

## **Draft 7**

### **Proposals for Media Support at Championships: Technical Advice from Roland Hilfiker**

These suggestions apply to hang gliding and paragliding:

#### **Take-off - Launch:**

Important to keep the top contenders gathered in one limited area at the launch. A designated zone of minimum dimensions for the top 15 (FIS uses a similar grouping system for their runs). The smaller the area, the better! Consider that we have to minimize the deployment of cameras. Maybe top 5 to line up in one line (abreast).

#### **In-flight: Point of View Cameras (PoV)**

The top contenders must be required to carry along point-of-view cameras. With increased production budgets these will certainly get smaller, but for the time being we have to contend with simple/affordable equipment: up to 1,2 kg total weight, a recorder (15x15x5 cm), a camera (5x2 cm), 2 m cables or PC 100 type camcorders (800 g, 10x5x3 cm). For paragliding some of this equipment to be set up - with braces - on arms and legs or mounted on a helmet, etc. For hang gliding the most obvious locations are tail, trapeze and even speed bar - set up with standard mounts/grips/etc. If we consider the duration of competition flights, the cooperation of pilots in turning cameras on and off (with remote controls) would enhance the coverage significantly. Unlikely that PoV equipment will be available for all (15) pilots, but a set of dummies (of identical weight and dimension) could be used to level the playing field for the top 15. Generally, the pilots' collaboration in producing footage is crucial. Particularly in paragliding, the occasional hand-held operation of small camcorders by the pilots themselves - during and even after the flight - provides for unique and very original angles on the dispersed action.

The dispensing of equipment (cameras/dummies) should be addressed in the rules. The more you organize it, the better it works. Sample: In-flight cameras or dummies will be handed out at minimum 1 hour prior to the briefing. The equipment to be returned when GPS data are downloaded. Etc.

#### **Landing - Finish Area:**

A zone should be assigned to the top 15 to gather in immediately after completion of their flight. First ones across the line wait in that area until other contenders have made it too. FIS is using a very similar ruling.

#### **Interviews**

The top 5 must be required to appear for interviews at a specified time and in a specified location after the task. All federations have such rulings regarding their athletes' availability for media.