



# **2015 Collegiate Design Series**

**SAE Aero Design  
East and West  
Rules**

---

<b>SECTION 1</b>	<b>FOREWORD</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>SECTION 2</b>	<b>REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL CLASSES</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1	INTRODUCTION	5
2.2	TEAM MEMBER ELIGIBILITY	7
2.3	SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP	7
2.4	RINGERS PROHIBITED	8
2.5	DESIGN AND FABRICATION	8
2.6	ORIGINAL DESIGN	8
2.7	OFFICIAL LANGUAGES	8
2.8	UNIQUE DESIGNS	9
2.9	AIRCRAFT CLASSIFICATION/DUPLICATE AIRCRAFT	9
2.10	AIRCRAFT ELIGIBILITY	9
2.11	REGISTRATION INFORMATION, DEADLINES AND WAITLIST (NEW)	9
2.12	NEW POLICY DEADLINE (NEW)	11
2.13	FACULTY ADVISOR	11
2.14	QUESTIONS, COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS	12
2.15	PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT	13
<b>SECTION 3</b>	<b>MISSION REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>15</b>
3.1	TAKE OFF	15
3.2	(NEW) ROUND ATTEMPT	16
3.3	(NEW) BOUNCE AT TAKE-OFF	16
3.4	COMPETITION CIRCUIT REQUIREMENTS	16
3.5	INITIAL TURN AFTER TAKE-OFF	16
3.6	LANDING	16
<b>SECTION 4</b>	<b>REGULAR CLASS REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>20</b>
4.1	NO LIGHTER-THAN-AIR OR ROTARY WING AIRCRAFT	20
4.2	AIRCRAFT DIMENSION REQUIREMENT	20
4.3	AIRCRAFT SYSTEM REQUIREMENT (NEW)	21
4.4	PAYLOAD REQUIREMENTS	22
4.5	GENERAL REQUIREMENTS	23
4.6	REGULAR CLASS SCORING	24
<b>SECTION 5</b>	<b>ADVANCED CLASS REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>26</b>
5.1	AIRCRAFT REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS	26
5.2	FLIGHT PROCEDURES (NEW)	30
5.3	ADVANCED CLASS SCORING (NEW)	31
<b>SECTION 6</b>	<b>(NEW) MICRO CLASS REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>32</b>
6.1	AIRCRAFT REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS	32
6.2	AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS REQUIREMENTS	33
6.3	GENERAL REQUIREMENTS	35
6.4	MISSION REQUIREMENTS	37
6.5	MICRO CLASS FLIGHT SCORING (NEW)	40
<b>SECTION 7</b>	<b>DESIGN REPORTS AND TECHNICAL PRESENTATION</b>	<b>41</b>
7.1	DESIGN REPORTS	41
7.2	TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS	45
7.3	TECHNICAL INSPECTION	47
7.4	TOTAL COMPETITION SCORING	48
7.5	PROJECTION EQUIPMENT	48
7.6	TIE BREAKERS	48

---

---

<b>SECTION 8</b>	<b>FUTURE <i>POSSIBLE</i> RULE CHANGES .....</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>SECTION 9</b>	<b>APPENDIX.....</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE.....</b>		<b>50</b>
9.1	MODIFICATION CHANGE REQUEST (CR).....	51
9.2	APPEALS .....	52

## Section 1            Foreword

Welcome to SAE Aero Design 2015. In our strategy for revamping one class every year, Micro Class has been significantly changed for the 2015 competition. The system requirements and scoring equations were made to align with real world Micro Air Vehicle requirements and provide a most realistic competition. As such, you will see an emphasis on portability, time to fly, performance, and reliability. Let's look at these metrics a little closer.

First, the carrying case is now required to be a six inch diameter tube with shoulder strap. This makes for a robust, easy to carry, and portable system. You will also find that improving portability, by reducing the length of the tube, yields a higher score. Second, assembly demonstration had previously been performed during presentations. This year, assembly and launch of the aircraft is a timed event during the first flight round of competition. This assures the aircraft are truly flight worthy after the assembly demonstration. Third, performance of the aircraft is still an important metric and similar to previous years the weight lifting performance is scored by the payload fraction, or ratio of payload lifted to total weight. And finally, reliability is also still critical. The successful team will achieve the highest score through achieving the best combination of these performance metrics. Furthermore, to move toward a more simplistic competition, the elastic launch method was eliminated. All Micro Class aircraft are now required to be hand tossed with more leeway given for how the hand toss is performed.

As a result of the 2014 competition, Regular Class also has some minor changes. There is now a refined power limiter being made available by our competition supplier. We believe the changes will eliminate many of the issues we saw last year. All teams will be required to use the new limiter in addition to a higher voltage 6-cell Li-Po battery to improve system reliability and level the playing field for all Regular Class teams.

On the programmatic side of things, the SAE Aero Design competition has been at capacity in recent years. To help give all universities an equal opportunity, a one aircraft per class per university policy has been put into effect. This means that a university can have a maximum of one Regular Class, one Micro Class, and one Advanced Class team. For those universities with larger teams I encourage you to pool resources and exercise your project management skills to bring together the larger team and execute on the project.

Lastly, pay special attention to highlighted, bold, and red-font throughout this document. These are important updates and clarifications on a variety of different topics that may not have been discussed here, but yet are still important. Let the games begin. Best of luck to you all!!

Brian Czapor  
SAE Aero Design Rules Committee Chair

---

## Section 2            Requirements for all Classes

### 2.1 Introduction

#### Official Announcements and Competition Information

The SAE Aero Design competition is intended to provide undergraduate and graduate engineering students with a real-life engineering exercise. The competition has been designed to provide exposure to the kinds of situations that engineers face in the real work environment. First and foremost a design competition, students will find themselves performing trade studies and making compromises to arrive at a design solution that will optimally meet the mission requirements while still conforming to the configuration limitations.

The importance of interpersonal communication skills is often overlooked by engineers, yet both written and oral communication skills are vital in the engineering workplace. To help teams develop these skills, a high percentage of a team's score is devoted to the Design Report and the oral presentation required in the competition.

SAE Aero Design features three classes of competition—**Regular**, **Advanced**, and **Micro**. Regular Class (*now all electric*) is intended to be simpler than Advanced Class, and therefore more accessible to the Novice team. Advanced Class is intended to be less restrictive than Regular Class, thereby opening a larger potential solution set. Its lack of restriction allows teams to pursue more complex aircraft configurations, thereby encouraging greater creativity in satisfying the mission requirements. Micro Class (all electric) teams are required to make trades between two potentially conflicting requirements, carrying the highest payload fraction possible, while simultaneously pursuing the lowest empty weight possible.

Other SAE Aero Design Competitions: SAE Aero Design Brazil; SAE BRASIL  
<http://www.saebrasil.org.br/>

#### SAE Aero Design Rules and Organizer Authority

##### Rules Authority

The SAE Aero Design Rules are the responsibility of the SAE Aero Design Rules Committee and are issued under the authority of the SAE International University Programs Committee. Official announcements from the SAE Aero Design Rules Committee, SAE International or the other SAE International Organizers shall be considered part of and have the same validity as these rules.

Ambiguities or questions concerning the meaning or intent of these rules will be resolved by the officials, SAE International Rules Committee or SAE International Staff.

### **Rules Validity**

The SAE Aero Design Rules posted on the SAE International Website ([www.sae.org](http://www.sae.org)) and dated for the calendar year of the competition are the rules in effect for the competition. Rule sets dated for other years are invalid.

### **Rules Compliance**

By entering an SAE Aero Design competition, the team members, faculty advisors and other personnel of the entering university agree to comply with, and be bound by, the rules and all rules interpretations or procedures issued or announced by SAE International, the SAE Aero Design Rules Committee and other organizing bodies. All team members, faculty advisors and other university representatives are required to cooperate with, and follow all instructions from competition organizers, officials and judges.

### **Understanding the Rules**

Teams are responsible for reading and understanding the rules in its entirety effect for the competition in which they are participating. The section and paragraph headings in these rules are provided to facilitate reading: they do not affect the paragraph contents.

### **Loopholes**

It is virtually impossible for a set of rules to be so comprehensive that it covers all possible questions about the plane's design parameters or the conduct of the competition. Please keep in mind that safety remains paramount during any SAE International competition, so any perceived loopholes should be resolved in the direction of increased safety/ concept of the competition.

### **Participating in the Competition**

Teams, team members as individuals, faculty advisors and other representatives of a registered university who are present on-site at a competition are considered to be "participating in the competition" from the time they arrive at the event site until they depart the site at the conclusion of the competition or earlier by withdrawing.

### **Visa--United States Visas**

Teams requiring visas to enter to the United States are advised to apply at least sixty (60) days prior to the competition. Although most visa applications seem to go through without an unreasonable delay, occasionally teams have had difficulties and in several instances visas were not issued before the competition.

**Affiliated CDS Student Team Members will have the ability to print out a Registration Confirmation Letter for the individual event(s) that they are attending. Once a student team member affiliates themselves to their teams profile page under their individual edit section. They will have the opportunity to print out their personalized letter with the following information: Student's Name, School's Name, the CDS Event Name, Official Dates and Location(s).**

Don't wait – apply early for your visa.

*SAE does not issue letters of invitation nor participation certificates*

Neither SAE International staff nor any competition organizers are permitted to give advice on visas, customs regulations or vehicle shipping regulations concerning the United States or any other country.

**Violations of Intent**

The violations of the intent of a rule will be considered a violation of the rule itself. Questions about the intent or meaning of a rule may be addressed to the SAE International Officials, Competition Organizers or SAE International Staff.

**Right to Impound**

SAE International and the other competition organizing bodies reserve the right to impound any on-site vehicle/plane at any time during a competition for inspection and examination by the organizers, officials and technical inspectors.

**General Authority**

SAE International and the competition organizing bodies reserve the right to revise the schedule of any competition and/or interpret or modify the competition rules at any time and in any manner that is, in their sole judgment, required for the efficient operation of the event or the SAE Aero Design series as a whole.

**Penalties**

Organizers have the right to modify the points and/or penalties listed in the various event descriptions; to better reflect the design of their events, or any special conditions unique to the site.

**2.2 Team Member Eligibility**

Teams are required to read the articles posted on the SAE Aero Design News Feed (<http://students.sae.org/cds/aerodesign/news>) published by SAE International and the other organizing bodies. Teams must also be familiar with all official announcements concerning the competitions and rule interpretations released by the SAE Aero Design Rules Committee.

**2.3 Society Membership**

Individual team members must be members of one of the following societies: (1) SAE International or an SAE International affiliate society, (2) ATA, or (3) IMechE or (4) VDI. Proof of membership, such as a membership card, is required at the event.

Students who are members of one of the societies listed above are not required to join any of the other societies in order to participate in any SAE competition.

Students may join online at [www.sae.org/students](http://www.sae.org/students).

### **2.3.1 Pilots**

Pilots are not required to be students or SAE International members, but they must be current members of either the **Academy of Model Aeronautics** or the **national model aircraft club** in their country of origin (such as the MAAC for Canadian teams). Valid AMA membership cards must be presented at the flying field prior to flying any team's aircraft. Copies of AMA application forms will not suffice as proof of AMA membership; the actual AMA card must be presented at the event flying field.

### **2.3.2 Liability Waiver and Insurance Requirements**

All on-site participants and faculty advisors are required to sign a liability waiver upon registration. Individual medical and accident insurance coverage is the sole responsibility of the participant.

