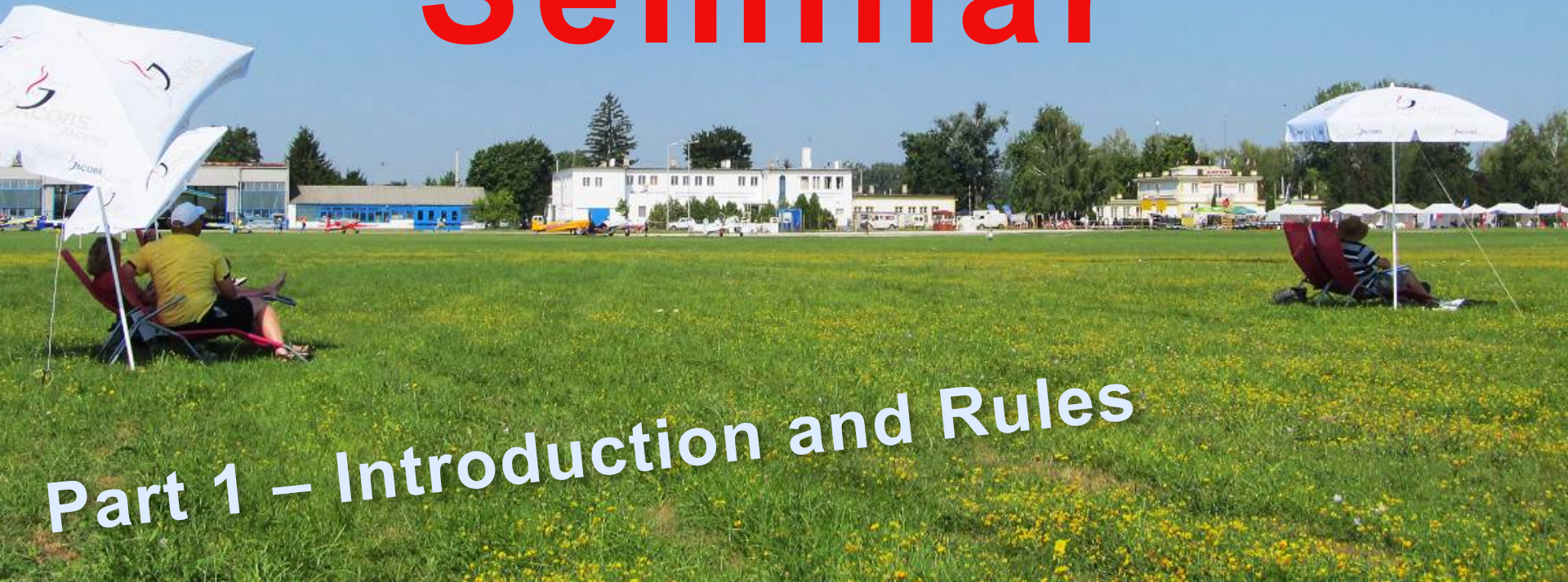


CIVA / FAI International



CIVA / FAI
Seminar

Aerobatic Judging Seminar



Part 1 – Introduction and Rules

What IS a Judge?

- *Detective*

A competition aerobatic sequence is a demonstration of aeroplane control requiring extreme levels of technical ability and discipline from the Pilot.

- *Examiner*

- *Analyst*

- *Interpreter*

The Pilot attempts to convince the Judges that the figures are flown exactly according to the rules.

- *Reviewer*

- *Theatre critic*

The Judges view the performance to discover where the rules are not fully met. They award downgrades for imperfections and errors seen.

- *Commentator*

- *Pilot ...*

An aerobatic Judge must use ALL of these skills to mark the performance properly.

See ... Check! ... Grade

Humans react effortlessly when the eye-brain combination thinks it sees a recognisable event, and the brain immediately fetches and delivers a fixed answer. YOU have a huge store of these reactions.

Psychologists call this process **Fast Thinking**. It involves no logical reflection or assessment, and is normally very convincing.

It can also blind you to REALITY – the reaction may be **WRONG!**

A careful judge will constantly check to ensure that the brains' automatic reaction really does match what has actually happened.

This process is called **Slow Thinking** and it requires a positive effort to reassess things before the figure Grade can be settled.

Slow Thinking – truly re-examining what you saw – only happens when YOU make the effort to do it. *Check, check, check!*

Aerobatic Judging ...

The KEY SKILLS are:

**THE ABILITY TO DEDUCT MARKS
ACCURATELY AND QUICKLY
WHILE WATCHING A SEQUENCE**

FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE RULES

GOOD EYESIGHT (+ GLASSES!)

