IMAC OFFICAL CONTEST STANDARDS GUIDE

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A. Objective

The purpose of this document is to define what comprises a valid 2-day IMAC contest in order to ensure that participants in an IMAC contest, wherever it is conducted, find a predictable and consistent environment regardless of the country or Region in which the contest is held. The document provides the guidance for Contest Directors (CDs) to organize and conduct their contests in form and procedure so that they are consistent with all the other IMAC contests conducted around the world.

For IMAC events encompassing three or more days and/or having an unusually large ratio of Known sequences flown to Unknown sequences flown, see Appendix A for the schedule of dropped sequences. The Contest Requirements and Contest Template Sections remain basically the same for events longer than two days

B. CONTEST REQUIREMENTS

In order for a Scale Aerobatics contest to be designated and recognized as a valid IMAC contest and for IMAC Regional Championship points to be awarded the following minimum requirements must be met:

1. The contest must be sanctioned by the AMA or, if the contest is held outside of the United States, sanctioned by the host country's sanctioning body.

2. The current AMA Safety Code and IMAC Safety Code must be strictly enforced at all times during the contest. This includes activities that may occur before and/or after IMAC sequence flying.

3. The contest must be run in accordance with the current AMA rulebook for Scale Aerobatic events. Waivers as approved by the AMA or IMAC Board are allowed.

4. Deviations and Waivers must be published in advance. The preferred method is as part of the sanction. If deviations are not included in the sanction, they must be included in and published in the contest flyer. The contest flyer must be readily available on the internet and in local media.. However, in no case should any deviation or waiver be published less than 30 days prior to the date of the event.

5. Deviations must be approved by the AMA (as part of the sanction process), or the IMAC Board prior to publication.

6. The contest must follow the IMAC approved template detailed below.

C. CONTEST TEMPLATE

A valid IMAC contest will consist of the following:

1. All five competitive classes shall be included on the AMA Sanction request and shall be offered at the contest.

2. Freestyle is not required to be offered. However, if it is, then all applicable AMA and IMAC rules shall be followed.

3. Entry is only open to current AMA members or, if the contest is outside the United States, current members of the host country sanctioning body.

4. A Discounted entry fee should be offered to IMAC members while non-members will pay the full registration fee.

5. Contests will use the published IMAC Known sequences for each class for the current calendar year as published by the IMAC Board of Directors.

6. Each contest should target flying a minimum a of six (6) Known sequences and one Unknown sequence per class. This allows for dropping the two (2)

lowest Known sequences for each pilot. However, it is recognized that this may not always be possible due to weather or unforeseen circumstances. Each CD should have, as their main goal, the flying of no less than six Known sequences and one Unknown sequence per class at their contests.

7. Unknowns should be obtained from the IMAC Sequence Committee (ISC). However, if not obtained from the ISC, all unknowns are required to be approved by the ISC prior to use. The CD should allow at least 30 days prior to the contest date for obtaining this approval from the ISC.

a. Unknowns shall not exceed fifteen (15) figures as detailed in the AMA rule book and are required to have a minimum of ten (10) figures.

b. All Unknowns shall be constructed in strict accordance with the current Edition of the Aresti System (Condensed) and IMAC Unknown Catalog for each class.

8. An Unknown sequence for the Sportsman through Unlimited classes shall be flown unless prevented by inclement weather or in the case where the IMAC Board or respective Regional Director approved not flying the Unknown.