## **2.4 Ringers Prohibited**

In order to maintain the integrity of a fair competition, the faculty advisor must prohibit ringers. A ringer is someone that has exceptional skills related to the competition (e.g., a professional model builder) that cannot be a legal member of the team but helps the team win points.

## **2.5 Design and Fabrication**

The airplane must be designed and built by the SAE International student members without direct involvement from professional engineers, radio control model experts, pilots, machinists, or related professionals. The students may use any literature or knowledge related to R/C aircraft design and construction and information from professionals or from professors as long as the information is given as discussion of alternatives with their pros and cons and is acknowledged in the references in the design report. Professionals may not make design decisions, nor contribute to the drawings, the report, or the construction of the airplane. The faculty advisor must sign the Statement of Compliance given in Appendix.

## **2.6 Original Design**

Any aircraft presented for competition must be an original design whose configuration is conceived by the student team members. Photographic scaling of an existing model aircraft design is not allowed. Use of major components such as wings, fuselage, or empennage of existing model aircraft kits is prohibited. Use of standard model aircraft hardware such as engine mounts, control horns, and landing gear is allowed.

## **2.7 Official Languages**

The official language of the SAE Aero Design series is English. Document submissions, presentations and discussions in English are acceptable at all competitions in the series.

Team members, judges and officials at Non U.S. competition events may use their respective national languages for document submissions, presentations and



---

discussions if all the parties involved agree to the use of that language.

SAE Aero Design East	English
SAE Aero Design West	English
SAE Aero Design Brazil	Portuguese and English

## 2.8 Unique Designs

Universities may enter more than one team in each SAE Aero Design competition, but each entry must be a unique design, significantly different from each other. If the aircraft are not significantly different in the opinion of the rules committee and organizer, then the university will be considered to have only a single entry and only one of the teams and its aircraft will be allowed to participate in the competition. For example, two aircraft with identical wings and fuselages but different empennage would likely not be considered significantly different. For guidance regarding this topic, please email [CollegiateCompetitions@sae.org](mailto:CollegiateCompetitions@sae.org).

## 2.9 Aircraft Classification/Duplicate Aircraft

Aircraft may only compete in one class. Simultaneous entry in Advanced, Regular, and Micro Class, with the same aircraft, is not allowed. When a team has an identical aircraft as a back-up, the back-up aircraft must go through inspection with the primary aircraft. If the entire back-up aircraft is used in competition, previously earned flight points are forfeited and flight point scoring starts over.

***A university or college can only have one aircraft registered for one class. A university cannot register more than one team per class.***

## 2.10 Aircraft Eligibility

Aircraft will only be allowed to compete during a single academic year. Aircraft may be entered in both SAE Aero Design East and SAE Aero Design West during the same calendar year, but that same aircraft may not be used in either competition during the following year. Entering the same aircraft in SAE Aero Design West one year and SAE Aero Design East the next year is not allowed.

## 2.11 Registration Information, Deadlines and Waitlist (NEW)

Teams intending to participate in the 2015 SAE Aero Design competitions must register their teams online starting

**Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at 10:00 am EDT** (75 team limit)

Registration (or is sold out) closes for both SAE Aero Design and SAE Aero Design West,

**December 15, 2014 at 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time.**

The registration fee is non-refundable and failure to meet these deadlines will be

---

considered a failure to qualify for the competition. Separate entry fees are required for the East and West events.

***A university or college can only have one aircraft registered for one class. A university cannot register more than one team per class.***

**The registration fees indicated in the Appendix (\$ 750) must be paid within 30 days of registration.**

Please note each SAE Aero Design event will have limits on the number of teams

75 for SAE Aero Design East

75 for SAE Aero Design West

### **Individual Registration Requirements – ACTION REQUIRED**

All participating team members and faculty advisors must be sure that they are individually affiliated to their respective school / university on the SAE International website ([www.sae.org](http://www.sae.org)) event registration page.

If you are not an SAE International member, go to [www.sae.org](http://www.sae.org) and select the “Membership” link. Students will need to select the “Student Membership” link and then follow the series of questions that are asked. Please note all student participants must be SAE International members to participate in the events.

Faculty members who wish to become SAE International members should choose the “Professional Membership” link. Please note: this is not mandatory for faculty advisors.

All student participants and faculty advisors must affiliate themselves to the appropriate team(s) online. To affiliate, refer to the [Online Registration Guide](#).

The “Add New Member” button will allow individuals to access this page and include the necessary credentials. If the individual is already affiliated to the team, simply select the Edit button next to the name. Please be sure this is done separately for each of the events your team has entered.

All students, both domestic and international, must affiliate themselves online prior to the competition.

<p><b>**NOTE: When your team is registering for a competition, only the student or faculty advisor completing the registration needs to be linked to the school. All other students and faculty can affiliate themselves after registration has been completed; however this must be done on or before April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015</b></p>
---

---

### **Waitlist (NEW)**

Once an event fills, all registered team's slots... a waitlist option will open. The waitlist is capped at 40 available spaces per event and will close on the same day as registration. Once another team withdraws from an event, an SAE International Staff member will inform your team by email (the individual who registered the team to the waitlist) that a spot on the registered teams list has opened. You will have 24 hours to accept or reject the position and an additional 24 hours to have the registration payment completed or process for payment begun. Waitlisted teams are required to submit all documents by the deadlines in order to be considered serious participants and any team that does not submit all documents will be passed over.

### **2.12 New Policy Deadline (failure to meet deadlines)**

Teams registering for SAE Aero Design competitions are required to submit a number of documents prior to the competition including a Design Report and Payload Prediction Graph that the event judges need to evaluate the team during the competition. When these documents are not submitted our judges cannot properly assess the team. Additionally, teams that do not submit a Design Report typically do not come to the competition. Teams that do not notify us that they are withdrawing create the following problems

- (1) They are included in the static event schedules and judging time is wasted.
- (2) Their unused registration slot cannot be offered to a team on the waitlist.

Additionally, failure to submit the required Design Report is a clear violation of the rules (Need ruling where you cannot fly unless competed design submission)

Therefore SAE International will be placing the policy into effect... that failure to submit the required Design Report and Payload Prediction Graph within 10 days of the deadline will constitute an automatic withdrawal of your team. Your team will be notified after the 9<sup>th</sup> day of no submission that we have not received your documents and after the 10 days your team's registration will be cancelled and no refund will be given.

*In short...*

*Late submission or failure to submit the Design Report will be penalized five (5) points per day. If your Design Report is received more than ten (10) days late it will be classified as "Not Submitted" and your team will not participate and be withdrawn from the competition.*

### **2.13 Faculty Advisor**

Each team is expected to have a Faculty Advisor appointed by the university. The Faculty Advisor is expected to accompany the team to the competition and will be considered by competition officials to be the official university representative. Faculty Advisors may advise their teams on general engineering and engineering project management theory, but may not design any part of the vehicle nor directly participate in

---

the development of any documentation or presentation. Additionally Faculty Advisors may neither fabricate nor assemble any components nor assist in the preparation, maintenance, or testing of the vehicle. In Brief - Faculty Advisors may not design, build or repair any part of the plane.

## 2.14 Questions, Complaints and Appeals

### 2.14.1 Questions

Any questions or comments about the rules should be brought to the attention of the Rules Committee via the SAE Aero Design Forums (Link found here: <http://students.sae.org/cds/aerodesign/resources.htm>)

General information about hotels and other attractions in the area as well as a schedule of events will be posted on the SAE International website according to the competition in which you are competing: <http://students.sae.org/competitions/aerodesign/>

### 2.14.2 Complaints

Competition officials will be available to listen to complaints regarding errors in scoring, interpretation, or application of the rules during the competition. Competition officials will not be available to listen to complaints regarding the nature, validity, or efficacy of the rules themselves at the competition. In other words, the Organizer will not change the rulebook at the field.

### 2.14.3 Appeal / Preliminary Review

A team can only appeal issues related to own-team scoring, judging, venue policies, and/or any official actions. Team Captain(s) and/or faculty advisor must bring the issue to the Organizer's or SAE International staff's attention for an informal preliminary review before filing an official appeal.

A team cannot file an appeal to cause harm to another team's standing and/or score.

#### Cause for Appeal

A team may appeal any rule interpretation, own-team scoring or official actions) which the team feel has caused some actual, non-trivial, harm to own-team, or has had a substantive effect on their score.

Teams may not appeal rule interpretations or actions that have not caused them any substantive damage.

### 2.14.4 Appeal Format

If a faculty advisor or team captain(s) feel that their issue regarding an official action or rules interpretation was not properly addressed by the **event officials**, the team may file a formal appeal to the action or rules interpretation with the Appeals Committee.

All appeals must be filed in writing to the Organizer by the faculty advisor or team

---

---

captain only.

All appeals will require the team to post twenty five (25) points as collateral. If the appeal is successful and the action is reversed, the team ***will not*** forfeit the twenty five (25) collateral points. If the appeal is overruled, the team will forfeit the twenty five (25) collateral points

**All rulings issued by the Appeals Committee are final.**

### **2.14.5 Appeals Period**

All appeals must be submitted within thirty (30) minutes of the end of the flight round or other competition event to which the appeal relates.

### **2.14.6 Appeals Committee**

When a timely appeal is received, the committee will review in detail the claims. All contentions or issues raised in the formal appeal will be addressed in a timely manner. The consideration in each review is whether the actions in disputed were just and in in-line with the intent of the rules. Once the review is completed, a new order will be issued affirming, reversing or modifying the original determination.

**All rulings issued by the Appeals Committee are final.**

The Appeals Committee must consist of a minimum of three members: the Organizer or delegate, SAE International representative, and either the Chief Steward, the Chief Judge, the Air Boss and/or rule committee member.

## **2.15 Professional Conduct**

### **2.15.1 Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

In the event of unsportsmanlike conduct by team members or that team's faculty advisor, the team will receive a warning from a Competition Official. A second violation will result in expulsion of the team from the competition and loss of any points earned in all aspects of the competition.

### **2.15.2 Arguments with Officials**

Arguments with or disobedience toward any competition official may result in the team being eliminated from the competition. All members of the team may be immediately escorted from the grounds.

### **2.15.3 Alcohol and Illegal Material**

Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, firearms, weapons, or illegal material of any type are not permitted on the event sites at any time during the competition. Any violations of this rule will result in the immediate expulsion of all members of the offending school, not just the individual team member in violation. This rule applies to team members and faculty advisors. Any use of illegal drugs or any use of alcohol by an underage person must be reported to the local law enforcement

authorities for prosecution.

#### **2.15.4 Organizer's Authority**

The Organizer reserves the exclusive right to revise the schedule of the competition and/or to interpret the competition rules at any time and in any manner which is required for efficient operation or safety of the competition.

#### **SAE Technical Standards Access**

A cooperative program of SAE International's Education Board and Technical Standards Board is making some of SAE International's Technical Standards available to teams registered for any North American CDS competition at no cost. The Technical Standards referenced in the Collegiate Design Series rules, along with other standards with reference value, will be accessible online to registered teams, team members and faculty advisors. To access the standards (1) your team must be registered for a competition in North America and (2) the individual team member or faculty advisor wanting access must be linked to the team in SAE International's system.

Access Procedure - Once your team has registered, there will be a link to the SAE Digital Library to access the technical standards under "Design Standards" on your profile page where all the required onsite team information is added. On the SAE Digital Library, you will have the ability to search standards either by J-number assigned or topic of interest such as brake light.

