



Figure of the Month

The Spin

Competition Spins – from “Better Aerobatics” by Alan Cassidy.

“The spin in an aerobatic competition sequence is, indeed, a finely controlled figure throughout. A lot of finesse is required to achieve a good result that conforms precisely to the judging criteria.”

“All competition spins begin with a stall in level flight. Those judging from the ground have to see the stall, which they recognise from the nose dropping towards the ground from a nose-high, wings level attitude. At the same time as, or immediately after, the nose drops a wing must also drop and autorotation must start. The autorotation must clearly continue at a constant rate until it stops suddenly with the aircraft on the correct recovery heading with wings level. At this point, the pitch attitude is not important as it will vary between different aircraft types. The aircraft must then quickly adopt a vertical down attitude.”

All books on aerobatics will have a section on how to fly the Spin, so I will leave it to you pilots, as usual, to read up on it more thoroughly. I also suggest reading the judging criteria sent out with this attachment so you know what the judges are looking for and what you will be downgraded on.

For those not into reading, the following video link is from the IAC website:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DjhgG2Kp-ww&feature=youtu.be>

In **Entry** there are no spins, so life is easy until you move on.

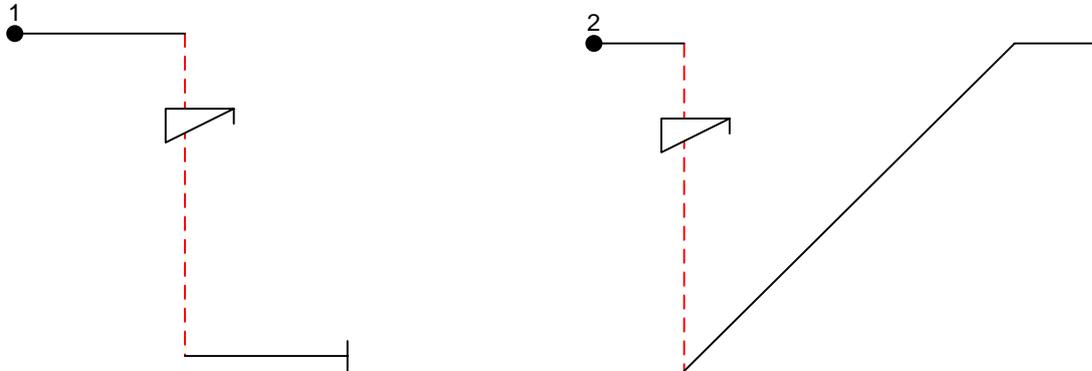
Graduate your spin in an unknown will be the same as the known.

For **Sportsman, Yak 52/Intermediate, Advanced and Unlimited** your spins will be as per the Known or Free Known figures or in a Sportsman Free a spin of your choice and for Yak52/Intermediate, Advanced and Unlimited if not nominated in the Free Known compulsory figure, a spin of your choosing.

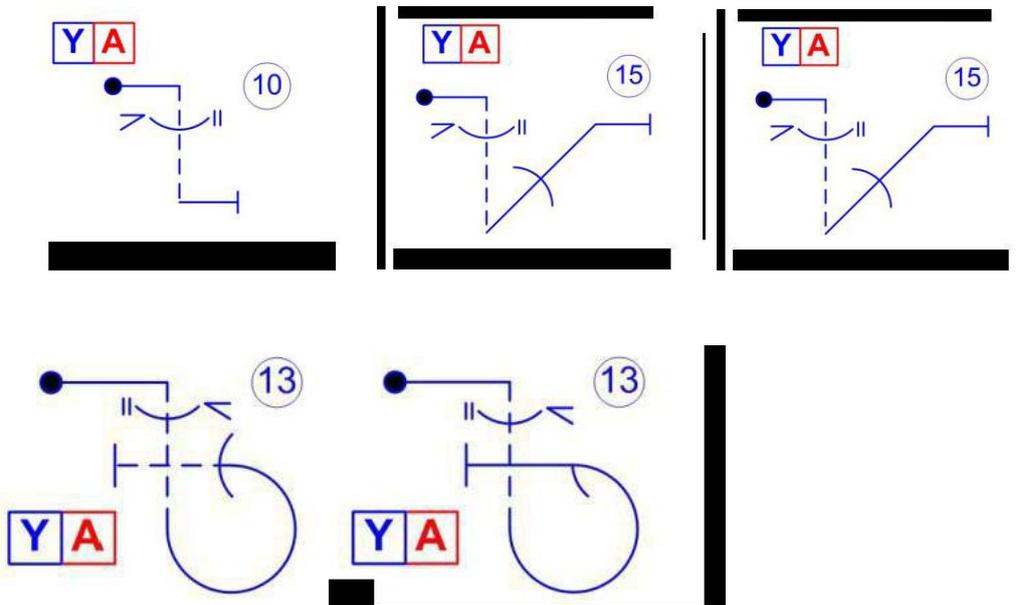
In your unknowns the maximum number of rotations for all categories is 1 ½ rotations or turns, with 1 being the minimum rotation for a spin. Sportsman and Yak 52/Intermediate all your spins are positive or upright. Advanced and Unlimited yours can be either positive or negative spins.

The Spin

Sportsman, the following figures are allowed to have spins on them in an unknown –



For **Yak 52 / Intermediate** these figures are allowed to have spins on them in an unknown –



Advanced and Unlimited, I will let you work through the FAI/CIVA Unknown Rules on what types of figures you may have spins on in a Free Unknown.