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Objet : The FFVL wishes to make the following proposals...

Class II

In Greifenburg, only 4 pilots signed their registration form in this class. It is only because some Class V pilots accepted to fly in Class II (as per S.7 – 2.9.2) that the championship could be validated.

The FFVL recommends that the minimum number of nationalities and pilots to validate a Cat 1 competition be as defined in the General Section (3.5.3.1) : 4 countries, without a minimum number of pilots needed.

Cat. 2

Rules that define whether or not a competition can be classified in Cat. 2 are not always clear...

The FFVL proposes that a competition can be considered as a Cat.2 event only if the organizers have saved a certain number of entries for foreign pilots. This number should be defined either as a percentage of the total number of entries (the FFVL suggest that this percentage be around 20%) or as a minimum fixed number.

If not enough foreign pilots registrations are received, the available spots can be filled by local pilots.

Ballast

The FFVL is concerned about the safety of pilots flying with heavy ballast in Class I, II and V competitions.

Flying with heavy ballast is potentially dangerous :

- the load on the crossbar and side wires of a flexwing glider or on the spar of a class V glider is increased to a point where, in heavy turbulence, it can collapse ;
- if a crash occurs, or simply a bad landing, the body of the pilot has to absorb the excess kinetic energy of the ballast, so the injuries will be much worse.

The FFVL suggests that the kind of rule applied to Class 0 glider (paragliders) be adapted to Class I, II and V gliders, that is :

- the limit for all equipment (without glider), clothes and ballast is to be set at 25 Kg ;
- in all cases, pilots must comply with the weight limitations set by the manufacturer and the authority who delivered a certificate of airworthiness ;
- any pilots' weight can be measured at take-off or landing (bare foot with underpants, then equipped) by the organizers at the request of the stewards or of the organizers ;
- pilots not complying with those rules will be disqualified from the meet.

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