**A list of accessible SAE International Technical Standards can be found in Appendix S.**

## Section 3 Mission Requirements

### 3.1 Take Off

Takeoff is defined as the point at which the main wheels leave the ground.

#### 3.1.1 Time Limit (NEW)

- **(NEW) Micro Class:** Upon a signal given by the Air Boss, a team will have 90 seconds (1.5 minutes) to accomplish a successful takeoff. Multiple takeoff attempts are NOT allowed within the 90 second window.
- **Regular Class:** Upon a signal given by the Air Boss, a team will have 180 seconds (3 minutes) to accomplish a successful takeoff. Multiple takeoff attempts are allowed within the three-minute window as long as the aircraft has **NOT** become airborne during an aborted attempt.
- **Advance Class:** Upon a signal given by the Air Boss, a team will have 300 seconds (5 minutes) to accomplish a successful takeoff. Multiple takeoff attempts are allowed within the five-minute window as long as the aircraft has **NOT** become airborne during an aborted attempt.

#### 3.1.2 Take-off Zone

Takeoff direction will be determined by the Air Boss, and selected to face into the wind. Aircraft must remain on the runway during the takeoff roll. Distance requirement is defined in the Table.

**Table 3-1 Take-Off Distance Requirement**

Class	Take-off distance Requirements	Description
Regular	200 ft. (61m)	Aircraft must be <u>airborne</u> within the prescribed take-off distance.
Micro	Team may use the entire launch circle per attempt to get the air-system <u>airborne</u> .	<b>Only one (1) attempt</b> per round
Advanced	N/A	Aircraft shall have the full use of the runway.

---

### 3.1.3 Engine Run-up

Use of a helper to hold the model while the engine is revved prior to release for takeoff is allowed, but the helper may not push the model upon release. To stay within the takeoff zone, the main wheels of the aircraft are to be placed on the takeoff line.

### 3.1.4 Aircraft Configuration upon Liftoff

The aircraft must remain intact during takeoff, from release through liftoff. No parts may depart the aircraft during the takeoff process.

## 3.2 (NEW) Round Attempt

A team is allowed one (1) flight per round.

Without violating other take-off restrictions, a team can have multiple attempts to become airborne inside the prescribed time limit for each respective class identified in section 3.1.1

## 3.3 (NEW) Bounce at take-off

During the take-off roll, aircraft bounce is allowed only if the bounce occurred inside the prescribed take-off distance.

If an airborne aircraft returns to the ground prior to completing the 360° circuit and beyond the prescribed take-off distance requirement (Table 3-1), the Air Boss shall disqualify the flight attempt and the team will have to wait for the next round to make another attempt .

## 3.4 Competition Circuit Requirements

Regular and Micro Class aircraft must successfully complete one 360° circuit of the field. During departure and approach to landing, the pilot must not fly the aircraft in a pattern that will allow the aircraft to enter any of the no-fly zones (See Para. 20.3.4). More than one circuit of the field is allowed. During a flight, each aircraft must fly past the departure end of the takeoff zone, turn the aircraft through approximately 180° of heading, and fly past the approach end of the takeoff zone prior to landing. No aerobatic maneuvers will be allowed at any time during the flight competition in any competition class. This includes but not limited to: loops, figure 8's, immelmans, barrel rolls, etc.

## 3.5 Initial Turn after take-off

The pilot may begin to make the initial turn of the 360° circuit after the aircraft has passed the Take-Off Distance Requirement (Table 3-1 Take-Off Distance Requirement). Making the initial turn before passing the Take-Off Distance Requirement will disqualify the flight attempt.

## 3.6 Landing

Landing is defined as an act of returning to the ground or another surface after a



flight. A good landing is defined as a controlled return to the ground inside the landing zone and remaining on the ground through rollout.

### 3.6.1 Landing Zone

Landing zone is a predetermined fixed area for the purpose of returning a flying aircraft back to the ground. Landing zone will be visible marked at each venue prior to the start of the competition. It is the team and team pilot's responsibility to be aware of the class specific landing zone dimensions at each venue.

#### Allowed

- Controlled Rollout beyond the landing zone is allowed provided the aircraft touches the ground inside the landing zone.
- Controlled run-off to the side of the runway within the landing zone is allowed provided the aircraft touches the ground inside the landing zone.
- Controlled run-off to the side of the runway beyond the landing zone is allowed provided the aircraft touches the ground inside the landing zone.

#### Not Allowed

- Uncontrolled, or bouncing across the boundary at the end of the landing zone is not allowed, and will be judged as a failed landing attempt.
- Touch-and-goes are not allowed will be judged as a failed landing attempt.
- Uncontrolled (bouncing) run-off to the side of the runway is not allowed and will be judged as a failed landing attempt.

A failed landing attempt will result in no score for the round.

**Table 3-2: Landing Distance Requirement**

Class	Landing Requirement	Description
Regular	400 ft (122m)	Aircraft must land in the same direction as takeoff within a designated landing zone.
Micro	N/A	Aircraft must land in the same direction as takeoff within a designated landing zone.
Advanced	N/A	Aircraft must land in the same direction as takeoff within a designated landing zone.

### 3.6.2 Post-landing Condition

The aircraft must take-off and return to the ground intact to receive points for the flight. All parts must remain attached to the aircraft during flight and landing maneuvers, with the exception of the propeller. Broken propellers are allowed, and will not invalidate a flight attempt.

---

### 3.6.3 **(NEW) Grounding an Aircraft**

An aircraft will be grounded if it is deemed non-flight-worthy by the Organizer, Chief Judge, Air Boss, SAE Official, or other designated competition technical/safety inspector. Until the non-flight-worthy condition has been addressed and have been cleared by re-inspection, the aircraft will not be allowed to fly in the competition..

### 3.6.4 **Controllability**

All aircraft must be controllable in flight.

### 3.6.5 **No-Fly Zone**

Each competition will have venue-specific no-fly zones. At no time will an aircraft to enter the no-fly zones, whether under controlled flight or uncontrolled. First infraction for crossing into the no-fly zone will result in an invalidated flight attempt and zero points will be awarded for that flight. Second infraction will result in disqualification from the entire event and loss of all points.

It is the team and team pilot's responsibility to be aware of the venue-specific no-fly zones and to comply with all venue specific rules.

### 3.6.6 **Flight Rules Announcement**

Flight will be explained to all teams before the flight competition begins, either during the pilots' meeting or during activities surrounding the technical inspections and oral presentations.

### 3.6.7 **Flight Rules Violations**

Violation of any flight rule may result in the team being eliminated from the competition. All members of the team may be escorted from the grounds.

### 3.6.8 **Local Field Rules**

In addition to competition rules, the local flying club may have additional rules in place at the event flying field. Club rules will be obeyed during the flight competition; for example, the club may have specific frequency control procedures that must be used during the event. In the event that local rules conflict with competition rules, it is the responsibility of the team captain and/or faculty advisor to bring attention and follow the appeals process to resolve the conflict.

### 3.6.9 **Repairs , Alterations, and Spares**

The original design of the aircraft as presented in the written and oral reports must be maintained as the baseline aircraft during the course of the competition.

### 3.6.9.1 Repairs

In the event of damage to the aircraft, the aircraft may be repaired provided such repairs do not drastically deviate from the original baseline design. All major repairs must re-inspected before the aircraft is cleared for flight.

### 3.6.9.2 Alteration after First Flight

Minor alterations are allowed after the first and subsequent flight attempts. Penalty will **ONLY** be assessed if 2/3 of the ruling committee (Event Director, Head scoring judge and/or SAE staff judge) agree that there was significant modifications made from the baseline configuration. If the ruling committee determines that the changes are a result of safety-of-flight, the changes will not incur penalty points. Alteration must be reported as described in section 7.3.3

### 3.6.9.3 (NEW) Spare Aircraft and Spare Parts.

Spare aircrafts are allowed but the team will forfeit all flight points earned with the original aircraft if the team decides to fly with an entirely new aircraft.

If a team decides to replace more than 50% of the original aircraft with spare parts, the team will forfeit all flight points earned with the original aircraft

If a team decides to replace less than 50% of the original aircraft with spare parts, the team will retain all flight points earned with the original aircraft

Once the spare parts have successfully flown with original parts of the aircraft, the spare part will no longer be classified as spare.

### 3.6.10 Ground Safety

NO OPEN TOE SHOES ALLOWED.

All team participants, including faculty advisors and pilots, will be required to wear CLOSED toe shoes during flight testing and during flight competition.

**Smoking – Prohibited**--Smoking is prohibited in all competition areas.

### 3.6.11 Flight Line Safety

**All students involved at the flight line must wear safety glasses.**

**Micro Class must have hard hats in addition to safety glasses.**

## Section 4      Regular Class Requirements

### Design Objective:

The objective of Regular Class is to design an aircraft that can lift as much weight as possible while observing the available power and aircraft's length, width, and height requirements. Accurately predicting the lifting capacity of the aircraft is an important part of the exercise, as prediction bonus points often determine the difference in placement between competing teams.

The Regular Class will be divided into 3 phases as follows:

#### **Phase 1: Technical report**

Teams will electronically submit their proposals for competition detailing how their design has met or exceeded the design requirements.

#### **Phase 2: Technical Presentation and Inspection**

Phase 2A – Payload Loading Demonstration (timed event during Oral Presentation).

Phase 2B – Payload Unloading Demonstration (timed event during Oral Presentation)

Phase C – Oral Presentation

#### **Phase 3: Flight Competition**

### **4.1 No lighter-than-air or rotary wing aircraft**

Competing designs are limited to fixed wing aircraft only. No lighter-than-air or rotary wing aircraft such as helicopters or autogyros will be allowed to compete.

### **4.2 Aircraft Dimension Requirement**

Fully configured for takeoff, the free standing aircraft shall have a maximum combined length, width, and height of **175 inches**. Aircraft exceeding this design requirement will be disqualified from the competition.

Length is defined as the maximum distance from front to the aft of the aircraft. Width is the span or the maximum distance from wingtip to wingtip. Height is defined as the maximum distance perpendicular to the ground to the highest part of the aircraft (propeller not included).

Note: Modifications to the aircraft to meet the Length + Width + Height limitations during technical inspection are subjected to design change penalties.

#### **4.2.1 Gross Weight Limit**

**Regular Class aircraft may not weigh more than fifty-five (55) pounds with payload and fuel.**

#### 4.2.2 Aircraft Identification

Team number as assigned by SAE International must be visible on both the top and bottom of the wing, and on both sides of the vertical stabilizer or other vertical surface in 4-inch numbers. The University name must be clearly displayed on the wings or fuselage. The University initials may be substituted in lieu of the University name provided the initials are unique and recognizable.

The assigned aircraft numbers appear next to the school name on the “Registered Teams” page of the SAE Aero Design section of the Collegiate Design Series website at:

SAE Aero East: <http://students.sae.org/cds/aerodesign/east/>

SAE Aero West: <http://students.sae.org/cds/aerodesign/west/>

#### 4.2.3 Name and Address

Regular Class aircraft must be identified with the school name and address either on the outside or the inside of the aircraft.

#### 4.2.4 Material Restriction

**The use of Fiber-Reinforced Plastic (FRP) is prohibited** on all parts of the aircraft. The only exception is the use of a commercially available engine mount and propeller. Exploration of other materials and building methods are greatly encouraged.

