SOARING ASSOCIATION of CANADA



OFFICIAL OBSERVER self-test

You are welcome to submit additional OO questions which reflect areas of misunderstanding regarding the FAI Sporting Code or its interpretation, or which will improve the quality and usefulness of this questionnaire. Please forward proposed changes to Tony Burton at <t-burton@telus.net>.

Revised April 2020

OFFICIAL OBSERVER'S SELF-TEST

Official Observers - how well do you understand your duties?

Try to answer each question and understand the 'why' before you check the answer on the back page. Under each question there are usually two references; the left one refers to the curent FAI *Sporting Code for Gliding*, the right hand one to its *Annex C – OO & Pilot Guide*. Being clear on the exact definition of flight terms such as "start point" will help you avoid mistakes which could invalidate an otherwise good flight by the pilot. A little attention to detail goes a long way.

- 1 The responsibility that a badge claim has been completed correctly:
- a) lies with the pilot and the OO
- b) lies with the OO (the SOO may assist if there is one)
- c) lies with the pilot 4.2.2 1.4

2 The latest time that a declaration may be made for a badge or record flight is:

- a) anytime before takeoff
- b) at least one hour before takeoff
- c) by radio to the OO if the pilot has already launched 1.1.3

3 On a badge flight over a triangular course, the shortest leg:

- a) must be at least 28% of the total distance
- b) must be at least 25% of the total distance
- c) there is no restriction in task geometry 3.1.8

4 A pilot plans to begin a free distance flight 20 km from the airfield. He may:

- a) be released by the towpilot at the requested point (which was not declared), then proceed
- b) after releasing anywhere, fly into the OZ of a declared start point, then proceed
- c) either start procedure is acceptable 1.3.1 / 1.4.2i
- 5 A start point is:
- a) the release point
- b) crossing a start line
- c) shutting down a motorglider engine
- d) any of the above
 - 1.2.9 4.1

6 Claims for badge flights must be sent to the Badge chairman (through the club Senior OO if there is one):

- a) within 6 months of the flight
- b) within 60 days of the flight
- c) within 12 months of the flight

Badge application form (notes & instructions)

7 A Silver distance may be claimed for a 99 km flight if it is a completed triangle or an out and return course:

- a) true
- b) false
 - 2.1.1a 2.3
- 8 A barograph or FR does not need to be used for:
- a) a Silver height, if observed at that height by the OO
- b) a Silver duration, if continually observed by the OO
- c) a Silver distance, if certified by two witnesses 2.4.1

9 A barograph calibration graph is used to determine a height gain on a Gold altitude flight:

- a) when the required height gain appears marginal
- b) at all times regardless of the height gain SAC badge application form (baro evidence)

10 A declared triangle flight was completed off a 2000 foot launch with the following leg distances:

- leg 1 21 km, leg 2 52 km, leg 3 34 km.
- a) a Silver distance claim is valid
- b) a Silver distance has not been achieved 2.2.1a

11 If the loss of height between the start and finish points on a Gold distance task was 1500m, the distance that can be claimed on a 353 km badge flight is:

- a) 353 km
- b) 328 km
- c) 303 km
 - 2.4.4

12 A pilot has a FR declaration but just prior to launch decides to change the task with a paper declaration. Only the changed waypoints need to be written down and signed by the OO since remaining info is in the FR. a) true

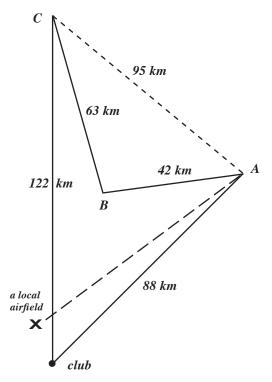
b) false, the new declaration must be complete 2.3a

13 A pilot is allowed to change a record task with a last minute paper declaration prior to launch.

- a) true
- b) false

3.2

14 George declared the task shown below: club to A, to B, to C, and return: total distance – 325 km. He instead flew from the club to C, to A, then home for 305 km.



- a) he can claim a Gold distance flight
- b) he can claim a Diamond Goal flight
- c) he can claim nothing as he didn't fly the task as declared or any leg in the declared sequence. 1.4.2f 2.9, 2.10

15 On the above flight, the pilot flew the task as declared but got back early so he entered (correctly) the takeoff point OZ (the club) rather than land, then flew another 180 km. He can claim:

- a) Diamond distance and Diamond goal
- b) Diamond distance only
- c) the flight qualifies as a free distance task having a distance of (for example), club to A, to B, to C, to the landing point (which might not be over 500 km)
- nothing, flight was not completed as declared and the club was a fourth excess TP 1.4.2f

16 At turnpoint A in the diagram, the closest the pilot got was 800 metres and he didn't go around it. Is it possible the TP was still officially achieved?

- a) Yes, as long as the glider was anywhere within the sector OZ of the TP
- b) No, the pilot was more than 500 metres from the TP 1.2.6 2.12b (see glider B3)

17 George flies a triangular task of 301.5 km from a release point over the airfield and return. The FR had "cylinder OZ" selected. George flew around the turnpoints, and incurred no height penalty, did he earn a Gold distance badge leg?

- a) no, using cylinder OZ's, the official distance must be reduced by 2 km
- b) yes, it doesn't matter what OZ type is set in the FR, George satisfied the "sector" OZ requirements, hence met the minimum distance of 300 km 1.1.3 / 1.2.6b

18 For purposes of determining if a distance penalty applies, how is the height difference calculated on achieving a remote finish point if the pilot does not land at it?

