



2023 FAI World Drone Racing Championships

Invitation to bid



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1 INTRODUCTION

This document is prepared by CIAM in order to provide all the necessary information to all potential organisers for the next edition of the World Drone Racing Championship (WDRC).

The WDRC is positioned at the highest level in the events categories of FAI (CAT 1).

FAI and CIAM launched Drone Racing events back in 2016 and in 2018 we introduced the WDRC. In 2019, as an intermediate level, the Master Series events had been introduced for the Drone Racing World Cup.

The WDRC was first organized in Shenzhen (2018) and then in Ningbo (2019). Both host cities were in China and organiser was Aero Sports Federation of China (ASFC).

COVID-19 pandemic prevented the event to happen from 2020. Now CIAM is looking to launch again the bidding process so to have the opportunity to include this event on the events scheduled for 2023.

2 FAI & DRONES

- Drone Racing has in the past few years developed from model plane groups and enthusiasts from e-Gaming and is now established around the world as a recognised motorsport.
- FAI has put as a priority the promotion and development of drone sports in a sustainable way, and with a long-term view.
- FAI is already embracing the rise of drone sports working through its Aeromodelling Commission (CIAM).
- Drone sports within the FAI is defined as being aligned with model aircraft that are radio controlled and thus distinct from “off-the-shelf” drones.
- The FAI and its National Federations work with the official regulators on global (JARUS), regional (EASA) and national (Civil Aviation authorities like FAA in the USA) levels to ensure the safe practice of drone racing and flying around the world.

3 BIDDING PROCESS

FAI is the dedicated International Federation recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) for all air sports and so it is the governing body for Drone Racing.

CIAM, the FAI Aeromodelling Air Sport Commission, is presently launching the invitation to bid document to be able to select the organiser of the 3rd FAI WDRC to be organised in Q3 or Q4 2023.

A bid may be submitted by an FAI Member and/or an independent organiser who will have the support of the FAI Member.

Deadline to submit a bid is September 15th, 2022.

The bid document must be provided in electronic format and sent to WDRC2023_bid@fai.org.

The choice of the Organiser for the 2023 FAI WDRC will be done after the evaluation of the bids submitted.

The announcement of the Organiser will be done during the next FAI General Conference which will stand November 1st to 3rd, 2022.

Then, CIAM will work with the Organiser the same way as for the rest of CAT1 Aeromodelling events scheduled for 2023.

4 FAI REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The rules for the WDRC will be based on the F9U (RC Multi-Rotor Drone Racing) class 5 rules.

The following documents are also applicable:

- FAI Sporting Code Section 4 Aeromodelling Volume CIAM General Rules.
- FAI General Section and FAI Code of Ethics.

5 CIAM ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES

CIAM's key role for the WDRC will be to manage the following responsibilities:

- Secure the basis of competitor qualification and performance comparison to an internationally accepted standard.
- Establish the rules, quality and safety standards of the championship.
- Provide safety supervision for competitors and spectators.
- Control that the championship will be organised in compliance with the FAI Sporting Code.
- Cooperate and coordinate the relationship with the Organiser in support of the staging of the event.
- Approve the FAI Jury (3 members from different nationalities + Reserves), and the other judges (Supervisor judge and Pilot judges).
- Ensure that the registered competitors and team-managers are in possession of a valid FAI Sporting License.
- Promotion of the event through all FAI available channels.

6 VENUE

The FAI World Drone Racing Championship will be staged outdoor.

The venue should be challenging, safe, interesting and easily accessible for the spectators.

It will be appreciated for the venue an iconic location having some significance and history, such as for example a stadium, an exhibition site, an airfield or car race course.

7 EVENT FORMAT

The WDRC will be run according to the F9U class sporting rules as defined in the FAI Sporting Code Section - Aeromodelling Volume F9 Drone Sport. The scenario retained will be dependant of the number of competitors registered. In any case, the double elimination sequence as defined in the rules will be applied.

7.1 PARTICIPANTS

The NACs will be responsible to nominate the participants for their National team. The total number of participants permitted for a National team will be:

- One team manager.
- Three competitors extended to a maximum of five competitors providing at least one is junior and at least one is female.
- One helper per competitor.
- Supporters.

In addition to its national team, the Host NAC will be entitled to issue three individual invitations (wild cards) for competitors from the host country.

- FAI may also invite to participate as individual competitors the best placed competitors in the 2022 Drone Racing World Cup ranking, and may issue invitations (wild cards) to any international drone racing league of its choice.