**In addition, the use of lead in any portion of the aircraft (payload included) is strictly prohibited.**

### 4.3 Aircraft System Requirement (NEW)

#### 4.3.1 Electric Motor Requirements

There are no restrictions (make or model) on the electric motor. Only a single motor configuration is allowed (no multiple motors).

#### 4.3.2 Gear boxes, Drives, and Shafts

Gearboxes, belt drive systems, and propeller shaft extensions are allowed as long as a one-to-one propeller to engine RPM is maintained. The prop(s) must rotate at motor RPM.

#### 4.3.3 Aircraft Batteries (NEW)

Regular Class aircraft must be powered by a commercially available Lithium-Polymer battery. Homemade batteries are NOT allowed.

Required: 6 cell (22.2 volt) Lithium Polymer (Li-Poly/Li-Po) battery

Minimum requirements for Li-Po battery: **3000 mah, 25c**

---

#### 4.3.4 Power Limiter (REVISED)

All Regular Class aircraft must use a **New 2015**, 1000 watt power limiter from our supplier, Neumotors.com. The limiter is only available at the follow link: <http://www.neumotors.com/store/page19/page19.html>. This supplier has agreed to ship worldwide to any team.

#### 4.3.5 Gyroscopic Assist Prohibited

No gyroscopic assist of any kind is allowed in the Regular Class.

#### 4.3.6 Red Arming Plug

All Regular Class aircraft **MUST** use a red arming plug to arm and disarm the electrical system. This red arming plug must be integrated into the electrical circuit between the battery and the electronic speed controller (ESC).

The red arming plug must physically be located at 40% to 60% of the aircraft length from the aircraft propeller. This is to avoid arming/disarming the aircraft without incursion through the prop arc. In addition, the red arming plug must be located on top of the fuselage and external of the aircraft surface. Please note: Disconnecting wires to arm/disarm a system will NOT be allowed.

### 4.4 Payload Requirements

#### 4.4.1 Payload and Payload Support

The payload must consist of a support assembly and payload plates. All payload carried for score must be carried within the cargo bay. The support assembly must be constructed so as to retain the weights as a **homogeneous mass**. There is no required configuration for the payload plates. The design of the support assembly will depend upon the configuration of the payload plates. The payload must be secured to the airframe to ensure the payload will not shift or come loose in flight. The total payload consists of the plates plus the support assembly. It is the responsibility of each team to provide its own payload plates.

**Again, no lead weights will be allowed as payload.**

#### 4.4.2 Payload Bay Limit(s)

Regular Class aircraft has a “Closed” payload bay dimensional requirements for the 2015 design year. A “Closed” payload bay is defined as having four sides, a bottom and a top. The top can be a hatch or the wing once installed on the aircraft. The payload bay must be fully enclosed within the fuselage and the aircraft must be structurally airworthy with and without the payload installed. No penetrations are allowed through the payload bay except for the payload support assembly, in which case the support assembly **MUST** be made removable. It must be removable so that the test block can be inserted into the payload bay during technical inspection. The removable payload support assembly will be considered as payload.

**“Closed” Payload bay volume dimension shall be 4 x 4 x 10 inch +1/8, -0**

- Each team is allowed only 1 payload bay per aircraft
- Teams must provide their own payload for all portions of the competition.
- During Technical Presentation (timed event) (see Section 7.2)
  - Team must demonstrate their design provides the capability to load and secure payload (**Ready for Flight**) in less than 1 minute.
  - Team must demonstrate their design provides the capability to unload the payload in less than 1 minute.
  - **Ready for Flight** shall be defined by a completely assembled aircraft with all latches engaged and nuts/bolts tightened. NO power connected (i.e. red arming plug dis-engaged).

#### **4.4.3 Payload Distribution**

The payload cannot contribute to the structural integrity of the airframe, and must be secured to the airframe within the cargo bay so as to avoid shifting while in flight.

#### **4.4.4 Aircraft Ballast**

Aircraft ballast is allowed to be used as teams desire with the following exceptions:

1. Ballast can never be used in the closed payload bay.
2. Ballast stations must be indicated on the 2D drawings.
3. Cannot use lead as ballast.
4. Ballast must be secured so as to avoid shifting or falling off the aircraft and causing a CG problem.
5. Ballast will never be counted as payload.

### **4.5 General Requirements**

#### **4.5.1 Radios**

The use of 2.4 GHz radio is required for all aircraft competing.

#### **4.5.2 Spinners or Safety Nuts Required (NEW)**

All aircraft must utilize either a spinner or a rounded safety nut.

**Prop savers are not allowed in Regular Class due to the high power propulsion system used.**

#### **4.5.3 Metal Propellers Prohibited**

Metal propellers are not allowed.

#### **4.5.4 Control Surface Slop**

Aircraft control surfaces must not feature excessive slop. Sloppy control surfaces lead to reduced controllability in mild cases, or control surface flutter in severe cases.

#### 4.5.5 Servo Sizing

Analysis and/or testing must be described in the Design Report that demonstrates the servos are adequately sized to handle the expected aerodynamic loads during flight.

### 4.6 Regular Class Scoring

In order to participate in the flight portion of the competition, each team is required to have submitted AND received a score for their Design Report and Oral Presentation.

#### 4.6.1 Regular Class Flight Score

The Final Regular Class Flight Score shall comprise of total weights lifted, Max Payload Prediction Bonus and Total Penalty deduction

$$FFS = \sum_1^n R_n - \sum T + B_{n(max)}$$

$$R_n = \text{Round Flight Score} = \text{Payload}_{lb}$$

#### 4.6.2 Payload Prediction Bonus

The prediction bonus will be determined according to the following formula:

$$B_n = 20 - (P_p - P_a)^2$$

$$P_p = \text{Payload Prediction}$$

$$P_a = \text{Actual Payload Carried}$$

If  $B_n$  is positive, the resulting number will be applied as the prediction bonus. If the above number is negative, no bonus will be applied.

#### 4.6.3 Total Penalty Points

Any penalties assessed during Design Report Submission, Technical Inspection, and Aircraft Modifications will be applied to the overall Flight Score.

$$T = \text{Penalty Points}$$



#### 4.6.4 SAMPLE SCORE CARD

Round	R <sub>n</sub>	B <sub>n</sub>	T	FFS
1	10.70	0.00	5.00	
2	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	16.40	4.00	3.00	
4	17.85	8.00	0.00	
5	18.02	19.00	0.00	
6	16.41	4.00	0.00	
<b>SUM=</b>	<b>79.38</b>	<b>19.00</b>	<b>8.00</b>	<b>90.38</b>

$$FFS = \sum_1^n R_n - \sum T + B_{n(max)}$$

$$FFS = 79.38 - 8.00 + 19.00$$

$$\mathbf{FFS = 90.38 \text{ pts}}$$

## Section 5      **Advanced Class Requirements**

### **Design Objectives:**

The objective of the Advanced Class is to design the most efficient aircraft capable of accurately dropping a three pound (3 lb) humanitarian aid package from a minimum of 100ft off the ground. Though the class is mostly focused on mission success, students will need to perform trade studies to optimize empty weight and anticipate repair build-up weight while meeting several aircraft design requirements.

The Advanced Class will be divided into 3 phases as follows:

#### **Phase 1: Technical report**

Teams will electronically submit their proposals for competition detailing how their design has met or exceeded the design requirements.

#### **Phase 2: Technical Presentation and Inspection**

Teams will present a technical briefing on the proposed concept demonstrator.

Teams will be subjected to a technical inspection of aircraft to make sure concept demonstrator will match design proposal, comply with design requirements and adhere to safety practices.

#### **Phase 3: Flight Competition**

Demonstrate aircraft can perform mission

### **5.1 Aircraft Requirements and Restrictions**

#### **5.1.1 No Lighter-Than-Air or Rotary Wing Aircraft**

Competing designs are limited to fixed wing aircraft only. No lighter-than-air or rotary wing aircraft such as helicopters or autogyros will be allowed to compete.

#### **5.1.2 Gross Weight Limit**

Advanced Class aircraft may not weigh more than sixty-five (65) pounds with payload and fuel.

#### **5.1.3 Wing Span Limit**

Advanced Class aircraft are not limited by wing span.

#### **5.1.4 Payload Requirements**

Advanced Class payload requirements shall consist of two types of cargo; static cargo, and expellable cargo.

##### **5.1.4.1 Static Cargo-Bay(s)**

Advanced Class Static Cargo-Bay shall be fully enclosed.

Advanced Class Static Cargo-Bay shall have no restriction to size or shape.

Advanced Class can have multiple Static Cargo-Bays and cannot conflict with the fully-enclosed requirement.

#### **5.1.4.1.1 Structural Integrity**

Advanced Class Static Cargo-Bay shall not contribute to the structural integrity of the airframe, and must be secured to the airframe within the cargo bay so as to avoid shifting while in flight.

#### **5.1.4.1.2 Support Assembly**

Advanced Class Static Cargo-Bay must consist of a support assembly and cargo plates. The support assembly must be constructed so as to retain the weights as a homogeneous mass. There is no required configuration for the cargo plates. It is the responsibility of each team to provide its own cargo plates.

The use of lead in the construction of the cargo plates is strictly prohibited.

#### **5.1.4.2 Expellable Cargo-Bay**

Expellable Cargo-Bay shall be used to carry the one (1) 3-lb humanitarian package.

Expellable Cargo-Bay can be either internal or external.

Expellable Cargo-bay cannot occupy the same space as the Static Cargo-Bay area.

##### **5.1.4.2.1 Expellable Cargo Requirement**

Expellable Cargo shall be sand enclosed by a sewn fabric material.

Expellable Cargo MUST weigh between 3.000 lbs and 3.250 lbs.

Fabric material shall be labeled with the team aircraft number in at least 2-inch numbers.

All Expellable Cargo packages used during competition shall be inspected and weighed during technical inspection.

#### **5.1.5 Aircraft Identification**

Team number as assigned by SAE International must be visible on both the top and bottom of the wing, and on both sides of the vertical stabilizer or other vertical surface in 3-inch numbers. The University name must be clearly displayed on the wings or fuselage. The University initials may be substituted in lieu of the University name provided the initials are unique and recognizable.

The assigned aircraft numbers appear next to the school name on the “Registered

---

Teams” page of the SAE Aero Design section of the Collegiate Design Series website at:

SAE Aero East: <http://students.sae.org/cds/aerodesign/east/>

SAE Aero West: <http://students.sae.org/cds/aerodesign/west/>

#### **5.1.6 Name and Address**

Advanced Class aircraft must be identified with the school name and address either on the outside or the inside of the aircraft.

#### **5.1.7 Engine Requirements**

Advanced Class aircraft must be solely powered by internal combustion, reciprocating engines. The common-use displacement will be used to determine displacement, i.e. the advertised displacement.

- **The total displacement may not exceed .46 cubic inches.**
- Advanced Class aircraft are not limited to the number of engines.
- No changes to the internal displacement of the engine(s) will be allowed.
- No restriction to the make and model of the engine(s).

#### **5.1.8 Stored Energy Restriction**

Advanced Class aircraft must be powered by the engine(s) on board the aircraft. No other internal and/or external forms of stored potential energy allowed.

#### **5.1.9 Propeller and Gearbox Issues**

Gearboxes are allowed in Advanced Class in which the propeller RPM differs from the engine RPM. Multiple engines, multiple propellers, propeller shrouds, and ducted fans are allowed in Advanced Class.

