideally, 3 team members are selected for each event: S1, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7, S8 and S9, for conceivably, a total of 24 Senior and 24 Junior team members. In addition, two Managers are selected, one for each team, the Manager for the Senior team having administrative control. Alternates for Team positions must qualify under the selection procedures below.

In order to participate in the flyoffs and the World Championships, all contestants must be current AMA members and have a valid FAI stamp. Proof will be necessary and contestants will be required to show their cards and stamps (no photocopies acceptable) before flying. The NAA membership card is the official "INTERNATIONAL LICENSE" and provides the required FAI stamp.

The 2001 FAI Spacemodeling Sporting Code will be the guide for the competition with approved changes noted in this document. Each event will be flown in three rounds with one official flight made during each round. The general exception to FAI procedures is that the recovery of models **will not be required** because timely recovery of models would be difficult for individuals participating in the closely spaced round system. Specific event exceptions are as noted under selection procedures below. Normally the recovery of models is the responsibility of the members of the team not flying at the time, therefore, the recovery rule is suspended for the flyoffs and a new model can be used for *each of the 3 initial and flyoff rounds*. These models must be capable of more than one flight. Should a tie occur after three rounds, additional rounds would be used to determine the winner in accordance with the latest FAI Sporting Code. In S8E/P the target time will normally be six (6) minutes max in duration.

In the event that there are not sufficient candidates for a full team that meet the above selection criteria, additional members may be appointed to fill vacancies. In the interest of selecting the best possible team to represent the United States, appointed members may or may not be required to fly multiple events.

If necessary, cross event assignments to fill vacancies may be made by the Team Manager after the initial selection of the team by the selection committee, if no alternate member is available.

Commonly, *if timers are unavailable*, contestants will be **required to time their own flights**. Contestants are encouraged but not required to arrange their own timers for the Final. In the event that contestants are required to time their own flights or those of other competitors, the Honor Code will be in effect. Signing the Honor Code must be completed before participating in the Finals. It is **requested** that contestant's bring their own stopwatches, binoculars and launch equipment.

Only engines listed in the attached AMA Flyoffs Approved Engine List will be allowed for use by the contestants in the Team Selection Flyoffs.

Models must carry the contestant's FAI license number as described in 2001 FAI Spacemodeling Sporting Code. The designation for the United States is: "USA", acceptable coding for models is now USA (followed by competitor's FAI (AMA) number.) Example: either "USA - 000000" or "USA 000000".

## ***EVENT SPECIFIC RULES:***

### ***ALTITUDE - S1:*** (Seniors: S1B, Juniors: *Modified S1B*)

As of March 2003, the WSMC contest organizer has NOT included the usually held S1 event as part of the 2004 WSMC. In the case S1 is included at a later time, the results of this contest will be used to select the 3-man team. In light of this, results of the S1 Finals competition will **NOT** be used to qualify for a competitive position on the 2004 US Team, *unless later added* by the WSMC Organizer(s). It is recommended that contestants qualify for the US Team in one of the events known to be on the present 2004 WSMC schedule.

Contestants should be prepared to fly both single and multi-staged models to demonstrate their ability to use different model configurations in adapting to variable ceiling heights, which commonly occurs at the WSMC. Due to unpredictable weather and the possibility of low cloud cover, the Contest Director reserves the right to limit all altitude models to single stage depending upon prevailing tracking conditions. While not required, contestants should be prepared to fly single stage models or design their multistage model to fly either way. Floating Head Piston model designs are specifically **NOT** allowed, so as to promote development of

2-staged models. Those who qualify for the S1 team *may use* whatever designs they wish for the WSMC itself. Models, which separate into two or more parts during powered flight, **MUST** contain an active motor in each section, constituting a model stage. Please Note: S1B will be flown in both senior AND junior divisions due to limited availability of 1/2A booster motors for S1A (juniors). Therefore, for junior competitors, S1 will be flown with A impulse motors in each stage using models conforming to the FAI class **S1A** dimensions and weight restrictions.

### ***PARACHUTE DURATION – S3:*** (Seniors: *Modified S3A*, Juniors: S3A)

Current availability of competitive 10.5mm B impulse motors is limited. Therefore, for senior competitors, S3 will be flown with **A impulse motors** using models conforming to the FAI class **S3B** dimensions and weight restrictions. Senior Max Round times are **300 sec**.

### ***BOOST GLIDER DURATION – S4:*** (Seniors: *Modified S4A*, Juniors: S4A)

Current availability of competitive 10.5mm B impulse motors is limited. Therefore, for senior competitors, S4 will be flown with **A impulse motors** using models conforming to the FAI class **S4B** dimensions and weight restrictions. Senior Max Round times are **180 sec**.

### ***SCALE TEAM - S5 SCALE ALTITUDE and S7 SCALE:*** (Seniors: S5C, Juniors: S5B)

Scale Altitude and Scale members will be selected based on resume, a sample of workmanship, a "boiler plate" flight at the Finals and interview by the Team Selection Committee. S5 flights will be tracked. It is requested that competitors fly the prototype they plan on using in the WSMC. S7 flights should be reflective of as many of the special effects and motors planned for the WSMC flight profile.

Resumes of interested participants must be sent to:

ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS

5161 East Memorial Drive

Muncie, Indiana 47302-9252

Attn.: Lisa Johnson

Seniors resumes to arrive postmarked no later than September 1, 2003.