TEAMWORK

Training to BE a Judge

- 1 LEARN THE RULES:**
Download and print a full copy of the P or G CIVA Section-6 Regulations, read the Judging Rules and understand how to apply them
- 2 PRACTICE “CALLING” for other Judges:**
Being able to Call is by far the best preparation!
- 3 Get used to being a TEAM MEMBER:**
Judging is always a co-operative venture
- 4 Go and Scribe, then Call ... then Judge**

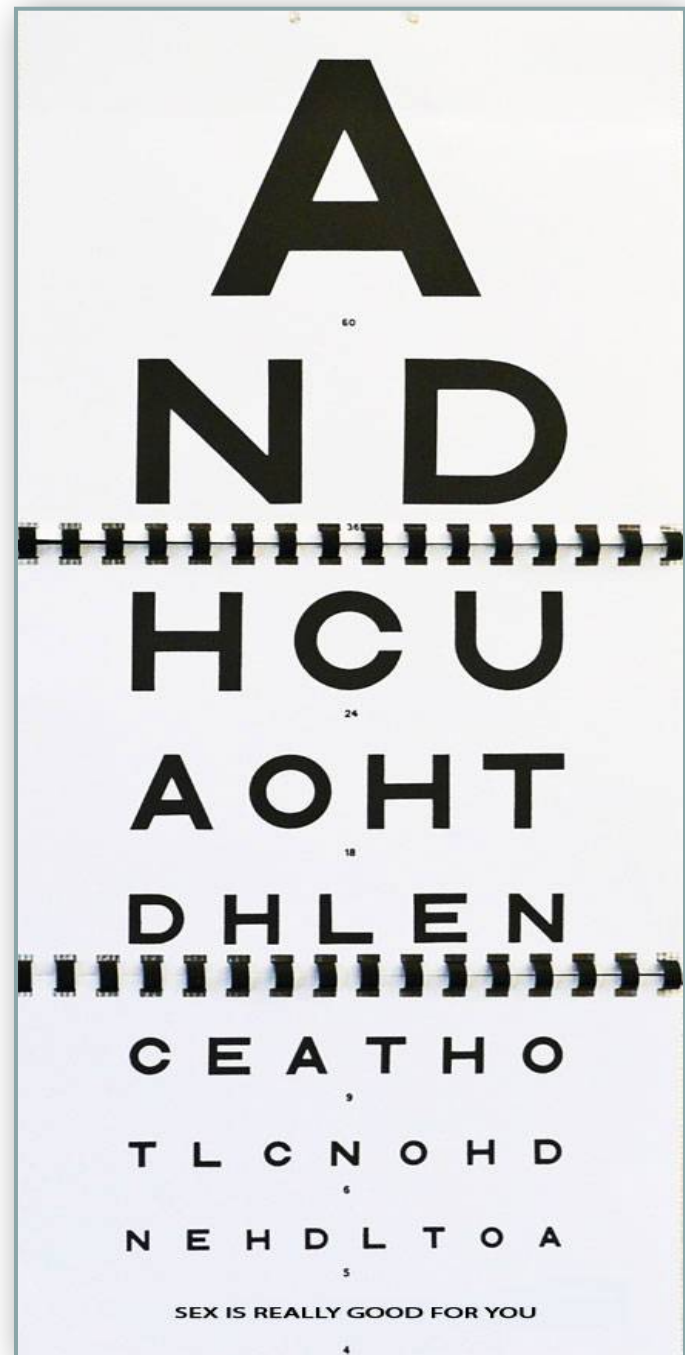
Seminar Topics

- ***The Basics***
 - ❖ Understand the Judging Rules
 - ❖ Recognise aircraft 'Attitudes'
 - ❖ The Zeros
- ***Sequence Calling in the lecture room:***
 - ❖ Explain every figure to the Judge
- ***The Process of judging:***
 - ❖ Teamwork
 - ❖ Handling mistakes and using the Video
 - ❖ Positioning
- ***Practical Scribing, Calling and Judging on the airfield***
- ***An explanation of FPS and the Judging Analysis***
 - ❖ What does it do?
 - ❖ Reading the Analysis

This is JUDGING 1934 Style!