#### **5.1.10 Competition Supplied Fuel**

Advanced Class teams may provide their own fuel, but fuel for Advanced Class entries must be acceptable for use by the AMA and the competition organizer. No fuel systems with gaseous boosts in which gases other than air enter the internal combustion engine will be allowed; pressurized air is also not allowed. Engines utilizing extremely hazardous fuels such as those containing tetranitromethane or hydrazine are prohibited. Advanced Class teams are welcome to use the competition-supplied fuel.

#### **5.1.11 Fuel Tanks**

Advanced Class fuel tanks need not be accessible.

#### **5.1.12 Gyroscopic Assist Allowed**

Gyroscopic assist or other forms of stability augmentation are allowed in Advanced

---

Class. **Gyroscopic Assist are Allowed**

**5.1.13 Data Acquisition System (DAS)**

Advanced Class aircraft shall have a Data Acquisition System (DAS) to record altitude.

- Team must be able to provide real-time altitude reading at a ground station.
- Team must be able to record the altitude at the moment they release the expellable cargo.

**5.1.14 DAS Requirements**

- DAS shall be measured in feet with precision of at least 1 ft.
- DAS shall have a read-out and visible from a ground station.
- DAS **MUST** have an arming/reset switch. If a manual switch is used, it must be located externally at least 12 inches away from the propeller. Wireless arming/reset switch is allowed.
- DAS systems **CANNOT** use the same frequency as the flight control system. Use of 2.4 Ghz for DAS is prohibited.

**5.1.15 DAS Failures**

DAS failures are considered a missed flight attempt.

Example: A team has flown four (4) rounds successfully and on the 5<sup>th</sup> round the plane takes-off successfully, makes a successful drop, but the DAS malfunctions. The flight attempt will **NOT** be considered a qualified flight and the team will receive zero (0) flight score for round 5.

**5.1.16 First Person View System (FPV)**

Some type of First Person View (FPV) system is required to be used as a drop sighting device. This is where telemetry and/or video stream can be transmitted to a local visual device (FPV goggles or laptop). Telemetry data such as airspeed and altitude shall be transmitted to the laptop computer

- The primary pilot will fly visually only (no goggles or laptop visual)
- Secondary pilot **must be a team member** and will use the telemetry video stream to verbally direct the pilot to the drop zone
- The primary pilot cannot initiate the release of the humanitarian cargo. This task is the responsibility of a design team member. If the primary pilot is a member of the design team, then the team shall select another member of the team to initiate the expellable cargo release.
- **FPV systems CANNOT use the same frequency as the flight control system. Use of 2.4 Ghz for video is prohibited.**

### **5.1.17 Brakes**

Advanced Class aircraft does not have a brake requirement

### **5.1.18 Radios (Requirement)**

The use of 2.4 GHz radio is required for all aircraft.

### **5.1.19 In-Flight Battery Packs**

Advanced Class aircraft must use a battery pack with capacity suitable to safely drive all the servos in the aircraft, taking into consideration the number of servos and potential current draw from those servos. Batteries may be charged at any time on the ground.

Advanced Class aircraft must use a battery pack with no less than 1000 mAh capacity.

### **5.1.20 Spinners and Safety Nuts Required**

All aircraft must utilize either a spinner or a rounded safety nut.

### **5.1.21 Metal Propellers Prohibited**

Metal propellers are not allowed.

### **5.1.22 Control Surface Slop**

Aircraft control surfaces must not feature excessive slop. Sloppy control surfaces lead to reduced controllability in mild cases, or control surface flutter in severe cases.

### **5.1.23 Servo Sizing**

Analysis and /or testing must be described in the Design Report that demonstrates the servos are adequately sized to handle the expected aerodynamic loads during flight.

### **5.1.24 Qualification Flights**

Qualification flights are not required.

## **5.2 Flight Procedures (NEW)**

Advanced Class teams are allowed to drop their expellable cargo in the upwind or downwind directions or both. Dropping direction must be declared to the flight boss prior to takeoff and adhered to during flight operations. Stated direction will be recorded on the flight log. If a team misses the drop in any intended direction, the flight is disqualified. Teams will get two attempts to drop their expellable cargo during a single flight.

Example 1: A team states they will drop in upwind direction only. They will get two attempts to position their aircraft in the proper direction. If a team does an upwind fly over the drop zone, it is considered an attempt.

Example 2: A team states they will drop in either upwind or downwind directions. Any approach to the drop zone (upwind or downwind) is considered an attempt.

### 5.3 Advanced Class Scoring

In order to participate in the flight portion of the competition, each team is required to have submitted AND received a score for both Design Report and Oral Presentation.

Advanced Class aircraft will receive flight scores based on accuracy, Empty Weight (EW), and Static Cargo Weight (CWs).

$$Final\ Flight\ Score = \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x=1}^n FS \right)$$

N = total number of flight rounds at competition (including

$$FS = (4)[S_1][S_2][S_3]$$

$$S_1 = \begin{cases} 50 - D & 0 \leq D \leq 50 \\ 0 & D > 50 \end{cases}$$

D = Distance from Drop Target

$$S_2 = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \leq EW < 8 \\ -\frac{1}{4}EW + 3 & 8 \leq EW < 12 \\ 0 & EW \geq 12 \end{cases}$$

EW = Aircraft Empty Weight

$$S_3 = \begin{cases} 0 & CW_s < 12 \\ -\frac{1}{9}(15 - CW_s)^2 + 1 & 12 \leq CW_s < 18 \\ 0 & CW_s \geq 18 \end{cases}$$

CW<sub>s</sub> = Static Cargo Weight

## Section 6 **(NEW) Micro Class Requirements**

### Design Objectives:

The objective of Micro Class is to design light-weight, UAV style aircraft that can be quickly deployed from a small package. Reliability to perform the mission is measured by an operational availability bonus. The first assembly of the competition is a timed event. Payload fraction is still at the core of the class and may be considered as a measure of performance.

Micro class will be divided into 3 phases as follows:

Phase 1	Technical report Teams will electronically submit their proposals for competition detailing how their design has met or exceeded the design requirements.
Phase 2A	Technical Inspection
Phase 2B	Oral Presentation
Phase 3A	Aircraft assembly Demonstration (Round 1 Only)
Phase 3B	Flight Competition

In addition to the score received in Phase 1 and Phase 2, the Micro Class Aircraft (MCA) shall also receive operation scores from Phase 3; two from design compliance requirements and two from performance requirements.

### 6.1 Aircraft Requirements and Restrictions

#### 6.1.1 No lighter-than-air or rotary wing aircraft

Competing designs are limited to fixed wing aircraft only. No lighter-than-air or rotary wing aircraft such as helicopters or autogiros will be allowed to compete.

#### 6.1.2 Aircraft Identification

Team number as assigned by SAE International must be visible on both the top and bottom of the wing, and on both sides of the vertical stabilizer or other vertical surface in 3-inch numbers. The University name must be clearly displayed on the wings or fuselage. The University initials may be substituted in lieu of the University name provided the initials are unique and recognizable.

The assigned aircraft numbers appear next to the school name on the “Registered Teams” page of the SAE Aero Design section of the Collegiate Design Series.

SAE Aero East: <http://students.sae.org/cds/aerodesign/east/>

SAE Aero West: <http://students.sae.org/cds/aerodesign/west/>

MCA identification shall include both of the following:

- School name, address, and contact phone number either inside or outside of the aircraft fuselage.



- School name, address and contact phone number on the outside of the shipping and storage container

### **6.1.3 Aircraft Assembly**

For Round 1 only: The assembly demonstration for Round 1 is optional. If a team elects to perform the demonstration, the MCA must be assembled within the specified time-constraint in accordance with 6.4.2 in order to receive an assembly demonstration bonus. If the aircraft is not assembled within the specified time, the assembly demonstration bonus will be zeroed, and the team will have the option to move to the back of the line, finish assembly, and attempt a Round 1 flight.

Teams may elect not to perform the assembly demonstration. If this is the case, there are no timed assembly requirements. The aircraft must be assembled but not armed prior to entering the launch zone. MCA must be airborne within the specified time constraints in accordance with 6.4.2.

For Round 2 thru Round *n*: there are no timed assembly requirements. The aircraft must be assembled but not armed prior to entering the launch zone. MCA must be airborne within the specified time constraints in accordance with 6.4.2.

## **6.2 Aircraft Systems Requirements**

### **6.2.1 Propulsion Requirements**

MCA are restricted to electric motor propulsion only. See section 6.3.1 for battery pack requirements.

### **6.2.2 Propeller and Gearbox Issues**

Gearboxes on a MCA --- which the propeller RPM differs from the motor RPM are allowed.

Multiple motors, multiple propellers, propeller shrouds, and ducted fans are allowed in Micro Class.

### **6.2.3 Gyroscopic Assist Allowed**

Gyroscopic assist or other forms of stability augmentation are allowed in Micro Class.

### **6.2.4 Payload Requirements**

#### **6.2.4.1 Payload and Payload Support**

The payload must consist of a support assembly and payload plates. All payloads carried for score must be carried within the cargo bay. The support assembly must be constructed so as to retain the weights as a homogeneous mass. There is no required configuration for the payload plates. The design of the support assembly will depend upon the configuration of the payload plates. The total payload consists of the plates plus the support assembly. It is the responsibility of each team to provide its own payload plates.

---

#### 6.2.4.2 Payload Distribution

The payload cannot contribute to the structural integrity of the airframe, and must be secured to the airframe within the cargo bay so as to avoid shifting while in flight.

#### 6.2.4.3 Payload

Micro Class aircraft shall carry a fully enclosed rectangular payload measuring 1.5 inches by 1.5 inches by 5 inches. The tolerance is  $\pm 0.10$  inch.

(1.5in. x 1.5in. x 5.0in.)

The payload shall not contribute to aircraft structural integrity.  
The payload bay may be adjusted forward or aft to adjust aircraft stability.

Compliance with this requirement will be demonstrated during technical inspection by inserting a gauge block measuring 1.5 inches maximum by 1.5 inches maximum by 5.0 inches maximum. Aircraft, which cannot accept the provided gauge, shall be required to revise their airframe and submit the engineering change request (ECR) or shall be disqualified from further competition.

The verification gauge shall be easily installed/extracted without application of excess force.

#### 6.2.4.4 Payload Material

The use of lead in any portion of the aircraft (payload included) is strictly prohibited.

#### 6.2.5 Aircraft Launch Method

The MCA shall be hand tossed (launched) by throwing the aircraft using one (1) hand grasping the fuselage. There is no limit on number of steps taken during the launching action, but the person must remain inside the launch zone before and after releasing the aircraft.

- Only one (1) member of the team can enter pre-marked launch zone.
- The pilot must be outside the pre-marked launch zone during the tossing action.
- The aircraft can only be tossed by one (1) person; team member.
- The aircraft cannot be tossed by the pilot.

The following actions are not permitted and will invalidate the flight attempt and score for the round:

- Using more than one hand to toss the aircraft
- Tossing the aircraft from any other part of the aircraft other than the fuselage
- Running with the aircraft during launch
- Pilot launching (tossing) the aircraft



**IMPORTANT: Safety gear must be used by individuals launching the aircraft. Safety glasses and hard hat with full face shield are required.**

### **6.2.6 MCA Hand-Launch Safety Requirements**

Safety gears must be used by the designated person performing the aircraft toss.

