

Complaint regarding scoring of Task 33 (Fly On – FON)

I, Adrien de Sade (Team 26) hereby submit a formal protest regarding the scoring of Task 33 (FON) during Flight 8 on 21 August 2025.

In loggergoal #1, our first declaration contained an altitude difference of less than 1500 ft compared to the declaration point. According to the Task Data Sheet (TDS) for Task 33, this condition is mandatory for a declaration to be valid:

“Goals available for declaration ... goal altitude must be at least 1500 ft higher or lower than declaration point.”

We considered this first declaration invalid and therefore made a second declaration that fully respected the requirements of the TDS.

The Event Director has scored our first declaration as valid and applied a penalty as a “distance infringement.”

Relevant Rules and References

- Rule 15.5 (Fly On – FON):
“Method of declaration in loggergoal #1, max. 1 valid declaration.”
→ This clearly states that only one valid declaration may be used.
- TDS – Task 33 (FON):
“Goal altitude must be at least 1500 ft higher or lower than declaration point.”
→ The use of “must be” signifies an obligation. A declaration not fulfilling this condition cannot be considered valid.
- Rule 12.3 (Declarations by Competitors):
Requires that declarations respect the conditions stated in the Task Data Sheet.
Rules 12 and rules 12.2 states the same thing.
- General Briefing Notes (17.08.2025):
“All declarations are valid and will be scored based on the percentage of infringement.”
→ This clarification appears contradictory to the strict TDS requirement. However, according to competition hierarchy, the Task Data Sheet governs the validity of declarations for a specific task.
→ **For us, even if this information has been said in the general briefing, it was not precise nor clear enough for it take over higher hierarchy over each TDS depending on what was written on the TDS.**

Important : Task data sheet

Task	33 FON Fly On (Rule 15.5)	Task order	in any order
a. Method of declaration		in loggergoal #1, max. 1 valid declaration	
b. Number of goals permitted		1	
c. Goals available for declaration		any coordinate with altitude (above 1999ft): goal altitude must be at least 1500ft higher or lower than declaration point	
d. minimum and maximum distance between previous mark and declared goal		-	
e. minimum and maximum distance between declaration point and declared goal(s)		min. 4km, no max.	
f. minimum and maximum distances of declared goal(s) from any goal set by the director		1km	
		If you declare before TO, TO is your declaration point.	
		MMA	-
		Marker color	-
		Marker drop	-
Scoring period	ends at 09:00:00	Loggermarker	7
Scoring area	entire contest area		

- The TDS Point c. defines validity: if the ± 1500 ft condition is not met, the declaration is not valid.
- Only point e. is governed by the rule of distance infringement.
- The TDS Point e. regulates distances but makes no mention of altitude, confirming that altitude is a separate validity criteria, not a distance infringement.
- Since Rule 15.5 requires “1 valid declaration”, the first declaration not fulfilling Point c. cannot be considered valid.
- Our second declaration, which complied with both Point c and Point e, is the only declaration that should be scored.

Important : Specificity of the FON in the TDS

The definition of FON (15.5) explains the principle of the task (a goal declared after another...), but it does not specify that the declared goal altitude **“must be ± 1500 ft.”**

This detail exists only in the TDS :

- Point c. – Goals available for declaration
→ “goal altitude must be at least 1500 ft higher or lower than declaration point.”

In the rules:

- Chapter 15.5 FON (in the 2025 Competition Rules) only mentions the method of declaration and the fact that there is only “1 valid declaration.”
→ There is no explicit mention of any altitude requirement.

Therefore the ± 1500 ft rule is not a general requirement of FON in the AXMER/Europeans 2025 rules. It was added locally via the TDS and in this case the wording “must be” makes it a binding obligation for this specific task.

The TDS clearly defines what constitutes a valid declaration. A declaration that does not meet the ± 1500 ft requirement cannot be considered valid. Since Rule 15.5 requires “1 valid declaration”, our first declaration did not meet the condition, and therefore could not be scored. Our second declaration, which complied with the TDS, should therefore be recognized as our only valid declaration. Scoring the first declaration as valid with a penalty contradicts the mandatory requirement set by the TDS.

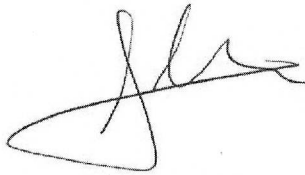
My request is that our score for Task 33 (FON) needs to be recalculated based on our second declaration which fully complies with the TDS requirements. The first declaration not fulfilling the ± 1500 ft altitude condition is considered invalid and therefore has to be disregarded.

I think we need a rule specifically stating what are the valid terms of a PDG and a FON. It's not the first time that pilots and event directors have different interpretations.

I kindly ask for you to review this case and ensure that scoring reflects the binding obligations of the TDS.

Respectfully,

Adrien de Sade - Team 26



Wieselburg, 21/08/2025

*Complaint received
21.08.2025 20:18
Nathalie Diaz*

