

COMPLAINT OF PILOT # 41

Received at 20:23 24/08/2023

From: "Dan ." <dang96@hotmail.co.uk>
Subject: Complaint Task 23
Date: 2023 August 24 17:51:53 CEST
To: Augis Komars <augisk@gmail.com>

Good Evening Event Director,

I would like to make a formal complaint about task 23 in line with the rules.

The task was amended twice using separate WhatsApp messages at different times, by both Jan and yourself, the Event Director.

This was done on a congested WhatsApp group, with many messages making it unclear. 8 competitors did not respond to the WhatsApp messages - highlights it is an ineffective method of communication during flight. Pilot numbers of those not responding: 23,25,26,30,34,38,40,45.

I would like to complain regarding the use of WhatsApp to make multiple changes to task data during flight, while most pilots were airborne. The second change came the moment launch period ended..

WhatsApp messages are received at different times, and do not account for high pilot workload. Regular checking of WhatsApp could present a challenge to the focus required for a safe a flight.

Whilst the director has authority to cancel tasks at any time up to the publication of results, or recall competitors via WhatsApp; changes to task data should be made at either at task briefings or at supplementary briefings (normally attended in person, with information communicated verbally).

I do not believe the rules allow for the director to make changes to the task remotely during flight.

I read the WhatsApp notification at 06:58 and responded immediately in a state of panic, as I was approaching the target on task #23 having exited the donut on task #22. I pressed my logger mark at 07:04, just 6 minutes after reading and responding. This is insignificant to adapt to the changes made. Other pilots were given a greater time to adapt to the change as they took off later into the launch window, therefore receiving a competitive advantage.

I suggest that task 23 be cancelled in the interest of competitor fairness.

Kind regards,
Daniel Gregory
Pilot #41
Sent from my iPhone