

	<b>Formalising Recognition of Multi-Sport Events as First Category Competitions</b>		
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## **Proposed Amendment to FAI Sporting Code General Section – Paragraphs 4.1.5 and 4.1.6**

### **1 INTRODUCTORY NOTE**

The Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) must now bring clarity and closure to ongoing discussions surrounding the formal decision to stage the **FAI World Air Games**. While past editions have helped elevate the profile of air sports, the absence of a clearly defined and codified process for launching such an event has resulted in procedural uncertainty. It is essential that the FAI Sporting Code General Section be updated to reflect the current and future governance needs of the organisation.

The current rule on the FAI World Air Games suggests that approval by the General Conference is only required to grant First Category status. However, it does not explicitly state that the decision to *stage* a World Air Games - that is, to initiate or endorse the event - must also be taken by the General Conference. This creates a theoretical but undesirable loophole, where an edition of the World Air Games could, in principle, be organised without General Conference approval, provided it does not claim First Category status. To uphold FAI's governance integrity and ensure strategic oversight by its members, the revised rule must clearly state that both the **concept** of the event and its **execution** require approval by the General Conference.

The experience gained from FAI's participation in **The World Games** (International World Games Association) has further highlighted the need to reinforce the principle that, even where athletes qualify through individual rankings or external selection criteria, they must still be formally nominated or confirmed by their respective National Air Sport Control (NAC) and must hold a valid FAI Sporting Licence. This reinforces the centrality of the NAC in athlete participation and maintains consistency across all FAI-recognised events.

Finally, as more FAI Air Sports are invited to participate in **multi-sport events organised by other international sports federations or bodies**, it is essential to establish a clear mechanism for recognising such events as First or Second Category sporting events when FAI sporting rules apply. Whether by decision of the Executive Board or upon proposal of the relevant Air Sport Commission, the formal criteria for such recognition must now be reflected in the Sporting Code.

These proposed amendments aim to close long-standing gaps, formalise established practices, and ensure that FAI's governance framework remains robust, consistent, and responsive to the evolving role of air sports within the broader sporting world.

### **2 SC GS 4.1.5 FAI WORLD AIR GAMES**

#### Current text:

*An International Sporting Event involving several FAI Air Sports at the same time and open to NACs and FAI competitors.*

*World Air Games as approved by the General Conference are First Category sporting events.*

*Rules for the World Air Games are available from the FAI. CASI will approve the General Rules for the World Air Games. Where these General Rules are in conflict with the Sporting Code, the General Rules will prevail.*



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Status

final for CASI

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## Proposed text:

*The FAI World Air Games is an International Sporting Event involving several FAI Air Sports held simultaneously and open to National Air Sport Controls (NACs) and FAI competitors.*

*The title 'FAI World Air Games' may only be used for an event that has been approved by the FAI General Conference. Such events shall be recognised as First Category sporting events.*

*In exceptional cases where timelines do not permit prior General Conference approval for a specific edition, the FAI Executive Board may provisionally approve the holding of FAI World Air Games and grant it provisional First Category status. This decision must be reported to Members without delay and is subject to ratification by the next General Conference.*

*The overall concept, scope, and strategic positioning of the FAI World Air Games remain under the authority of the General Conference to ensure alignment with FAI's objectives and governance framework.*

*Where necessary to ensure the coordinated running of this multi-discipline event, the FAI General Air Sports Commission (CASI) may be tasked with developing and approving General Rules for the FAI World Air Games. These General Rules shall take precedence in the event of a conflict with provisions of the FAI Sporting Code, unless otherwise decided by the FAI General Conference.*

*Regardless of the qualification process, all participating competitors must be formally nominated or confirmed by their National Air Sport Control (NAC) and must hold a valid FAI Sporting License.*

## **3 SC GS 4.1.6 MULTI-SPORT COMPETITIONS**

### Current text:

*A competition where sporting events for one or more Air Sports are included, but which may also include sports other than Air Sports.*

*To the extent that the events are under FAI control, the FAI Sporting Code and, as far as appropriate, the competition rules for First Category sporting events shall be used.*

*To fit the concept of such a special event, the ASC(s) concerned, and the Executive Board may propose specific rules. The final event rules shall be approved by both parties.*

### Proposed text:

*A Multi-Sport Competition is an event where one or more air sports are included within a broader sporting event framework that may also feature non-air sports. Such events may be:*

- a) Organised by FAI as multi-sport events other than the FAI World Air Games, or*
- b) Organised by other recognised international sports organisations, to which FAI and its Air Sport Commissions have been invited to participate with official air sport competitions.*

*Where the Sporting Code and applicable First Category rules are used for the air sport disciplines, and evidence of compliance (or a binding agreement) is provided, such events may be granted First Category sporting event status:*

- by decision of the FAI Executive Board, or*
- upon proposal of the relevant Air Sport Commission and with confirmation that FAI sporting rules are applied.*

*To reflect the specific requirements of such events, the Air Sport Commission(s) concerned, may be asked to develop specific rules, that will be to the mutual approval of the Commission(s) and the FAI Executive Board.*

*Regardless of the qualification process, all participating competitors must be formally nominated or confirmed by their National Air Sport Control (NAC) and must hold a valid FAI Sporting License.*

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