



Academy of Model Aeronautics

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EXHIBIT A RULES CHANGE PROPOSAL FORM

PROPOSAL NO. _____
(To be inserted by Headquarters)

RECEIVED DATE _____
(To be inserted by Headquarters)

REVISE DATE _____

VERSION NUMBER _____

RULES CHANGE PROPOSAL FORM

Send to AMA Headquarters via email at ruleschanges@modelaircraft.org. A copy will be forwarded to the appropriate Contest Board Chairman.

PROPOSAL TYPE (Check One): Basic Cross Indicate Original Proposal Number _____

Urgent/Safety/Emergency Interpretation

General Section Executive Council Outdoor Free Flight Indoor Free Flight CL Speed

CL Racing CL Navy Carrier CL Aerobatics CL Combat CL Special Events RC Aerobatics

RC Scale Aerobatics RC Pylon Racing RC Helicopter RC Soaring Scale Electric

Special Events RC Combat

Brief summary of the proposed change.

Advancement process should allow the contestant to easily specify and change the class in which they feel they are most capable of competing in safely and competitively without unnecessary interaction and paperwork to the AMA.

Exact wording proposed for the rule book. (List paragraph numbers where applicable. Example: Change “quote present rule book wording” to “exact wording required”).

ORIGINAL WORDING OF RULE 8: CONTESTANT CLASSIFICATION

“8. Contestant classification:

At his/her first Pattern contest a contestant may enter any one Pattern class at his/her own option (this decision should be made with care as no one at any time, except as noted in 8.1.2. and 8.2.5., will be permitted to change to a lower class). Once committed to a certain class a contestant will be allowed to move only to a higher skill class.

8.1: A contestant may promote himself/herself voluntarily to a higher class at any time; however, once the move is made, he/she may not change back to a lower class.

8.1.1: Exception: A contestant may fly in the next higher class at a contest where his/her class is not being flown without committing himself/herself to a permanent move to a higher class. He/she may not fly in a class lower than the one to which he/she is committed.

8.1.2: Exception: Consideration will be given to requests for reclassification to a lower class for various reasons, such as disability or breaks from participation of several years. For a contestant to be reclassified to a lower class, the contestant must petition via email (or letter if email is not available) to the contestant's AMA District Contest Board (CB) representative explaining the reasons for the reclassification. The CB representative will forward a recommendation for approval/disapproval to the AMA District Vice President (DVP). The AMA DVP will concur/non-concur and forward the decision to the petitioner and AMA District CB representative with an info copy to the AMA Technical Director.

8.2: A contestant should advance through the classes as follows: A contestant should move out of the Sportsman class at the end of the calendar year of his/her second or subsequent year of participation if he/she places first or second and above at least 4 other contestants (having recorded an official flight) in any sanctioned pattern contest. For Intermediate and Advanced contestants, advancement takes place through the accumulation of points. In these classes, contestants receive points according to their finishing place in every contest they compete in. For contestants finishing third or below in a given contest, he/she will receive points equal to the number of official (having recorded an official flight) contestants he/she beats. The second place winner will receive points equal to twice the number of official contestants he/she beats, and the first place winner will receive points equal to three times the number of official contestants he/she beats. The points each contestant receives go into his/her cumulative record.

8.2.1: A contestant accumulating or exceeding 100 points and at least 2 years in Intermediate or Advanced class should automatically be advanced.

8.2.2: A contestant may voluntarily move to the next higher class at any time. He/she may also move to the next higher class upon attaining the goals itemized in 8.2.1 at any time during the year but will not be required to do. Any advancement by the contestant should only be made if the contestant feels that he/she is qualified to do so and he/she will not be a safety concern to his/her fellow contestants and contest management.

8.2.3: The accumulated points for required class advancement will be based on a sliding scale of 4 years time. Advancement points acquired before the fourth (4) year will not count towards advancement. In other words, a contestant's point accumulation is based on the total accumulation for his/her previous four (4) years of competition.