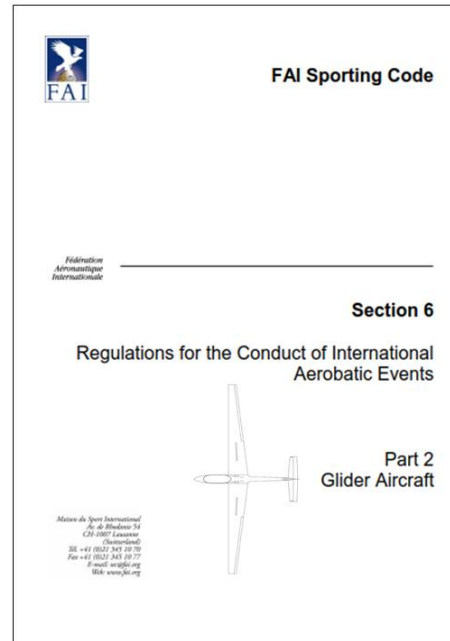
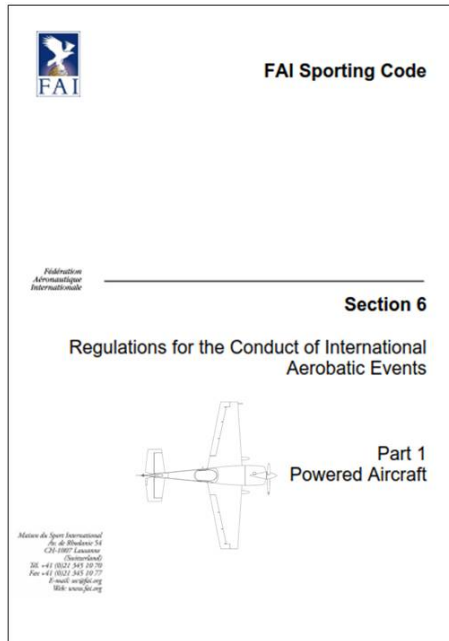
Eye
test
anyone
??



OK - THE BASICS

- ✓ Have a spare pair of **glasses, sun glasses** too
- ✓ Use a comfortable **reclining** chair, an umbrella etc.
- ✓ Take some **sun screen** – don't be the sun-burned Judge!
- ✓ Have some **spare pens** and **pencils**
- ✓ Wear a good **sun hat**
- ✓ Take with you and drink plenty of **water**
- ✓ Get up and **walk around** regularly between sequences
- ✓ Take an up-to-date copy of the appropriate **rules**
- ✓ Have a spare **clipboard** and some **elastic bands**
- ✓ Take some **peppermints** or **sweets** – you'll talk a lot

We need to KNOW the RULES



Make sure that you have the most up to date rules!

The CIVA Section-6 Regulations are updated and published every year:

- On the CIVA News website at: <https://www.civanews.com/the-civa-document-store/>
- On the FAI / CIVA website at: <https://www.fai.org/civa-documents>

Common **RULES** are Essential

For EVERY aspect of what we do –

- ❖ *Judges preparing ...*
- ❖ *Pilots in training ...*
- ❖ *Designing sequences ...*
- ❖ *Chief Judge / panel discussions ...*

The application of a **fixed** or **standard** set of **RULES** is the fundamental ‘glue’ that makes sure we can all be confident of reasonably predictable marks, scores and results.

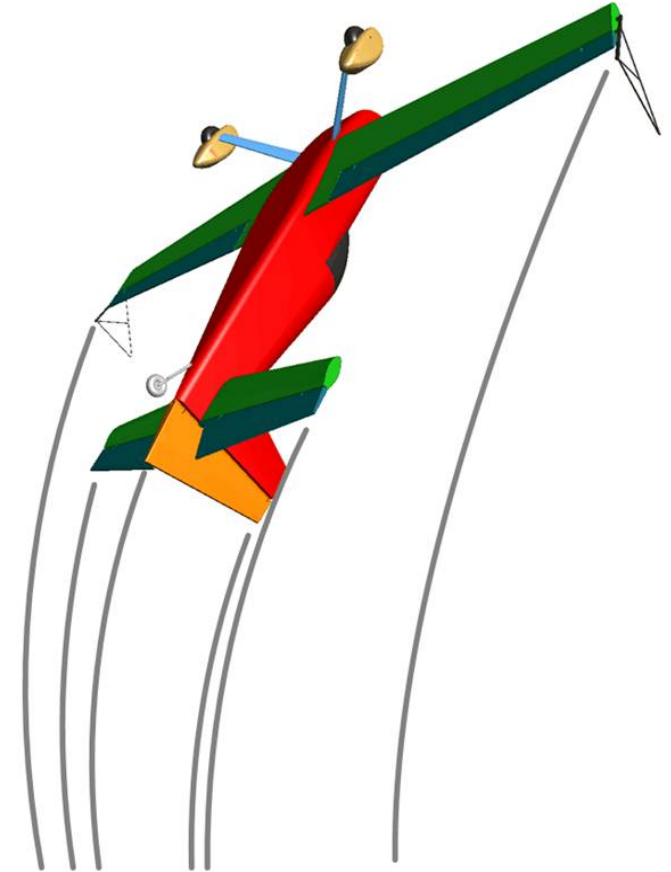
NEVER "adapt" or "invent" your own downgrades if you think the rule book is wrong - ALWAYS follow the rules!

2026 CIVA Rules

RULES
RULES
RULES
RULES



**Zoom around
the CIVA Rules!**



Run 'Zoom Round the
Rules' PowerPoint

Judges Break #1

