



Signalling Rules

Start, Finish or Interruption to Sequence

The last rule of the month back in May was the Safety Figure Rules.

So now that we are airborne and have completed our safety figures and where allowed, practice figures, how do we let the judges know we are ready to commence our sequence for scoring.

This is done by doing Wing Rocks/Dips as you approach your starting point in the box, signalling to them "Look at me, Look at me, Look at Me". On the judges line the common call will be "Waggles" to make sure everyone is paying attention and ready to go.

This is a competition requirement and like all things in competition there are rules on what and how Wing Rocks/Dips, "signalling", must be done. If not done correctly a points penalty will be applied.

The completion/end of the sequence must also be signalled by the same procedure as for the start. Again, failure to do so will result in penalty points.

The "signalling" rules are also used if you require to take a break to correct an error such as wrong direction/figure, too low or a weather break. This will require Wing Rocks/Dips when you decide to break and when you are ready to re-commence your sequence. Once again failure to signal will incur penalty points. Also note any interruption except for an "allowed" weather break will incur an interruption penalty.

Below are the rules that need to be followed to avoid being penalised and ensure the judges are paying attention when you want them to and when they are supposed to be.

The AAC Rules are as follows:

2.50 Signalling the Start and End of Sequence

2.50.1 A competitor **must** signal the start and finish of each sequence, and any interruption, **by distinctly dipping the wing three (3) times immediately one after the other by more than 45°. For the sake of clarity, "immediately" is defined as within 3 seconds of the previous wing dip.**

2.50.2 The aircraft may start and/or finish dipping the wing either inside or outside the aerobatic zone. They may be in normal or inverted flight, or a horizontal, climbing or descending path.



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2.50.3 If the first figure in a sequence begins in inverted flight, all wing dips must be performed in inverted flight. The competitor may change his flight attitude from upright to inverted only by a half roll prior to the first wing dip. Failure to comply will result in a penalty.

2.50.4 A horizontal flight path is required at the start of the first figure. This horizontal may be started inside the aerobatic zone or, provided that it is clearly seen to continue inside, it may be started outside the zone.

2.53 Infringements of Altitude Limits, Deadlines, Interruptions and Penalties

	Graduate & Entry	Sportsman	Yak 52 / Intermediate	Advanced	Unlimited
Table 2.53 Incorrect wing dips or safety figures	10	20	As per FAI/CIVA	As per FAI/CIVA	As per FAI/CIVA

For **Yak 52/Intermediate, Advanced and Unlimited**, FAI/CIVA rules are as follows:

3.10.2. Signalling

3.10.2.1. A competitor **must** signal the start and finish of each programme, and any interruption, **by distinctly rocking the wing three (3) times by more than 45 degrees**. For timing purposes the programme is deemed to start on the return of the wings to level after the third wing rock; and is deemed to finish on their return to level after the third of the final wing rocks.

3.10.2.2. The aircraft may start and/or finish the wing rocks either inside or outside the aerobatic zone.

They may be in normal or inverted flight, on any flight path angle. The flight path angle may change between the wing rocks. The return of wings to 'level' therefore does not necessarily refer to the aircraft being 'in level flight'.

3.10.2.3. **If the first figure in a programme or the first figure after an interruption begins in inverted flight, the authorized starting procedure is either:**



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a) a half roll prior to the first wing rock, and all wing rocks performed in inverted flight;

b) a vertical line established from flight in a direction parallel to the starting axis, with the exit in inverted flight; in this case the wing rocks may be performed partly or totally on the vertical line, or after levelling-off in inverted flight.

3.10.2.4. A horizontal flight path is required at the start of the first figure. This horizontal may be started inside the aerobatic zone or, provided that it is clearly seen to continue inside, it may be started outside the zone.

3.10.2.5. Violations of signalling procedures, determined by simple majority of judges, will be penalized in accordance with paragraph 4.3.3.

4.3.3. Violations of Signalling Procedures

4.3.3.1. A penalty of 30 points (all categories) will be given in case of violation of signalling procedures set out in Rule 3.10.2 .

One thing to note for those in the FAI/CIVA categories, the AAC Rules do not make mention that the FAI/CIVA Rules for "Signalling" will apply to these categories, only that the FAI/CIVA penalties do. Thus at any AAC competition unless it is specifically stated that Yak 52/Intermediate, Advanced and Unlimited will follow FAI/CIVA rules fully, then one will have to assume that the AAC rules for signalling apply and FAI/CIVA 3.10.2.3.b should not be used as a means of signalling the start or re-start of your sequence.

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