9. The Basic class will not fly an Unknown at any IMAC contest.

10. In Lieu of An Unknown Sequence, the Basic Class shall fly an additional Known Sequence

11. Only one Unknown sequence will be flown at a two day event and the score for that Unknown cannot be dropped. Events of more than two (2) days may have multiple Unknowns. In this case, however, each Unknown sequence must be scored separately and calculated into the pilot's score as separate sequences. Multiple Unknown sequences cannot be added together to arrive at a single Unknown score. If more than one Unknown sequence is flown, one or more may be dropped at the discretion of the CD. Dropping Unknown scores must be done in accordance with the drop schedule provided in Appendix A of this document. All sequences, Known and Unknown, will follow the procedure for normalized scoring and drops as defined in the current AMA rule book for Scale Aerobatics and Appendix A of this document. Given that an Unknown(s) is flown, in no case shall the Unknown sequence(s) comprise more than 40%, nor less than 20% of the total normalized score

12. All Unknowns will be made available to pilots on the evening prior to the day they are to be flown. For a contest longer than two days where there is to be an Unknown flown each day the first Unknown will be made available the morning of the first day of the contest and may not be flown earlier than the afternoon of the first day of the contest. Subsequent Unknowns for that contest will follow the general rule just stated above and be distributed the evening before the day they

are to be flown. In any case, Unknowns for a contest may not be distributed before the first day of the contest. For contests longer than two days that will fly multiple Unknowns, the number and distribution schedule of the Unknowns must be published 30 days in advance of the contest date and receive Regional Director approval.

13. Adjustments required due to inclement weather or other conditions beyond the control of the CD are authorized. Prior to any adjustments, CD coordination with the respective Regional Director is encouraged. In any case, the ratio of Knowns to Unknowns in Appendix "A" must be maintained.

14. Additional events such as surprise Unknowns, etc., are not authorized or recognized as part of official IMAC aerobatic contests. Contests offering these types of events may use the designation of "IMAC-Style" event, in which case it must be included in the advertisement of the event. Such "IMAC-Style" events will not be counted for Regional Championship points accumulation.

D. IMAC SAFETY POLICY

Aviation in itself is not inherently dangerous. But to an even greater degree than the sea, it is terribly unforgiving of any carelessness, incapacity or neglect. **- Captain A. G. Lamplugh, British Aviation Insurance Group, London. Circa early 1930's.**

All scale aerobatic pilots should dedicate themselves to running their flight operations in the safest possible manner. All radio controlled model airplanes have the capacity to cause personal injury and property damage, if ill attended to. IMAC's official policy is to put Safety as the top priority at every IMAC AMA sanctioned contest. Further, every scale aerobatic pilot should put safety first, every time he or she goes to the flying field, just as full scale pilots do each time that they fly.

The following safety guidelines will be in addition to, and a compliment of, the current AMA safety rules. IMAC requires that all CD's review the safety rules of the host club at every pilot meeting. Emphasis should be placed on the fact that these rules apply not only during the contest but after hours as well. Further, it is IMAC's position that any flying performed by scale aerobatic model airplanes, during, or after event hours must occur on the Flight Line side of the deadline established by the CD. Additionally, no flying should be allowed above, in, or through the pit area, whether a simple pass, torque rolling or any other intentional maneuver. IMAC further believes that any failure to comply with either AMA safety rules or the Host Club safety rules should result in the offending pilot's

immediate disqualification from the AMA sanctioned event. With respect to the trend of dangerous 3D or Freestyle maneuvers being performed by scale aerobatic planes, IMAC, in the strongest possible terms, does not, and will not, tolerate, condone or endorse maneuvers performed with large scale aerobatic planes such as, but not limited to: hand launching, tail touches of the ground, touching the model while in flight, hovering (or flying) directly over the pilot or other spectators, or any flying at any time on the spectator side of the deadline (as described in the AMA Membership Manual). It is important to note that these maneuvers have never been (nor will be) part of any IMAC competition event. It is IMAC's firm position that these types of maneuvers exceed the margin of safety necessary for large scale aerobatic flight operations by a wide margin and are exceptionally dangerous. It is also IMAC's firm position that, in the performance of these types of maneuvers, the slightest mechanical or system failure leaves no margin for error and can lead to severe bodily injury or death. IMAC will, in no way, be a party to, or endorse these types of dangerous stunts.

