

22nd Coupe d'Europe and 27th Ladies World Cup

Reply by Jury to Protest by competitor no: 20 Peter Gregory received at 01.47 on 8th August, 2022.

August 9th, 2022.

Dear Peter,

You may appreciate that the organisational circumstances under which the Jury has been operating during the last 48 hours have been challenging. Nevertheless, the Jury has met in person both during the immediate post-flight hours on August 7th (23.00-0100) and secondly at some 100 miles distance from the event (on 8th August at 18.00), and was therefore able also to speak with you on-line at that time, having already completed interviews as noted below.

You did not raise any additional information as relevant argument in the interview with the Jury, and having considered your further input, and the content of interviews with the Event Director, and three other senior event officials, the Jury's considered response is as follows, and is stated in an order which varies from that offered in your Protest for reasons of subsequent impact:-

1. The rules for this event allow for tasks to be set which may include both physical and non-physical marker drops. However, either method must be underpinned by a logger-based system which delivers data on balloon track, safety/PZ infringement inter alia, ie Option 'B' of the AXMERS 2022. In other words, the event organizer chose to use 'Option B' as the tracking system as stated and described under the 2022 AXMER Rules (II.17), ie the BLS FAI Balloon Live App Logger.
2. On the evening of the flight task (6) concerned in your protest, the Event Director clearly indicated that the network in the area over which this would be flown would likely suffer from weak signal due to presence of large crowds. This meant the task would not be monitored and measured through logger tracks, but scored purely via physical marker drop in the task selected (Hare and Hounds (Rule 15.6)).
3. It is the Jury's considered view therefore that since the evidence shows that retrievable logger tracks via BLS that evening are sparse and incomplete (where even available and/or recorded by pilots), the necessary safety, timing, location data (eg relative to PZ infringement) required to fully score the task was not available.
As a consequence the jury upholds the Event Director's reply to your complaint as the underpinning logger system was not available.
(It is not the task of any single pilot to evidence potential infractions of rules by fellow competitors.)
4. The jury therefore requires that this task be cancelled /declared void, and not considered part of the overall event scores.

The Jury will make recommendations to the FAI/CIA with regard to clarity in the rules for any single event required on future track recording and evidencing of legitimate assessment of infringements.

Signed: Alison Odell	Jury President
Jean Francois Colombier	Jury Member
Alain Morin	Jury Member