Safety gear shall consist of:

- Safety Glasses
- Hard hat
- Shoes (open toe shoes are not allowed)

## **6.3 General Requirements**

The use of 2.4 GHz radio is required for all aircraft competing in SAE Aero Design competition. The radio system must have an automatic failsafe function on the throttle channel that causes the aircraft to go to throttle off if the radio signal is lost.

### **6.3.1 In-Flight Battery Packs**

MCA must use a battery pack with capacity suitable to safely drive all the servos in the aircraft, taking into consideration the number of servos and potential current draw from those servos. Batteries may be charged at any time on the ground.

Please follow all manufacturer recommendations and instructions in the use, handling, charging, discharging and disposal of all batteries. Teams may choose one of the following available options; a two battery system, or a single battery system.

The maximum flight battery pack allowed for Micro class is a 3 cell 2200mAh lithium polymer battery pack. Batteries having less cells and lower capacity are permitted.

### **6.3.2 Two Battery System**

Two battery systems must utilize separate batteries for the flight control and aircraft propulsion. The aircraft propulsion battery must be removed during technical inspection.

The maximum flight battery pack allowed for Micro class is a 3 cell 2200mAh lithium polymer battery pack. Batteries having less cells and lower capacity are permitted.

### **6.3.3 Single Battery System**

Single battery systems with BEC (Battery Eliminator Circuits) may be used if a red arming plug is positioned between the ESC and battery. This plug must be clearly visible and must be disconnected during technical inspection.

The maximum flight battery pack allowed for Micro class is a 3 cell 2200mAh lithium polymer battery pack. Batteries having less cells and lower capacity are permitted.

### **6.3.4 Red Arming Plug**

All MCA shall use a red arming plug to arm and disarm the electrical system. This red arming plug must be integrated into the electrical circuit between the battery and the electronic speed controller (ESC).

The red arming plug must physically be located at 40% to 60% of the aircraft length from the aircraft propeller. This is to avoid enable arming/disarming the aircraft without incursion through the prop arc. In addition, the red arming plug must be located on top of the fuselage and external of the aircraft surface. Please note: Disconnecting wires to arm/disarm a system will NOT be allowed.

### **6.3.5 Spinners and Safety Nuts Required**

All MCA must utilize either a spinner or a rounded model aircraft type safety nut.

### **6.3.6 Metal Propellers Prohibited**

Metal propellers are not allowed.

### **6.3.7 Control Surface Slop**

Aircraft control surfaces must not feature excessive slop. Sloppy control surfaces lead to reduced controllability in mild cases, or control surface flutter in severe cases.

### **6.3.8 Servo Sizing**

Servos must be adequately sized to handle the expected air loads during flight. Qualification flights are not required.

### **6.3.9 Aircraft Packaging General Requirements**

The aircraft system container is defined as follows: the flight ready aircraft including all accessories (battery, payload assembly, weights, airframe, etc.), except the transmitter and spare parts, shall be packaged within the constraints of the prescribed container.

The container shall be one-man portable.

**The fully packed aircraft system container shall weigh no more than ten (10) pounds (lbs).**

The propulsion system battery shall not be pre-installed in the aircraft. It shall be partitioned from the remaining components.

If the aircraft uses a separate flight control battery, it may be pre-installed in its flight location. If a system uses a flight control battery, and a team elects not to pre-install it, then the flight control battery shall be contained within its own secondary package/space within the container.

### 6.3.10 Aircraft Container

The aircraft container may be either purchased or constructed. Compliance with the following requirements will be confirmed during technical inspection:

- The aircraft container shall be 6 inches in diameter maximum
- The aircraft container shall include a shoulder strap and a carrying handle.
- The aircraft container shall have School Name, Team Name and number on the outside surface of the tube.

## 6.4 Mission Requirements

### 6.4.1 Assembly Demonstration Flight (Round 1 only)

Aircraft assembly will be timed and scored during ROUND 1 only. This bonus term, BAD, will be calculated per section 6.5.

During the assembly demonstration flight:

- Two team members tasked with assembling the aircraft will be located immediately outside the launch circle in a designated area. At this time, the fully packaged, non-energized aircraft, with flight battery NOT installed shall be held over the shoulder using the required shoulder strap. (Failure to have the Red Arming Plug removed at this time will result in a zero bonus and a disqualified flight.)
- Two designated officials will give an okay to begin the demonstration. At this time, the two team members can begin assembling the aircraft. (The Red Arming plug must be removed.)
- When the aircraft is fully assembled, with the flight battery installed, the team will give the “okay” and the officials will stop the clock. This time, in seconds, will be used for the Assembly Demonstration Bonus equation.
- After the clock has stopped, no further assembly may continue. At this time, the official will give the okay to install the Red Arming Plug. (Any further assembly of the aircraft after the clock has stopped will result in zero for the bonus.)
- The team will then step into the launch circle to begin their flight attempt. At this time, upon signal given by the Air Boss, a team will have 90 seconds (1.5 minutes) to accomplish a successful [takeoff](#). During these 90 seconds, the pilot can do a final test on the controls. If the officials witness additional assembly after the clock has stopped, the assembly demonstration bonus will be zeroed.

The “assembly” is all steps required to make a flight ready MCA from a fully packaged MCA. Assembly shall consist of installation of the propulsion system battery at minimum.

The “assembly” is considered complete when all tasks required for flight have been performed with the exception of (1) installing the Red Arming Plug, (2) performing preflight controls checks and (3) hand launching the MCA.

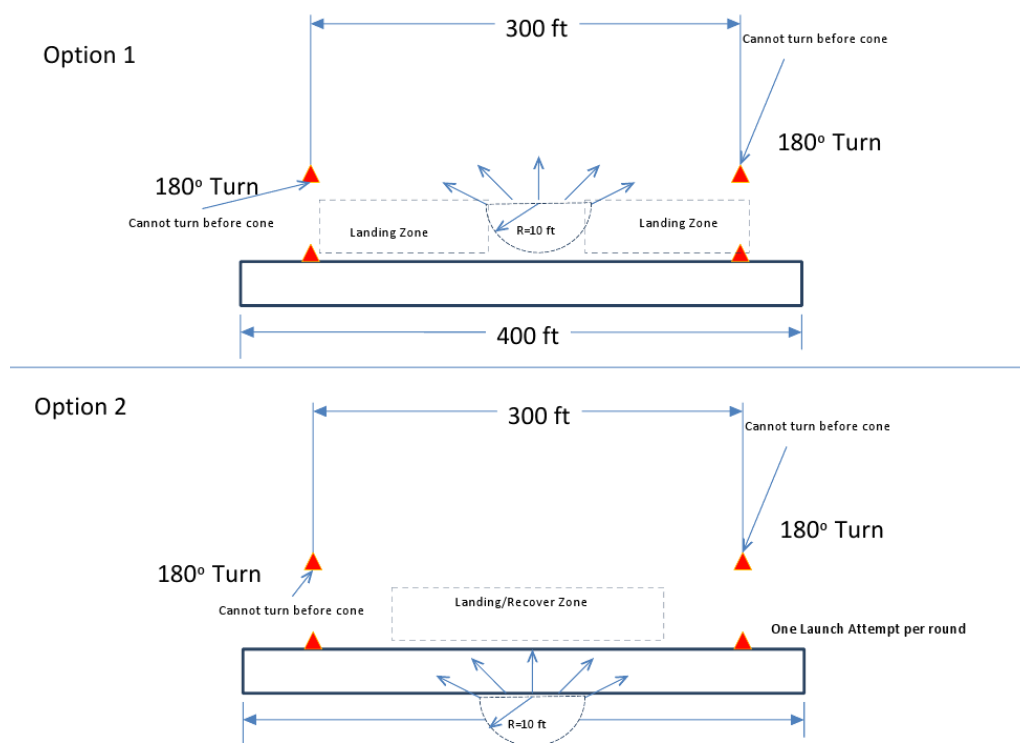
The Assembly Demonstration Bonus will only be applied if the Assembly Demonstration Flight is successful. A failed flight attempt will result in zero for the Assembly Demonstration Bonus.

### 6.4.2 Time Limit

Aircraft should be assembled prior to entering the launch zone. Each team will have 90 seconds to complete preflight checks, checkouts, setup, energize the propulsion system, and hand-launch the aircraft. Only one takeoff launch attempt is permitted per round.

### 6.4.3 Aircraft Takeoff

Takeoff is defined as the point at which the aircraft departs the hand of the person throwing the aircraft. Once takeoff occurs, Micro Class aircraft are required to remain airborne and fly past the designated turn point before turning approximately 180 degrees in heading, flying past a second designated turn point, turning 180 degrees in heading, and landing (see figure below). Takeoff direction will be determined by the Air Boss, and normally selected to face into the wind.



Takeoff will occur from a semicircular launching zone measuring 10 feet in radius. The takeoff zone will be positioned on a grass surface; as close to the runway as possible.



---

**IMPORTANT: Safety gear must be used by individuals launching the aircraft. Safety glasses and hard hat with full face shield are required.**

#### **6.4.4 Landing**

Landing is defined as occurring from initial touchdown to the point at which the aircraft stops moving. Initial touchdown is defined as the point at which any part of the aircraft touches the ground.

Micro Class aircraft shall land in a designated landing zone measuring 200 feet in length. The width of the landing zone will be approximately the width of the runway and will be determined by the competition organizers at the time of the event.

A good landing for a successful flight is defined as touching down and coming to rest within the designated landing zone after the aircraft has completed the required flight circuit. Any part of the aircraft overhanging the landing zone will invalidate the flight and will result in zero score for the round

The aircraft must take off and land intact to receive points for the flight. All parts must remain attached to the aircraft during flight and during the landing maneuver. Broken propellers are allowed, and will not invalidate a flight attempt.

## 6.5 Micro Class Flight Scoring (NEW)

Final Flight Score will be calculated in three parts: the average of successful flight round scores; the summation of operational availability bonus points; and the Round 1 timed assembly bonus score. This running calculation will be posted on the score board to determine team standings.

$$FFS = \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_1^n R_n \right) + \left( \sum_1^m B_{OA} \right) + (B_{AD})$$

Where the flight round  $R_n$  is

$$R_n = (70 - L_{AC})(2 \cdot PF)$$

Where the operational availability,  $B_{OA}$ , is

$$B_{OA} = (5 \cdot PF)$$

Where the payload fraction,  $PF$ , is

$$PF = \frac{(W_{Payload})}{(W_{Payload} + W_{Empty})}$$

Where the assembly demonstration bonus,  $B_{AD}$ , is

$$B_{AD} = (15 - 0.1 \cdot t)$$

Where

$L_{AC}$  is the aircraft container length in inches

$t$  is time in seconds to assemble aircraft.

$n$  is the total number of successful flight rounds flown.

$m$  is the total number of rounds in the flight competition.



## Section 7      Design Reports and Technical Presentation

**A team must have a score for their design report AND oral presentation in order to qualify for flight competition.**

### 7.1 Design Reports

The Design Report is the primary means in which a team is to convey to the judges how they arrived at their conclusion, that the aircraft they are entering in the competition is the aircraft most suited to perform the intended mission. The Design Report should explain the team's thought processes and engineering philosophy that drove them to their conclusions. Further, it should detail the methods, procedures, and where applicable, the calculations used to arrive at the presented solution.

The SAE International Technical Paper standard is a good guideline for the Design Report, [SAE International Technical Paper Format](#).

