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MILITARY AEROPLANE COMPETITION, 1912.

NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

1. The Military Aeroplane Competition, 1912, will be held by the Military authorities. The prizes to be competed for are as follows :----

(A.)-Prizes open to the World for Aeroplanes made in any country.

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(B.)—Prizes	open i	to Br	itish su Inited I	ubjects Kingdoi	for Ae n, excep	roplane ot the en	s ma gines.	nufacture	d wholly	

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co 10 nr via or in		om on ni ed lliw eroliterno. Serie "antrole,"		500 each.

No competitor to take more than 5,000*l*. The War Office to reserve the right to vary the proportions of totals under (A) and (B) between the various prizes if the merits of the machines warrant it, or to withhold any prize if there is no machine recommended for it by the Judges Committee.

The War Office to have the option of purchasing for 1,000l any machine awarded χ a prize.

The owners of 10 selected machines which are submitted to and pass all the flying tests and are not awarded a prize to receive 100*l*. for each machine so tested.

tests and are not awarded a prize to receive 100*l*. for each machine so tested. Oil and petrol will be supplied free for the tests Those competitors who desire to use their own fuel and lubricant shall state in writing the make and constituents of such fuel and lubricant.

2. The conditions required to be fulfilled by and the specification for a military aeroplane were published in December, 1911.

[These two papers which were then published under the titles "Conditions laid down and Prizes offered by the War Office for a Competition to fulfil the requirements of the accompanying specification for a Military Aeroplane," and "Specification for a Military Aeroplane," are hereinafter referred to as M.A.C. Form A and M.A.C. Form B respectively.]

3. An aeroplane will not necessarily be disqualified for failing to comply with the conditions required to be fulfilled by a military aeroplane (M.A.C. Form A), but these conditions, as modified by paragraph 6 of this paper, and the "desirable attributes" mentioned in paragraph 14 of the "Specification for a Military Aeroplane" (M.A.C. Form B), will form the main basis on which the Judges Committee will decide the relative merits of the competing machines.

4. Packing and date of delivery.—Each aeroplane entered is to be delivered packed in a strong case or crate suitable for distant transport by rail and sea. The aeroplane is to be complete within the case (except for re-erection from the packed condition) and is to be delivered on or before 15th July, 1912, at the Army Aeroplane sheds at Lark Hill, near Amesbury, Wilts. Arrangements will be made by and at the expense of the War Office for the transport of aeroplanes from Amesbury Station to Lark Hill if desired and if notification is received by the Secretary, Judges Committee, on or before 1st July.

5. Standardization of parts.—The examination of aeroplanes for standardization of parts in accordance with paragraph (11) of the "Specification for a Military Aeroplane" (M.A.C. Form B), will be proceeded with immediately after delivery. The competitor shall be represented and shall afford all facilities for this examination. To this end the submission of drawings by the competitor is desired at the time of delivery of the aeroplane.

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6. Preliminary tests.—Before permitting any machine to proceed further with the Competition, the Judges Committee will make a preliminary decision based upon the conditions contained in paragraphs (2), (3), (4) and (9) of the "Specification for a Military Aeroplane" (M.A.C. Form B.). For this purpose these conditions shall be modified to read as follows :—

The aeroplane should satisfactorily and without being damaged in any important part in alighting or otherwise—

- (a.) Carry a live load of 350 lbs. in addition to its equipment of instruments, &c., with fuel and oil for $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours.
- (b.) Provide accommodation for a flyer and observer, and the controls should be capable of use by either flyer or observer.
- (c.) Fly for 3 hours loaded as in Clause (α) and attain an altitude of 4,500 feet. Maintain a height of at least 1,500 feet for 1 hour.
- (d.) The rate of climbing shall average not less than 200 feet a minute for the first 1,000 feet.
- (e.) Attain an air speed of not less than 55 m.p.h. loaded as in Clause (α).

Competitors will notify the Judges Committee when they intend to demonstrate their compliance with (c), (d) and (e), stating in writing which test is contemplated. A reasonable period, based on the amount of suitable weather for flying experienced, will be allowed by the Judges Committee for carrying out these tests. The Judges Committee will display a signal at all times when, in their opinion, the weather is suitable for flying, but competitors will be in no way bound to fly in, or confine their flying to, hours so notified as "suitable."

7. Notices and communication with Judges Committee.—Any communication required to be made in connection with this competition shall be addressed to the Secretary of the Judges Committee (Military Aeroplanes), The War Office, Whitehall, London, S.W., prior to the 1st July, 1912, and thereafter at an address to be notified to the competitors by the War Office. All letters relating to the competition are to be marked on the envelope and on the letter in the left top corner with the words "Aeroplane Competition, 1912."

8. Entries.—Entries will be received by the Secretary of the Judges Committee on or before the 15th June, 1912.

9. Entries shall be made in writing, on the attached form issued for the purpose by the War Office, stating the name and address of the entrant, and the particulars of the aeroplane, engine, &c., in the spaces indicated for the purpose. A separate entry form shall be properly filled in for each aeroplane entered.

