



## Time Limit Rules

Over the last 12 months we have looked at the rules for “The Free Known & Free”, “The Free Unknown & Unknowns”, “Safety Figures” and “Signalling” Rules. So, it should be no surprise that all these when in the air must be completed in a given amount of time, hence this month are the Time Limit Rules.

For **Entry** and **Graduate** as your programs are all “Known Sequences” you are allowed 10 minutes from when you acknowledge to the Chief Judge that you have been cleared into the aerobatic box. If the Chief Judge clears a competitor into the box while they are still climbing, the CJ will make an extra time allowance for this. Also, if the competitor is requested to fly the lower axes of the box for the judges, their time will commence at the last wing dip of marking the box. Again, an extra time allowance for climbing will be given.

For **Sportsman** programs 1 & 2, Known & Known again/Free, you are allowed 10 minutes. For program 3, the Unknown, you are allowed 15 minutes. As above with Entry and Graduate your time begins when you acknowledge having been cleared into the aerobatic box and extra time allowances are made if you are still climbing or have been asked to mark the box axes for the judges.

The AAC rules have been attached further down. There was discussion at the end of last year to revise the AAC rules and allow 10 minutes per flight for the non Civa levels, with time commencing at the end of the Third Wing Rock at the start of the program. At this point in time it is still to be confirmed in the rules.

### CIVA Levels – Unlimited, Advanced & Yak 52/Intermediate

This year sees a change to all the program time limits except for the Freestyle.

All programs, the Free Known and all 3 Free Unknown programs, will have a time limit of **12** minutes from the moment the aircraft is **observed in flight** by the Chief Judge / timers.

AAC Rule 2.51.6, competitors marking the lower axes of the box for the judges applies, so time would not commence then until the last wing dip of marking the box.

Civa rules have been attached at the end.

For **all categories**, should the pilot take a permitted weather break, the timing will be stopped on the third wing rock of the start of the break and re-started on the third wing rock signalling the beginning of the second part of the sequence.

Note that if you take an unauthorised break as well as being penalised in points, the clock keeps running.

There is no penalty for going over time, however any figures flown after that time will not be scored. The Chief Judge will clearly inform the pilot by radio when the time limit has been reached, usually by calling “Time, Time, Time”.



## Time Limit Rules

Most competitor will find that they have ample time to climb into the box, perform safety figures and practice figures where allowed, complete the sequence even with an unauthorised break. The key trick is to stay close to the box when climbing, especially after your safety figures and not go off sightseeing and losing time.

### **AAC Rules**

#### **2.51 Time Limitations**

2.51.1 A time limit of 15 minutes will apply for all Programmes, except for Known or Free Known flights which have a 10 minute time limit.

2.51.2 This time will deem to start when the competitor acknowledges that they have been cleared into the performance zone via the radio by the Chief Judge.

2.51.3 If the CJ clears a competitor into the box while they are still climbing on departure, then the CJ will make an extra time allowance for this.

2.51.4 If exceeded, the end of the time limit will be clearly announced to the pilot by "time, time, time" being called over the radio by the Chief Judge. There will be no penalty for exceeding the time limit, but figures flown after that time will not be scored.

2.51.5 For Unlimited, Advanced, and Intermediate refer to FAI Sporting Code, Section 6 4.2.6.1 Time Limits.

2.51.6 For those competitors who fly the lower axes of the box for the judges, their time commences at the last wing dip of marking the box. In the case of a low-performance aircraft an extra time allowance per AAC 2.51.3 will be made.

2.51.7 If a competitor is holding due to passing weather his/her time will be extended for an equivalent period.

2.51.8 The Chief Judge shall indicate by call or signal the time during which the judges must watch and mark a sequence.



## Time Limit Rules

### CIVA Rules

#### 3.10.1. Time Limits

3.10.1.1. Programmes 1 to 4 will have a time limit of 12 minutes in all categories from the moment the aircraft is observed in flight by the Chief Judge / timers.

3.10.1.2. When the time limit is reached the Chief Judge will clearly inform the pilot by means of the radio.

3.10.1.3. In the event that a pilot takes a permitted weather break, the timing will be stopped on the third wing rock at the start of the break and re-started on the third wing rock signalling the beginning of the second part of the broken sequence.

3.10.1.4. In Programme 5 ("U" only) there is a time window of between 3 minutes 30 seconds and four minutes in which to complete the programme, without penalty, after signalling the start of the sequence.

3.10.1.5. The Chief Judge shall indicate by call or signal the time during which the Judges must watch and mark a programme.

3.10.1.6. If for some reason a general recall is necessary, this will be indicated to competitors and Judges by a red pyrotechnic. A recall is, except in dangerous situations, allowed only up to the beginning of a programme.

Compiled by Russell Sneyd  
AAC-QLD Club Captain 2020.