

2025 Multi Class Nationals Pilots Meeting Minutes

Omarama Airfield

SRC presence: Nick Oakley, Kieran Cassidy

Pilot Presence: Refer Soaring Spot

Meeting date []

Meeting commenced 10:15am.

1. IGC Rankings (10:15)

Background: Previously funded by Christian Derold due to lack of contribution from other NZ pilots.

Discussion:

- - Grae Harrison questioned the benefit of IGC rankings for NZ pilots and moved that payment for IGC rankings should not proceed.
- - Majority agreed with the motion. Dane Dickenson disagreed with discontinuing the payment with concerns regarding NZ's presence in international contests.
- - Karen noted that Christian only paid because no other NZ pilots were willing to.
- - Tim raised that maintaining IGC rankings could help attract international pilots to NZ, by contributing to their global standing.

Outcome: General consensus not to proceed with funding IGC rankings, with noted dissent from Dane.

2. ASH 25 Handicap (10:20)

Discussion:

- - Issue raised by Karen Morgan.
- - Milan questioned why the German handicap list isn't being used.
- - Michael Oakley responded that this has been debated for years, and the current NZ list is suited to local flying conditions.
- - Dane recommended retrospectively scoring past contests using the German list to analyse differences.
- - Keith added that the reintroduction of the Open/unlimited (unhandicapped) class has helped resolve concerns with the current handicap system.

Action: Dane to explore retrospective scoring comparisons using the German list.

3. Scoring Formulae (10:35)

Background: IGC changed scoring to favour distance (750 points) over speed (250 points) to support slower pilots and reduce pressure to push dangerously hard.

Discussion:

- - General concern that the change reduces recognition of singular exceptional performances, compresses scores, and is out of step with World and European contests.
- - Grae supported the new system, stating it keeps outlanded pilots in contention and maintains motivation, unlike the previous system.
- - Karen agreed, saying it made contests more “fun” for lower-ranked pilots.
- - Dane disagreed with the shift to two-thirds distance points, arguing it unfairly disadvantages outstanding speed performances.
- - Bob proposed that NZ provide formal feedback to IGC and review both systems before choosing which to adopt.

Action: Dane and Lex to undertake a review and comparison of current and previous scoring systems.

4. Scales (10:56)

Discussion:

- - Nick noted that scales had been purchased but never used.
- - Dane recommended they be made available for pilots to check CG and glider weights, and that Contest Directors incorporate spot checks.

Action: Suggest making scales available at future contests and consider incorporating random checks by the CD.

5. PEV (11:00)

Inclusion of PEV in NZ contests raised by []

Unanimous decision against pursuing this idea.

Meeting Closed 11:45am.