8.2.4: When a contestant enters a new class, either higher or lower (as permitted by 8.1.2.) he/she begins with zero (0) points. *Note: A contestant who flies in a higher class under the Exception Rule (8.1.1.) above still acquires classification points in accordance with 8.2. above.*

8.2.5: There is no mandatory advancement into FAI from the Masters class. Contestants may enter their current AMA class or the FAI class at any contest but not both.

Examples:

1. The contestant is one (1) of eight (8) who flies officially in a given class, except Sportsman, and places first. He/she acquires three (3) times seven (7) (the number he/she beats) or 21 classification points.

2. The contestant is one (1) of 16 and places fifth. He/she receives 11 points.

3. The contestant accumulates 95 points in 2010 and thus remains in his/her declared class into 2011. At the first 2011 contest, he/she picks up 12 points. He/she may fly the rest of 2011 in his/her declared class but will be advanced to the next higher class starting January 1, 2012. (He/she may move up sooner if he/she so desires) if he/she feels that he/she is qualified to fly in the next higher class without creating any safety issues.

8.3: Each Pattern contestant is responsible for maintaining an accurate record of his/her own classification points. “

CHANGE TO FOLLOWING REVISED WORDING OF RULE 8: CONTESTANT CLASSIFICATION

“8. Contestant classification: Prior to the first contest that a contestant competes in for a given year, the contestant shall establish a minimum class to compete in for that year. This class may be one class lower than his or her minimum class from the previous year or may be any higher class relative to their minimum class from the previous year. The contestant that has not previously flown in a competition may select any class as his or her minimum class. During the contest year, a contestant may fly in any class higher than his or her minimum class without making a commitment to remain in the higher class for the remainder of the contest year. It is recommended that the number of contests flown in a higher class does not exceed the number of contests flown in the minimum class. A contestant may not fly in a class lower than the minimum class selected for the contest year. If any points for any reason are to be awarded to a contestant, the contestant may only accrue points in the contestant's minimum class. At any contest, a contestant may only enter in one class (401-406). The class advancement sequence is Sportsman, Intermediate, Advanced, Masters, and FAI.”

Logic behind proposed change, including alleged shortcomings of the present rules. State intent for future reference.

The NSRCA believes that this is one of the reasons why precision aerobatics attendance has started to drop. As competitors age and become less competitive or when a competitor that moved up finds that he or she does not possess the skills to be competitive or to compete safely in the new class, they have limited opportunity to revert back to the previous class. It is understood that the competitor has the right to petition the AMA for a waiver based on certain situations. Those conditions do not include the inability to be competitive or to safely fly the more advanced maneuvers required in the higher class. It is

also understood that contestants compete to be competitive and match his or her skills against pilots with similar abilities. This rewritten rule allows a competitor to fly in a higher class for a number of contests to determine if he or she is ready for that class without penalty. Currently, there is no way for a person to “test the waters” in a higher class other than FAI to find out if it is appropriate to move into that higher class. As it is written now, if a competitor flies in a higher class other than FAI, that person must remain in that class. The thought here is to make it easier yet fair for a person to base themselves in a class in which they can be competitive and safe without having to burden the AMA for a waiver when the AMA actually has no way to monitor the person’s ability to be competitive or safe. The AMA would then be issuing said waiver to someone they know very little about and do not have the ability to critique in order to justify the waiver. The ability to ratify one’s own skills should be left to the competitor. The NSRCA will agree, with the AMA’s permission, to track each competitor’s minimum class each year through a database that is accessible to all Event Directors, Contest Directors, competitors, the AMA, or any person that shall need access to this information without the need to be an NSRCA member. Prior to the first contest that a contestant competes in for a given year, the contestant shall access the database through the NSRCA’s website and list the contestant’s minimum class. Should a contestant not fulfill this, whatever class the contestant flies in at the contestant’s first contest will automatically become the contestant’s minimum class.

New event test data/information (new events only), please provide what testing of this new event has taken place to include number of participants and number of contests.

N/A

Effect, if any, on current AMA records.

N/A

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.

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Date of Signature Scott A. McHarg 03.07.12