Some topics that are important to cover are: selection of the overall vehicle configuration, wing plan form design including airfoil selection, drag analysis including three-dimensional drag effects, aircraft stability and control, power plant performance including both static and dynamic thrust, and performance prediction. Other topics as appropriate may be included. For more information regarding performance prediction, a white paper by Leland Nicolai is available on the SAE Aero Design website.

The Design Report consists of the report itself, the plans, and a payload prediction graph. The signed Statement of Compliance needs to be included as page 2 of the Design Report. The Design Report must be scored with the following maximum number of points available for each section:

Report	40 Points
Plans	5 Points
<u>Prediction Graph</u>	<u>5 Points</u>
Total Design Score	50 Points

#### 7.1.1 Design Report Requirements

##### 7.1.1.1 Page Limit (NEW)

The report must not exceed thirty (30) double-spaced, typewritten pages, including appendices, Cover Page, Table of Contents, and Prediction Graph. If the design report exceeds thirty (30) pages, the judges will only read and judge the first thirty pages.

- 2D drawings and Statement of Compliance will no longer be counted toward the 30 page limit.

##### 7.1.1.2 Electronic Report Format

All reports will now be submitted in (.PDF) format only.

### 7.1.1.3 Font

The minimum size type is 12 point proportional or a 10 character per inch non-proportional font.

### 7.1.1.4 Margin

1" Left, 1/2" right, top, and bottom.

### 7.1.1.5 Page size

All report pages will be ANSI A (8 1/2 x 11 inches) page format.

### 7.1.1.6 Cover page

All Design Reports must feature a cover page that states the team's name, school, and team number. The cover page will count against the 30-page limit.

### 7.1.1.7 Submission of Reports

Teams are required to upload a PDF file by the deadline date to [www.saeerodesign.com](http://www.saeerodesign.com).

## 7.1.2 Electronic Plan Requirements (NEW)

### 7.1.2.1 Format Size

Plan sheet must be ANSI B sized page (PDF) format (11 x 17 inches). For teams outside North America, page format size must be the closest size available to ANSI B. Plans must only consist of one (1) page, and must have the US-standard third-order projection.

### 7.1.2.2 Required Views

The plans shall consist of a standard aeronautical three-view, using a US-standard third-order projection; i.e., right side view in the lower left with the nose pointing right, top view above the right side view also with the nose pointing right, and front view in the lower right.

### 7.1.2.3 Dimensions

At a minimum, all aircraft must have the length, width, height, and CG location clearly marked and dimensioned on the submitted engineering drawings. All dimensions must be in inches and decimal inches, to an appropriate level of precision. **(Hint: four decimal places are too many!)**

**Regular Class Aircraft:** In addition to the minimum aircraft dimensions requirements, Regular Class aircraft must call out the main wheel diameter. Failure to call out the main wheel diameter will result in a 5 point technical inspection penalty to be applied to the overall design score.

#### 7.1.2.4 Summary Data

The plans must also contain a table with a summary of pertinent aircraft data such as wingspan, empty weight, motor/engine make and model.

#### 7.1.2.5 Weight and Balance Data

The plans must now also contain a weight and balance table with a summary of pertinent aircraft equipment (motor/engine, battery, payload, ballast, etc), location from datum in inches, moment arms and resultant moment of CG. See “Rules and Important Documents” section of the SAE Aero Design website for additional information.

- All aircraft must have a designated aircraft datum indicated on the 2D drawings.
- All aircraft drawings must indicate the following static CG margins: forward CG limit, aft CG limit and empty weight CG. Hint: Weight and Balance worksheet should correspond with static margins on 2D drawings.

#### 7.1.2.6 Other Required Markings

The plans must be marked with the team name, school name, and team number.

### 7.1.3 Electronic Payload Prediction Curve Requirements

#### 7.1.3.1 Number of Copies

One copy of the payload prediction curve will be included with your Design Report and will count against the 30-page limit. One electronic copy of the payload prediction **“EQUATION ONLY”** will be provided on the face of the 2D drawing.

#### 7.1.3.2 Page Size

Prediction curves must be on ANSI A sized page format (PDF) (8 ½ x 11 inches) in landscape format. For teams outside North America, page size must be the closest size available to ANSI A.

#### 7.1.3.3 Graph Markings

The payload prediction curve (graph) must be marked with the team name and school name across the top of the graph, and with the team number marked in the bottom-right corner. The graph must include the formula used to calculate the curve.

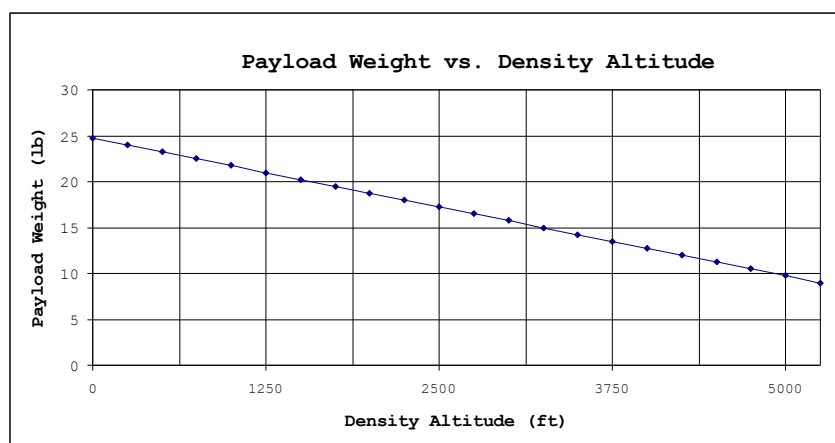
#### 7.1.3.4 Nature of the Curve

For Regular and Advanced Classes, the curve must present the payload capacity of the aircraft in pounds as a function of density altitude in feet. For Micro Class, the curve must present the payload *fraction* of the aircraft as a function of density altitude in feet. The graph must be linearized over the relevant range, and the

linear equation used to predict the payload capacity or payload fraction must be clearly shown on the graph.

Only one curve, and hence one equation, may be presented on the graph. This curve may take into account predicted headwind for local conditions, rolling drag, inertia, engine and propeller performance, or any other factors that may affect takeoff performance. All these factors are allowed components of the prediction curve, but only one curve will be allowed; multiple curves to account for varying headwind conditions will not be allowed. Teams presenting multiple curves will receive no bonus points for payload prediction.

### Payload Prediction Chart – Example



$$W_{\max} = 24.7 - (4.6 \times 10^{-4})h \text{ Density}$$

#### 7.1.3.5 Scoring Precedence

In scoring the payload prediction, the equation as printed on the prediction graph will be used to calculate the prediction bonus. In the event the line as printed on the graph contradicts the equation, the equation must be used to determine the prediction bonus. Teams omitting the prediction curve equation from the prediction graph will receive no bonus points for payload prediction.

#### 7.1.3.6 Micro Class Not Exempt

Although no payload prediction bonus is available for Micro Class, Micro Class teams are still required to provide a payload prediction curve according to the guidelines described above.

#### 7.1.4 Submission Deadlines

**The Design Report and 2D drawing plans must be electronically submitted to [www.saeerodesign.com](http://www.saeerodesign.com) no later than the date indicated on the Action Deadlines given in the Appendix. Neither the Organizer nor the SAE International is responsible for any lost or misdirected reports, plans, or**

---

**server routing delays. The SAE International will not receive any paper copies of the reports through regular mail or email.**

## **7.2 Technical Presentations**

Each team is to give a ten (10) minute technical presentation of their design. Judging criteria for the presentation include both the quality of the technical content AND the manner in which that content is presented. During this presentation, the team should present in oral form the same information they provided in their Design Report.

As a guideline, teams should prepare for the Oral Presentation as if they were trying to convince the industry customer to purchase their aircraft design instead of any competitor's design. That means a team should give a detailed explanation of how they arrived at the conclusion that their design is the best. Teams should explain why they chose their design configuration, and then present the results of any analysis or testing that was done to justify their design choices. Any aspects of the design relevant to aircraft performance should be explained.

Regular and Micro Class aircraft must be present at the Oral Presentation. Advanced Class participants should make every effort to bring all or a portion of their aircraft to the presentation; however, if the size of the aircraft prevents its display, adequate photographs are acceptable substitutes.

The Oral Presentation must be given in English, and it is worth a maximum of 50 points. Teams that exceed the 15 minute presentation time will be penalized five points against their Oral Presentation score.

Presentation Breakdown:

- 3 minutes setup
- 3 minute aircraft assembly (timed event for Micro Class only)
- **1 minute Payload Loading Demonstration (Regular Class Only)**
- **1 Minute Payload Unloading Demonstration (Regular Class Only)**
- 10 minute technical presentation
- 5 minute question and answers
- 2 minute teardown

### 7.2.1 Proof of Concept Demonstrating (Micro Class)

Micro Class aircraft have an additional requirement. Micro Class entries have to validate their ease of assembly requirement during the first flight round in accordance with 6.4.1. The aircraft must be assembled to flight ready status (minus propulsion battery) by two (2) people and actuate the flight control surfaces using the radio transmitter in three (3) minutes or less. Failure to comply will result in a 3 point deduction. For safety reasons, connection and/or installation of the propulsion battery will NOT be required or performed. It is required that the configuration presented during the assembly demonstration be the same flight configuration for flight competition. Any deviation in configuration from the assembly demonstration to the flight competition will be addressed with a design change form along with any applicable point deductions.

### 7.2.2 Regular Class Payload Loading and Unloading Demonstration (NEW)

The regular class has an additional requirement to demonstrate the capabilities to quickly load/secure and unload payloads. This is a timed activity and shall be performed by one (1) member of the team for the following time constraints.

- One minute to load/secure the payload for flight
- One minute to unload the payload
- **A minimum of ten (10) pounds (LBS) must be used during the demonstration.**

### 7.2.3 Marketing Material All Classes

During Oral Presentations, teams are required to provide a single sheet (8.5" x 11") marketing/promotion piece to further detail aircraft's feature, capabilities, and unique design attributes. It is up to the teams when and how to distribute the marketing material to the judges.

---

## 7.3 Technical Inspection

### 7.3.1 Conformance to Configuration Requirements

Technical Inspection is the event during which the aircraft are checked for compliance to the aircraft configuration requirements. Regular Class aircraft will be measured for wing span fit of the cargo block into the payload bay, and compliance of the engine to configuration requirements. Advanced Class aircraft will be checked for engine displacement and gross weight requirements. Any spare aircraft or spare components (major assemblies such as wings, fuselages, and empennage) must be inspected with the primary competition aircraft. Micro Class has an additional item for technical inspection. All Micro Class entries must have their carrying case inspected for compliance.

Technical Inspection will be used to assess airworthiness of entered aircraft. Items mentioned in the respective rules for each class will be verified, as well as any other items that could cause an aircraft to depart controlled flight. Wing warp, control surface alignment, center of gravity, and many other items will be inspected during this event.

### 7.3.2 Aircraft Conformance to Plans

During Technical Inspection the aircraft will be inspected for conformance to the plans presented in the Design Report. All teams must have a hard copy of their design report with them during technical inspection.

### 7.3.3 Deviation from Design

Any deviation in construction of the aircraft since submission of the Design Report must be reported in writing. Each design change must be documented separately using the *Modification Change Request (CR)*. Technical Inspectors will assess penalty points obtained using the penalty chart (FORM MOD-P)

### 7.3.4 Failure to Report Design Changes

In the case where a team fails to report a design change, an additional 10 points will be assessed on top of each design change as discovered during tech inspection.

