

IAC Rules Change Proposal Form

Rule Number: 503.6.3 Order of Flight

Current Text

503.6.3 Order of Flight

503.6.3.1 The Contest Director may choose to order flights randomly using the official IAC scoring program or may choose a drawing of lots.

503.6.3.2 No category will draw for lots unless all categories of higher complexity also draw for lots.

503.6.3.3 If a draw for lots is used for a category, it must be used for all programs in that category.

503.6.3.4 A drawing of lots will proceed as follows:

1) For the first flight program, the draw order will be alphabetical.

2) For any following flight programs, the draw order will be the order of flight of the previous program.

3) If a competitor is not present, a contest official shall draw for them.

503.6.3.5 No competitor will be required to fly consecutive flight programs in the first third of slots in the flight order.

Proposed New Text

503.6.3 Order of Flight

503.6.3.1

The Contest Director may determine the order of flight for each category either by random selection using the official IAC scoring program or by a formal drawing of lots conducted in accordance with this section.

503.6.3.2

No category shall use the drawing-of-lots process unless all higher-complexity categories also do so.

503.6.3.3

If a drawing of lots is used for any category, it shall apply to all flight programs within that category.

Drawing of Lots Procedure

503.6.3.4

The drawing of lots shall take place prior to the first competition flight program and under the supervision of the Chief Judge and/or Jury.

a) The Contest Director shall prepare the drawing materials and submit the process for review and approval by the Jury before the draw.

- b) Each competitor shall draw their own lot in person during the briefing. If a competitor is not present, a contest official or designated team member may draw on their behalf.
- c) The Jury may adjust the initial sequence if two closely drawn competitors are flying the same aircraft to allow adequate turn-around time.

For the first program, the order of draw will be alphabetical by competitor surname.

503.6.3.5 Section Assignment

After the first draw has been completed, the resulting order of flight will be divided into three (3) sections — A, B, and C — as evenly as possible.

- If the number of competitors does not divide evenly, the section(s) with one additional competitor shall be assigned in the order: Section A, then Section B.
- The list of competitors within each section shall remain fixed for all subsequent programs, except where changes are necessary for aircraft sharing or safety.

503.6.3.6 Rotation of Section Order

To ensure equitable flight positions across all programs, the order of flight for the three sections shall rotate as follows:

Programme 1: A → B → C

Programme 2: B → C → A

Programme 3: C → A → B

503.6.3.7 Subsequent Programs (2–3)

For Programmes 2 and 3, the order of draw within each section shall be determined by competitor ranking from the previous program (highest score to lowest score).

The Contest Director may approve minor adjustments as needed for shared aircraft or operational constraints.

Rationale for Change

- Establishes a transparent and fair procedure consistent with international (CIVA) standards, adapted for IAC use.
- Uses alphabetical draw order for the first program and ranking-based draws for subsequent programs to reward performance and maintain fairness.
- Introduces three rotating sections (A, B, C) to distribute early and late flight positions evenly among competitors.
- Simplifies administration and removes unnecessary duplication of randomization methods.
- Eliminates the need for 503.6.3.8, as this structure inherently prevents repeated early placements.

Submitter Information

Proposed by: Jeff Boerboon

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Effective Contest Year: 2026

Approved by Rules Committee: _____

Approved by IAC Board of Directors: _____