- a) the release height less the altitude of the glider (taken from the FR barograph data) at the time the remote finish point OZ was entered
- b) the release height less the altitude of any selected point within the finish point OZ
- c) either of the above as appropriate 1.2.10c / 1.3.2c 4.5

19 A pilot has declared a distance-to-goal record flight and decides to start the flight from release rather than from crossing the declared start line:

- a) the pilot's start may be the release only if it is in the OZ of the declared start point.
- b) start time and position for the course is established from the FR data.
 1.4.2e

20 Sally and a non-pilot friend George flew a Canadian multiplace 100 km triangle record. Can she also claim the feminine record?

- a) yes, only the pilot must be female
- b) no, both pilot and passenger must be female 3.1.1

21 A pilot on a Silver distance flight will try to reach an airport 51 km from the club. Assuming the takeoff and landing elevations are the same, the pilot must release below:

- a) 1600 feet agl
- b) 1700 feet agl

c)

1800 feet agl 2.4.4b 3.1 22 The pilot and passenger requirements for a multiplace record attempt are:

- a) both persons must be licenced pilots
- b) the passenger must weigh at least 40 kg (88 lbs)
- c) the passenger must be at least 14 years old
- d) both persons must be of the same sex 3.1.3a

23 For altitude records or altitude gain flights, the barograph must have been calibrated:

- a) within 5 years or 2 months after the flight date
- b) within 5 years and 2 months after the flight date 3.3.5 3.4
- 24 For an altitude gain flight, the OO:
- a) should remind the pilot to "notch" his FR barograph by making a sharp turn or descent after release
- b) must record glider takeoff time

c) both of the above 4.3.1 4.2a

- 25 On a speed record attempt:
- a) the pilot must finish the flight less than 1000m below the start point
- b) the glider must land at the declared finish point of the flight
- c) the Records chairman must be notified of the flight attempt in advance
- d) all of the above

3.1.6

26 A pilot declared a 196 km out and return flight with the turnpoint being the remote start point. He landed exactly half way back from the turnpoint. The pilot can claim:

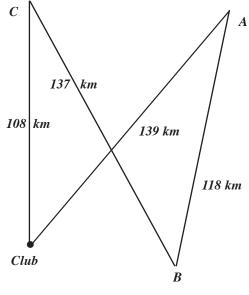
- a) nothing
- b) Silver distance

1.2.9a / 1.2.10c / 2.2.1a

- 27 Which of the following is an acceptable TP:
- a) a big bridge
- b) a point that has a defined lat/long position
- c) either of the above

1.2.2

28 A pilot declared and completed the 502 km polygon course in the diagram below to claim a Diamond distance. The distance between turnpoints A and C is 91 km. Has the pilot also properly completed a Diamond goal flight?



- a) yes, A to C is reached in sequence
- b) no, B counts as a turnpoint 1.4.2h

29 At the conclusion of a badge or record flight, the pilot may download the FR and give the flight file to the OO for verification.

a) true

b)

false	
4.3.3	8.4 / 9.2

30 If the pilot fails in a record attempt on one day, and takes off the next day with a new task declared in the FR, does the OO have to be informed?

- a) yes, the OO must know the declared task
- b) no, the OO is only needed to assure installation and sealing (if required), not the task
 4.3.1 9.2

31 A pilot has declared an out and return Diamond goal flight, releasing at a point 9 km from the takeoff point in order to take advantage of good early soaring conditions on a ridge. The pilot flies around his declared turnpoint and lands back at the airfield. Has he properly completed the goal flight?

- a) no
- b) yes

1.2.11 4.2b

32 At the conclusion of a badge or record flight, only the OO who controlled the installation of the FR can continue the verification process.

- a) true
- b) false

4.4.2b

33 A pilot wants to make a claim but is not sure if his.igc file indicates that his flight qualifies. Which of the following actions by the OO would yield a reliable answer.a) Ask the CFI

- b) Ask the club's Senior OO
- c) E-mail the file to the Badge Chairman for his evaluation.
- 34 Your club is on a wave safari in the USA. As one of the OOs present, you may handle the height claims from your group and send them to the SAC claims officer.
- a) true
- b) false

4.1b / 4.2.1 1.3d

- 35 A pilot plans to fly to another field 45 km away from the club on an early XC. If he releases 10 km away from the club on the other side of the courseline, a Silver distance can be claimed.
- a) false
- b) true

2.2.1a

36 An OO is required to inspect and make note of all FRs to be used for a badge/record attempt. On a completed Gold badge flight, each FR must be checked that the declation applies to the flight, and the .igc files from each FR must be analysed to see if both of them substruiate the claim.

2.3

9.2

- a) true
- b) false

2.4a / 3.0e

- 37 On an Out & Return Speed record attempt, the pilot crossed the finish line with more than the maximum allowed 1000m loss of height.
- a) On landing, the pilot could not claim the record
- b) But, after the pilot crossed the finish line, he climbed above the 1000m loss of height altitude and crossed the finish line a second time
- c) Both examples are correct 1.3.2b / 3.1.6 4.4 / 4.5
- 38 A pilot flew a goal distance record attempt to point A, just exceeding the record, then flew back on track some distance to land at airport B.
- a) The record claim to A is successful
- b) The pilot can only score straight distance to B 1.2.10b

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