

OFFICIAL PROTEST FORM

According to the FAI Sporting Code – General Section & Ballooning Competition Rules

Name:	Lukas Reinberger
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Nation:	Austria
Event:	2nd Bandlkramer Balloon CUP
Date:	09 August 2025 (Morning Flight)

1. TASK AND TIMES IN QUESTION

Task Number: Task 4

Official Entry in Task Data Sheet: *Scoring period ends at 08:00:00*

Official Logger Time of My Valid Marker: 08:00:00 (officially verified)

2. RELEVANT RULES AND INTERPRETATION

2.1 FAI Ballooning Competition Rules – Section 12.13 (Scoring Period)

12.13 Scoring Period – When defined by the Director in the task briefing, the scoring period is the time limit during which a target, target area, or scoring area is valid.

Interpretation: The time limit includes both the start and the end of the period. The rules contain no indication that the end time is excluded. If the end time were excluded, this would have to be explicitly stated, e.g., "valid until but excluding 08:00:00." This is not the case in the present Task Data Sheet.

2.2 General Time Interpretation in the FAI Sporting Code

All time windows are interpreted as including both the start and end time, unless explicitly stated otherwise.

Examples from official task settings:

- Launch Period: "05:45 – 06:30" → A launch at 06:30:00 is valid; 06:30:01 is excluded.
- Declaration Window: "07:00 – 07:15" → A declaration at 07:15:00 is valid; 07:15:01 is excluded.
- Marker Drop Time Window: "07:10 – 07:20" → A drop at 07:20:00 is valid; 07:20:01 is excluded.

3. FACTUAL SEQUENCE

My marker drop occurred exactly at 08:00:00, as confirmed by the official logger. The score was rejected on the grounds that the scoring period had already ended. This decision is inconsistent with Rule 12.13 and the established interpretation that start and end times are to be included.

4. ARGUMENTS

1. Rule 12.13 includes the end time unless explicitly excluded.
2. Consistent interpretation of all time-related rules in the FAI context: Start and end times are treated as included.
3. Legal certainty & fairness: Pilots must be able to rely on the end times stated in the Task Data Sheet being valid exactly as stated.
4. Facts: The official logger time clearly shows that the marker was set within the scoring period.

5. REQUEST

I request that my result for Task 4 be recognized as valid, as it occurred within the official scoring period according to the Task Data Sheet and Rule 12.13.

Attachments:

1. Extract from Task Data Sheet ("Scoring period ends at 08:00:00").
2. Extract from FAI Ballooning Competition Rules – Section 12.13.
3. Official logger data showing timestamp 08:00:00.
4. Examples of time interpretation from official task settings.

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