E. IMAC Code of Conduct

Beyond safety, the conduct of IMAC competitors, friends and family at any IMAC event must be a serious concern of all participants and of the CD who is running the event. IMAC's reputation is at stake but equally important is the need to recognize that we are guests at the fields we fly at and that we must maintain a level of behavior that makes us "good" guests. Guests who will be welcomed back again next year.

In this regard common sense must prevail, both on the part of the contestants and any people they may bring with them to an IMAC event. CDs, for their part, must confront anyone, contestant, friend, family member or spectator, who displays a lack of common sense at anytime during the IMAC event.

What is common sense? The answer to that question is simple. If the behavior in question is something that you would not accept if it occurred in your home or backyard, then it is over the line and should be dealt with.

The CD is charged directly by the AMA to insure the AMA Safety Regulations are followed. The AMA Safety Regulations are included as part of the AMA's Member Manual which is available via free download on the AMA website –

http://www.modelaircraft.org/files/Memanual.PDF

APPENDIX A

Knowns Flown		Knowns Dropped	% of Score
1			
2			
3		1	,333
4		1	.250
5		1	.200
6		2	.333
7		2	.286
8		2	.250
9		3	.333
10		3	.300
11		3	.273
12		4	.333
13		4	.308
14		4	.286
15		5	.333
16		5	.313
17		5	.294
18		6	.333
19		6	.316
20		6	.300
21		7	.333
22		7	.318
23		7	.304
24		8	.333
25		8	.320
26		8	.308
27		9	.333
28		9	.321
29		9	.310
30		10	.333

Drop Table

Knowns Flown	Knowns Dropped		Unknowns Flown	Unknowns Dropped	See Note
1	0		0	0	
1	0		1	0	
2	0		0	0	
2	0		1	0	
3	1		0	0	
3	1		1	0	
3	1		2	1	
3	1		3	1	Note A
4	1		0	0	
4	1		1	0	
4	1		2	1	
4	1		3	1	Note A
5	1		0	0	
5	1		1	0	
5	1		2	1	
5	1		3	1	
6	2		0	0	
6	2		1	0	
6	2		2	0	
6	2		3	1	
7	2		0	0	
7	2		1	0	
7	2		2	0	
7	2		3	1	
8	2		0	0	
8	2		1	0	Note A
8	2		2	0	
8	2		3	1	
9	3		0	0	
9	3		1	0	Note A
9	3		2	0	
9	3		3	1	
10	3		0	0	
10	3		1	0	Note A
10	3		2	0	
10	3		3	1	
11	3		0	0	
11	3		1	0	Note a
11	3		2	0	
11	3		3	1	
12	4		0	0	
12	4		1	0	Note A
12	4		2	0	
12	4		3	1	

Note A:

In these cases manual computations of the ratios must be accomplished by calculator or computer using the normalized scores and weighting factors. The target value ratio weightings shall be 75% Knowns and 25% Unknowns.

Note B:

For more than 12 Known sequences and/or 3 Unknown sequences refer to percentage ratios under CONTEST TEMPLATE. In this case, manual computations of the ratios will be accomplished by calculator or computer using the normalized scores and weighting factors. The target value ratio weightings shall be 75% Knowns and 25% Unknowns.

Sequence Drop Examples:

Example 1: Six (6) Known sequences flown, drop two (2), and one (1) Unknown sequence flown, no drop yields a possible score of 4,000 + 1,000 making the Unknown sequence value 20%.

Example 2: Six (6) Known sequences flown, drop two (2), and two (2) Unknown sequences flown, keep both yields a possible score of 4,000 + 2,000 making the Unknown sequences value 33%.

Example 3: Two Known sequences flown, no drops and one (1) Unknown sequence flown with no drop yields a possible score of 2,000 + 1,000 making the Unknown sequence value 33%. All sequences, Known and Unknown, will follow the procedure for normalized scoring and drops as defined in this document. In no case shall the Unknown sequences comprise more than 40%, nor less than 20% of the total normalized score. Note A above ratios should be followed where noted.