7.2 CHAMPIONSHIP MILESTONES

The WDRC includes the following milestones:

- Registration.
- Model processing.
- Official practice
- Judges and officials briefing.
- Team managers' meeting.
- Opening Ceremony.
- Qualifying rounds.
- Elimination rounds.
- Final rounds.
- Prize-giving and Closing ceremony.

7.3 CHAMPIONSHIP DURATION

The duration of the WDRC shall be no more than four days.

A draft schedule could look like this:

- **Day 0:** Arrival of participants - Registration
- **Day 1:** Model processing - Official practice - Judges and officials briefing – Team managers' meeting - Opening Ceremony
- **Day 2:** Qualifying rounds
- **Day 3:** Elimination rounds
- **Day 4:** Elimination rounds - Final rounds - Prize-giving and Closing Ceremony – Banquet

8 CLASSIFICATION & AWARDS

8.1 INDIVIDUAL OVERALL CLASSIFICATION

FAI medals and diplomas for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

8.2 JUNIOR CLASSIFICATION

- FAI medals and diplomas for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.
- Title of Junior World Champion is awarded if at least 4 nations participate.

8.3 WOMEN CLASSIFICATION

- FAI medals and diplomas for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

- Title of Women World Champion is awarded if at least 4 nations participate.

8.4 NATIONAL TEAM CLASSIFICATION

FAI medals and diplomas are awarded to all members (pilots and team-manager) of the national teams placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

FAI medals are provided by FAI and financially supported by the Organizer, except the medals for the Junior classification which are supported by CIAM.

For information, amounts of a set of medals (gold, silver and bronze):

- CHF 145 for each individual classification medal set (1 set includes 3 medals)
- CHF 650 CHF for the national team classification (this amount is for 6 medal sets)

In addition to the FAI medals and diplomas, the Organiser may also consider money prize (cash) or other awards. This has to be specified together with the bid so to be considered during the evaluation.

9 AMENITIES & SUPPORT SERVICES

Amenities and support devices to be considered necessary to be provided by the

Organiser includes the following:

- Car parking.
- Ceremonies stage
- Area for the spectators.
- Insurance
- Lodging and food for the participants and the officials.
- Public catering food and drink
- Media Centre.
- Medical, Rescue and Emergency Services.
- Toilets.
- Weather Shelter.
- Wi-Fi.

Regarding lodging and food, the Organizer must propose different options available for the participants at reasonable costs.

The organizer will organise a banquet at the end of the last competition day; according to the CIAM General rules, the price of the banquet for each participant must not exceed 50€.

10 BUDGET

A provisional event budget must be presented in the bid document.

The Organiser shall bear all costs necessary for the proper organisation and staging of the event, including expenses (transportation, accommodation and meals) of the FAI Jury and other judges approved by CIAM.

The Organizer must propose in its bid document the amount of the rights fee proposed to pay to FAI to secure the awarding of the WDRC.

The entry fee is the obligatory fee to be paid by every participant. The entry fee is paid to the Organiser. As an indication, the amounts of the entry fees were as follows for the 2019 WDRC:

- Team Manager - Senior competitor: €300
- Junior competitor - Woman competitor: €150
- Helper - Supporter: € 60

Note:

- A competitor also being Team Manager will only pay one entry fee.
- 300 € is the maximum entry fee stated in the CIAM General Rules for a World Championship for up to seven nights.

11 MEDIA OBLIGATIONS & RIGHTS

11.1 ORGANISER

- Provides audio-visual coverage for TV and internet and any other digital means.
- Maximise quality of coverage and maximise reach in the host country.
- Provide any event related material to FAI without charge.
- Benefit from any National television rights fees.

11.2 FAI

- Manage international distribution of Organiser provided broadcast material.
- May introduce its own media partner to supplement Organiser provided output.

12 MEDIA PROMOTION

12.1 ORGANISER

Provide a level of national and local promotion to position the event as a World Championship in all forms of relevant media outlets.

12.2 FAI

Support the national and local promotion through own media channels including website, air sport community and social and general media relations.

13 EVALUATION OF THE BIDS

FAI will evaluate in particular:

- Organisational aspects including technical aspects (race track, event management system, timekeeping system, video system etc) and the event management team.
- Amenities and support services.
- Supporting entertainment initiatives to attract the public, and especially the new generations, with the goal to promote drone sports.
- Audio-visual coverage of the event for TV, Internet and any other digital means.

- Provisional budget including amounts of the entry fee to be paid by the participants, amount of the rights fee proposed to be paid to FAI,

14 CONTACT

For further information, please contact:

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