10. The entry shall be signed, in the case of a corporate body, by the secretary or other person fully empowered to sign the name and bind the corporate body concerned.

11. Deposit.—Each entrant shall forward with his entry or entries a deposit of 20*l*., returnable after the Competition in the event of the aeroplane or aeroplanes entered by him being duly delivered to take part in the Competition.

12. Refusal of entry.—The Judges Committee may refuse any entry by sending notification of such refusal without reason given.

13. Vouchers.—A competitor entering for the United Kingdom Prize shall produce such vouchers, invoices and certified declarations as may be necessary to show that the whole of the various parts constituting the aeroplane, excepting only the engine, have been made and assembled in the United Kingdom.

14. Flyer's name and number to be declared.—Every entrant shall state in writing the name and certificate number of the person who is to fly his aeroplane, not less than five days before the date of delivery of aeroplane. In the event of its being desired to change to a different flyer, permission must be asked for in writing (stating the name and certificate number of the proposed substitute) from the Judges Committee.

15. Penalty for false statement.—Any entry containing any statement, which in the opinion of the Judges Committee is misleading, may be declared null and void.

16. The Competition will take place in accordance with the published Rules and Regulations attached.

WAR OFFICE, 16th May, 1912.

MILITARY AEROPLANE COMPETITION, 1912.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

1. Definitions.—The word "Competitor" shall include any person or corporate body making entry for or taking part in the Competition, and shall include the flyer, mechanic or passenger other than the official observer.

2. The word "Passenger" shall include the flyer and mechanic, and shall mean a person of not less than 18 years of age and weighing not less than 132 lb., provided that any deficiency in weight may be made up by means of ballast or by excess of weight in the other passenger.

weight in the other passenger. 3. The word "Aeroplane" shall be inclusive of the entire apparatus, as submitted for test, including the engine and usual accessories.

4. The word "Person" shall include one or more persons or a corporate body.

5. Every "Competitor" shall be presumed to be acquainted with and shall submit to and be bound by these Rules and Regulations, and any further instructions issued hereafter in regard to the Competition. Any such further instructions shall be supplementary to and shall not supersede these Rules unless with the consent of the Judges Committee. All words herein defined shall in all such instructions be deemed to bear the same meanings as herein expressed unless the contrary is specifically declared in such further instructions.

6. Entrant responsible for flyer.—The entrant shall be responsible for all acts or omissions on the part of his flyers, passengers and mechanics, and each or any may be held responsible for any infraction of these Rules.

7. Competitors must be registered.—No flyer shall be allowed to fly an aeroplane in the Competition unless he be a holder of the Flying Certificate issued by the Royal Aero Club, or such foreign certificate as is recognized by it. Nevertheless, any individual flyer may be refused permission to fly in the Competition without any reason being assigned.

8. Change of flyer.—Each aeroplane shall be flown throughout the Competition by the same person. If a change of flyer is necessitated the consent of the Judges Committee must be obtained after reasons given in writing and signed by the competitor.

9. Identification marks.—Every aeroplane shall, during the Competition, carry in a conspicuous place the numbers or other identification marks allotted to it by the Judges Committee.

10. No advertisements to be carried.—No conspicuous advertisement or trade sign, other than small plates carrying the name of the aeroplane or of the maker, shall be carried, and no advertisement shall be distributed from any aeroplanes during the Competition.

11. Overtaking and passing.—Passing, overtaking and crossing shall be governed by the rules issued separately.

12. Dangerous flying.—Flying considered by the Judges Committee to be dangerous to other competitors or to the public will involve such penalties to the competitor, including possible disqualification, as the Judges Committee may see fit to impose.

13. *Enclosure.*—No person except the officials, the flyers and their assistants, for whom a strictly limited number of personal permits must be obtained, shall be allowed within the enclosures and trial tracks except with the special permission of the Judges Committee.

14. Postponement or abandonment.—The Competition and each item thereof may be postponed or any item abandoned at the discretion of the Judges Committee, and in the event of such postponement or abandonment no competitor shall, except as provided herein, have any claim against the Judges Committee or the War Office. 15. Control of the Competition.—The supreme control of the Competition will lie

with the Judges Committee. Officials will be appointed by the Judges Committee. 16. Duties and powers.—The Judges Committee shall decide the winning and the placed competitors. Their decision shall be final and without appeal. Nevertheless, nothing herein shall prevent the Judges Committee from correcting a mistake. No decision of the Judges Committee shall give any claim to a competitor who is subsequently shown to have failed to observe these Rules, or who shall have been disqualified or otherwise have been ineligible.

17. Interpretation.-The Judges Committee shall alone have power to interpret, alter, amend or cancel any of these Rules and the other instructions issued relative to the Competition, and to forego any test or any requirement, or to enforce other or further requirements in particular cases, either arbitrarily or with a view to obtaining the information necessary to make their award.

WAR OFFICE, 16th May, 1912