

CIMA proposed changes to FAI Sporting Code (Paramotors)

By Richard Meredith-Hardy, CIMA President

Introduction

CIMA made several proposals to CASI in 2010 about the renaming of CIMA to the FAI Microlight and Paramotor Commission and equivalent references to Paramotors. This proposal was withdrawn from a decision at the 2010 General Conference in Dublin when it was pointed out at the preceding CASI meeting that no note of the decision could be found in past CIMA minutes.

The issue was therefore re-presented to the November 2010 CIMA Plenary with the proposal:

Change of name of the Commission from “FAI Microlight Commission” to “FAI Microlight & Paramotor Commission”

Following a discussion, the issue was put to a vote with the following result:

17 For, 1 Against, 0 Abstentions

The proposal was therefore APPROVED and this is being re-presented to CASI for presentation to the 2011 General Conference.

The intention is to end up with 'and Paramotor' appended to appropriate places across all FAI documentation, whether it be in the Statutes, Bylaws or Sporting Code. There is a parallel proposal to the FAI Statutes working Group (identical to the 2010 proposal) to alter Statutes 5.6.3.10 to formally rename CIMA to the 'FAI MICROLIGHT AND PARAMOTOR COMMISSION' and a proposal to the FAI Executive Board to get the Phrase 'Microlights and Paramotors' appropriately amended to rules of the Ann Welch Diploma in the FAI Bylaws.

Proposal 1

Existing text

GS 1.4 FAI INTERNATIONAL AIR SPORT COMMISSIONS

FAI COMMISSION Name & Initials		Sporting Code Section	FAI CLASSES	
Activity	Initials (For words, See Glossary)		Class Letter	DESCRIPTION
...				
Microlights	CIMA	10	R	Microlight Aircraft Powered Hang Gliders Powered Paragliders
...				

New text

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...				
Microlights and Paramotors	CIMA	10	R	Microlight Aircraft Powered Hang Gliders Paramotors
...				

Reasons

- a) In 2010 CIMA confirmed its decision to rename itself “the FAI Microlight and Paramotor Commission.” This was primarily because Paramotors, although technically a ‘microlight’ had become a distinct entity in form, practice and culture. By about 2005 it was evident that participation in both records and championships by paramotor pilots was at least as strong as in ‘classical microlights’, and growing, and therefore the entire activity needed to be acknowledged as an ‘equal partner’ within CIMA.
- b) With the growth of paramotoring from the mid 1990’s, classical microlights became known within CIMA as “the classic classes” but there was a variety of ways to refer to paramotors. In place of “Powered Paraglider” or “PPG”, the CIMA plenary decided in 2007 to adopt the name “Paramotor” to refer to a specific group of aircraft (S10 1.4) and the “classic classes” became distinctly “Microlights”. This is now reflected throughout FAI S10 and also in the way CIMA manages its affairs.

Proposal 2

Existing text

GS 2.1 CLASSIFICATIONS

...

Class R : Microlight aircraft and Powered Paragliders

...

New text

GS 2.1 CLASSIFICATIONS

...

Class R : Microlight aircraft and Paramotors

...

Reason

See Reason 1a

Proposal 3

Existing text

2.2.1.15 Class R.

MICROLIGHT: A one or two seat aeroplane with a specified maximum mass and characterised by a very low wing-loading.

POWERED HANG GLIDER: A hang glider fitted with means of propulsion capable of launching it and sustaining flight.

POWERED PARAGLIDER: A paraglider with means of propulsion capable of launching it and sustaining flight.

New text

2.2.1.15 Class R.

MICROLIGHT: A one or two seat aeroplane with a specified maximum mass and characterised by a very low wing-loading.

POWERED HANG GLIDER: A hang glider fitted with means of propulsion capable of launching it and sustaining flight.

PARAMOTOR: A paraglider with means of propulsion capable of launching it and sustaining flight.

Reason

See Reason1b.

*Note this should also be reflected in the Table of Contents as “**Microlights and Paramotors**”*

Proposal 4

Existing text

GS, GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Numerical

...

10 (Sporting Code Section) - Microlights

...

New text

GS, GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Numerical

...

10 (Sporting Code Section) – Microlights **and Paramotors**

...

Reason

See Reason 1a

Proposal 5

Existing text

GS, GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Alphabetical

...

CIMA Commission Internationale de Micro-Aviation, the International Microlight Commission.

...

New text

GS, GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Alphabetical

...

CIMA Commission Internationale de Micro-Aviation, the International Microlight **and Paramotor**
Commission

...

Reason

See Reason 1a

Proposal 6

Existing text

GS, GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Alphabetical

...

R (FAI Class) - Microlights, Powered Hang Gliders and Powered Paragliders

...

New text

GS, GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Alphabetical

...

R (FAI Class) - Microlights, Powered Hang Gliders and **Paramotors.**

...

Reason

See Reason 1b