

Proposal from Germany 6/2013 (validity of finishes)

7.7.3 Validity of Finishes

Philosophy:

The finish ring has been introduced to finish the race at the finish ring and to give pilots the time to slow down and concentrate for landing on the airfield (or within contest site boundary) and to take care about others approaching at the same time. Depending on the altitude of a finish ring, there have been situations where pilots optimized their speed by crossing the finish ring at very low altitude and still landing outside the contest site boundary. This has for sure not been the intention when introducing the finish ring. Therefore the organizers have set a minimum altitude for the finish ring according to what they require for save finish procedure; but some have set no minimum altitude. In any case it must be the goal that the pilot lands within the contest site boundary after crossing the finish line in order to receive regular points. Crossing the finish ring and not landing within the contest site boundary should be penalized by.

- a) either like in 7.7.3.b which could be plus five minutes after the glider crossed the finish ring or
- b) no speed points, only full distance points.

...still needs to be thought about or proposed by the bureau so it fits with the penalties for crossing the finish ring too low if minimum altitude would be required.

Pilots should be motivated to land within the contest site boundary and not having the chance to optimize scores by landing before reaching the contest site boundary.

Further on, approaching the finish ring and matching with altimeter and logger altitude to just make it, needs concentration to the inside of the cockpit; this would change to a certain extent if there would not be any altitude requirement for the finish ring and the pilots would concentrate to land within the contest site boundary and just knowing that the race in terms of speed is over as soon as they have crossed the finish ring.

Organizers having special approach situations which need a certain altitude at the finish ring should further on be allowed to set such minimum altitude according 7.7.2.

Organizers shall also have the possibility to set a minimum altitude for crossing the contest site boundary in case it is needed for safety reason; like public road or living area before the contest site boundary which requires certain safety altitude.

Rule 7.7.3.c

A sailplane having crossed the finish ring but landing outside the contest site boundary shall be penalized by plus five minutes (or more depending on the radius of finish ring) after the glider crossed the finish ring

or

no speed points, only full distance point (penalties still needs to be thought about to be adequate)