### 7.3.5 Scoring the Technical Inspection

No points are available to be scored as a result of the Technical Inspection: teams may only lose points as a result of errors and problems encountered during the inspection process. Any penalties assessed during Technical Inspection will be applied to the overall Design Report score.

---

## 7.4 Total Competition Scoring

The overall competition score will be the sum of the individual components:

**Overall Score = Design Report Score + Oral Presentation Score + Flight Score**

## 7.5 Projection Equipment

Teams planning to use data projection are responsible for bringing, or otherwise arranging for, their own data projectors. Some data projectors may be provided by the organizers; however teams should not rely on either the availability or functionality of such equipment.

## 7.6 Tie Breakers

Tie Breakers for specific events within the competition will be decided by averaging the top three (3) flight scores.

**Action Deadlines: Deadlines for both competitions can be found at:**

**SAE Aero West**

<http://students.sae.org/competitions/aerodesign/west/dates.htm>

**SAE Aero East**

<http://students.sae.org/competitions/aerodesign/east/dates.htm>



## **Section 8**            **Future *Possible* Rule Changes**

This section is intended to give teams advance notice of possible future changes to the SAE Aero Design rules. These changes might have a significant effect on the design of the aircraft. This is an informational notice only and does not imply that the proposed change will in fact be adopted.

- Regular Class plan form parameters will change for 2016.
- One of the new metrics the rules committee is considering for the Micro class is to measure endurance. This may be incorporated in future Micro-Class Competition.
- The use of lock washers and nylon locking nuts are already popular and in use in the RC hobby may be included in future competitions.
- A standardized noise test may be incorporated into future competitions.

---

## Section 9 Appendix

2015 SAE AERO DESIGN

# STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Certification of Qualification

Team Name	_____	Team Number	_____
School	_____		
Faculty Advisor	_____		
Faculty Advisor's Email	_____		

### Statement of Compliance

As Faculty Advisor, I certify that the registered team members are enrolled in collegiate courses. This team has designed, constructed and/or modified the radio controlled airplane they will use for the SAE Aero Design 2015 competition, without direct assistance from professional engineers, R/C model experts or pilots, or related professionals.

---

Signature of Faculty Advisor

### Team Captain Information:

Team Captain:
Captain's E-mail:
Captain's Phone:

Note: A copy of this statement needs to be included in your Design Report as page 2 (see 6.1).

## 9.1 Modification Change Request (CR)

**TEAM#:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Team Number:</b>			
<b>School Name:</b>			
<b>Team Name:</b>			
<b>Discovery Method</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tech Inspection <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Inspection <input type="checkbox"/> Test Flight <input type="checkbox"/> Design Analysis	<b>System Affected</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Wing (area +/-) <input type="checkbox"/> Fuselage (area +/-) <input type="checkbox"/> Horiz. Stabilizer (area +/-) <input type="checkbox"/> Vertical Tail (area +/-) <input type="checkbox"/> Engine Mount assembly
			<input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical <input type="checkbox"/> Landing System <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Structural</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Electronics (avionics) <input type="checkbox"/> Payload bay Assembly
<b>Surface Area</b>	<b>AREA ADDED:</b> _____ <b>AREA REDUCED:</b> _____  <i>If surface area was impacted by the modification, specify total area added or reduced. Show calculations:</i>		
<b>Describe the Modification</b>			
<b>Reason for Modification</b>			
<b>Other Considerations</b>			
*** OFFICIAL USE ONLY ***			
<b>Change Request #</b>			
<b>Penalty Applied</b>			

## 9.2 APPEALS

**TEAM#:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Team Name</b>	
<b>Team Captain</b>	
<b>Collateral Points</b>	<p><i>All appeals will require the team to post twenty five (25) points as collateral. If the appeal is successful and the action is reversed, the team will not forfeit the twenty five (25) collateral points. If the appeal is overruled, the team will forfeit the twenty five (25) collateral points</i></p> <p>Collateral Points: <u>  25  </u></p> <p>Sign if Agree: _____</p>
<b>Reason for this Appeal</b>	
<b>Rule Reference</b>	<p><i>List the section(s) in the official rule that is (are) in conflict with the action(s) taken by competition official</i></p> <p>Section: _____                      Section: _____</p> <p>Section: _____                      Section: _____</p>
<b>Desire outcome</b>	

# FORM MOD-P

Aero-Dynamic Changes				Structural Change (Pts Deducted)	Mechanical (Pts Deducted)	Electronic (Pts Deducted)	Misc (Pts Deducted)
Plan Form Area		Points					
Add (in <sup>2</sup> )	Removed (in <sup>2</sup> )	Add	Removed				
1		1	.5	4	3	3	2
2		1	.5	4	3	3	2
3		1	.5	4	3	3	2
4		1	.5	4	3	3	2
5		1	.5	4	3	3	2
6		2	1	4	3	3	2
7		2	1	4	3	3	2
8		2	1	4	3	3	2
9		2	1	4	3	3	2
10		4	2	4	3	3	2
11		4	2	4	3	3	2
12		4	2	4	3	3	2
13		4	2	4	3	3	2
14		4	2	4	3	3	2
15		6	3	4	3	3	2
16		6	3	4	3	3	2
17		6	3	4	3	3	2
18		6	3	4	3	3	2
19		6	3	4	3	3	2
20		8	4	4	3	3	2
21		8	4	4	3	3	2
22		8	4	4	3	3	2
23		8	4	4	3	3	2
24		8	4	4	3	3	2
25		10	5	4	3	3	2
26		10	5	4	3	3	2
27		10	5	4	3	3	2
28		10	5	4	3	3	2
29		10	5	4	3	3	2
30		12	6	4	3	3	2
31		12	6	4	3	3	2
32		12	6	4	3	3	2
33		12	6	4	3	3	2
34		12	6	4	3	3	2
35		14	7	4	3	3	2
36		14	7	4	3	3	2
37		14	7	4	3	3	2
38		14	7	4	3	3	2
39		14	7	4	3	3	2
40+		14	7	4	3	3	2

## Appendix S

### SAE Technical Standards

The SAE International Technical Standards Board (TSB) has made the following SAE International Technical Standards available on line, **at no cost**, for use by Collegiate Design teams. Standards are important in all areas of engineering and we urge you to review these documents and to become familiar with their contents and use.

The technical documents listed below include both (1) standards that are identified in the rules and (2) standards that the TSB and the various rules committees believe are valuable references or which may be mentioned in future rule sets.

All Collegiate Design Series teams registered for competitions in North America have access to all the standards listed below - including standards not specific to your competition.

#### SAE Technical Standards included in the CDS Rules

##### **Baja SAE®**

J586 - Stop Lamps for Use on Motor Vehicles Less Than 2032 mm in Overall Width

J759 - Lighting Identification Code

J994 - Alarm - Backup – Electric Laboratory Tests

J1741 - Discriminating Back-Up Alarm Standard

##### **SAE Clean Snowmobile Challenge**

J192 - Maximum Exterior Sound Level for Snowmobiles

J1161 - Sound Measurement – Off-Road Self-Propelled Work Machines Operator-Work Cycle

##### **Formula Hybrid**

J1318 - Gaseous Discharge Warning Lamp for Authorized Emergency, Maintenance and Service Vehicles

J1673 - High Voltage Automotive Wiring Assembly Design

##### **Formula SAE ®**

SAE 4130 steel is referenced but no specific standard is identified

SAE Grade 5 bolts are required but no specific standard is identified

##### **SAE Supermileage**

J586 - Stop Lamps for Use on Motor Vehicles Less Than 2032 mm in Overall Width

---

## **SAE Technical Standards for Supplemental Use**

### **Standards Relevant to Baja SAE®**

- J98 – Personal Protection for General Purpose Industrial Machines – Standard
- J183 – Engine Oil Performance and Engine Service Classification - Standard
- J306 – Automotive Gear Lubricant Viscosity Classification - Standard
- J429 – Mechanical and Material Requirements for Externally Threaded Fasteners – Standard
- J512 – Automotive Tube Fittings - Standard
- J517 – Hydraulic Hose - Standard
- J1166 – Sound Measurement – Off-Road Self-Propelled Work Machines Operator-Work Cycle
- J1194 – Rollover Protective Structures (ROPS) for Wheeled Agricultural Tractors
- J1362 – Graphical Symbols for Operator Controls and Displays on Off-Road Self-Propelled Work Machines - Standard
- J1614 – Wiring Distribution Systems for Construction, Agricultural and Off-Road Work Machines
- J1703 - Motor Vehicle Brake Fluid - Standard
- J2030 – Heavy Duty Electrical Connector Performance Standard
- J2402 – Road Vehicles – Symbols for Controls, Indicators and Tell-Tales – Standard

### **Standards Relevant to SAE Clean Snowmobile Challenge ®**

- J44 – Service Brake System Performance Requirements – Snowmobiles - Recommended Practice
- J45 – Brake System Test Procedure – Snowmobiles – Recommended Practice
- J68 – Tests for Snowmobile Switching Devices and Components - Recommended Practice
- J89 – Dynamic Cushioning Performance Criteria for Snowmobile Seats - Recommended Practice
- J92 – Snowmobile Throttle Control Systems – Recommended Practice
- J192 – Maximum Exterior Sound Level for Snowmobiles - Recommended Practice
- J288 – Snowmobile Fuel Tanks - Recommended Practice
- J1161 – Operational Sound Level Measurement Procedure for Snowmobiles - Recommended Practice
- J1222 – Speed Control Assurance for Snowmobiles - Recommended Practice
- J1279 – Snowmobile Drive Mechanisms - Recommended Practice
- J1282 – Snowmobile Brake Control Systems - Recommended Practice
- J2567 – Measurement of Exhaust Sound Levels of Stationary Snowmobiles - Recommended Practice

### **Standards Relevant to Formula SAE ®**

- J183 – Engine Oil Performance and Engine Service Classification - Standard
- J306 – Automotive Gear Lubricant Viscosity Classification - Standard
- J429 – Mechanical and Material Requirements for Externally Threaded Fasteners – Standard
- J452 - General Information – Chemical Compositions, Mechanical and Physical Properties of SAE Aluminum Casting Alloys – Information Report
- J512 – Automotive Tube Fittings - Standard
- J517 – Hydraulic Hose - Standard
- J637 – Automotive V-Belt Drives – Recommended Practice
- J829 – Fuel Tank Filler Cap and Cap Retainer
- J1153 - Hydraulic Cylinders for Motor Vehicle Brakes – Test Procedure

J1154 – Hydraulic Master Cylinders for Motor Vehicle Brakes - Performance Requirements - Standard  
J1703 - Motor Vehicle Brake Fluid - Standard  
J2045 – Performance Requirements for Fuel System Tubing Assemblies - Standard  
J2053 – Brake Master Cylinder Plastic Reservoir Assembly for Road Vehicles – Standard

### **Standard Relevant to Formula Hybrid**

J1772 – SAE Electric Vehicle and Plug in Hybrid Conductive Charge Coupler

### **Standard Relevant to all CDS Competitions**

J1739 – Potential Failure Mode and Effects Analysis in Design (Design FMEA) Potential Failure Mode and Effects Analysis in Manufacturing and Assembly Processes (Process FMEA) and Potential Failure Mode and Effects Analysis for Machinery (Machinery FMEA)