Junior's resumes to arrive postmarked no later than July 1, 2003.

***STREAMER DURATION – S6:*** (Seniors: *Modified S6A*, Juniors: *S6A*)

Current availability of competitive 10.5mm B impulse motors is limited. Therefore, for senior competitors, S6 will be flown with **A impulse motors** using models conforming to the FAI class **S6B** dimensions and weight restrictions. Senior Max Round times are **180 sec**.

***AUTOGYRO DURATION – S9:*** (Seniors: *Modified S9A*, Juniors: *S9A*)

Current availability of competitive 10.5mm B impulse motors is limited. Therefore, for senior competitors, S9 will be flown with A impulse motors using models conforming to the FAI class *S9B* dimensions and weight restrictions. Senior Max Round times are **180 sec**.

***RADIO CONTROLLED ROCKET GLIDER - S8:*** (Seniors: *S8E/P*, Juniors: *S8D*)

There will be no transmitter impound pending competitors frequency selection *before* the contest in an effort to eliminate frequency conflicts. Round times may be adjusted at contestant meeting. 4 full rounds will be flown. Landing area for S8E/P to be determined the day of the event, as per 2000 FAI rules. *Note:* There will be a separate S8E/P Pilots' Meeting immediately following the contestant briefing. Reloadable motors are specifically *allowed* for S8 Finals competition.

***CONTEST DIRECTOR and JURY:***

The AMA must sanction the Finals. The Finals contest director must be acceptable to the AMA Headquarters competition department director. The Finals jury consists of three members, one of whom will be appointed by FAI Executive Committee. The AMA appointed jurist is the highest authority at the Finals contest. He is required to select two additional jurors, on site, to resolve jury matters.

***TEAM MANAGER NOMINATIONS:***

The Senior and Junior team managers will be selected in accordance with the "World Championship Teams Procedures Governing the Academy's Sponsorship of FAI Teams". Interested individuals should request a copy of this document from AMA Headquarters. A prospective team manager need not have been a FAI competitor; however, he or she must be thoroughly knowledgeable of all the rules governing Spacemodeling events.

Any person wishing to be considered for the position of team manager must submit their name in writing to AMA Headquarters not later than 1 month before the Finals (flyoffs). *It is highly recommended that candidates submit their resume at the time of application.* Nominations for team manager will be accepted from the AMA membership community; groups that can be involved in this process may include: program participants, the presidents of AMA recognized special interest groups; team members and helpers, AMA headquarters and the team selection committees.

***TEAM MANAGER'S APPOINTMENT:***

AMA headquarters and the FAI Executive Committee, in consultation with the Chairman of the Spacemodeling Team Selection Committee, shall make the actual appointment of each Team Manager. The FAI Executive Committee or AMA Headquarters may select someone of their own choosing if not satisfied with the nominations submitted. The AMA FAI Executive Committee has the authority to replace a team manager or team members.

In addition to those duties described in the "World Championship Teams Procedures Governing the Academy's Sponsorship of FAI Teams", the team manager must submit to the Team Selection Committee a report documenting problem areas and recommendations for future reference. The report is to be independent of the World Championship report but should be sent to AMA Headquarters for distribution within 60 days after the world championships.

***FEES and CONTRIBUTIONS:***

To participate in the Finals (flyoffs) the fee of \$25.00 for the first event and \$10.00 for each additional event (S1, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7, S8, S9 FAI EVENTS) or \$60.00 for all events is payable in advance to AMA, postmarked before 1 September 2003. Fees will be accepted at the field or after the deadline at a cost of \$30 for the first event \$15.00 for each additional event. If a previously entered participant is unable to attend, a refund may be granted if requested in writing to AMA Headquarters postmarked no later than 30 days after close of the flyoffs.

If a refund is authorized, a deduction of \$10 will be withheld to cover administration costs.

The money received will be sent to AMA and shall be held in an account at AMA Headquarters under the control of the team selection committee. All entry fees, additional income, and donations shall be kept in this official Spacemodeling Team fund at AMA. All moneys collected or donated will be used for team requirements only. Up to 25% of the Finals entry fees can be used for Finals expenses.

***FUNDING and ALTERNATES:***

AMA financial support is ***no longer available*** for team members. Team Members are expected to pay their own entry fees, travel, accommodations and meals. Some Junior Team subsidy may be available from external sources, but AMA does not currently support the Spacemodeling team, financially.

In the situation where an individual who has qualified for a position on the US Team as one of the three members of an event team and does not desire to compete in the specific event qualified for, the position will be filled by the next most qualified Alternate in the event, according to the *final standings* at the Flyoffs. Only if qualified Alternates do not desire to compete on this basis, will the team manager cross assign the next most qualified of the competitors in each class.

World Champions do not have to compete in the Finals but are expected to attend. They must confirm their status before the flyoffs in writing to the Contest Director.

If a team member must drop off the team after being selected, the vacancy will be filled using the designated alternates or by using 4th place and subsequent rankings if necessary.

Alternates, World Champions and Juniors will be considered as part of the Senior team and will receive the same communications and considerations on all team matters.

Questions concerning rules and general regulations for the 2003 U.S. Spacemodeling Team Selection Finals may be directed to:

Dr. Bob Kreutz, Chairman  
US Team Selection Committee  
506 Hunters Road  
Bricktown, NJ 08724-4614  
102741.2353@compuserve.com