

1. Removal From Flight Status
  - a. Removal of a contestant from flight status may happen on very rare occasions, and only in the interest of safety. Should this policy be invoked, the student will not be permitted to fly in any further events at the SAFECON from which they are removed from flight status. This decision will have no impact on any previously completed flight events or any ground events for the affected student.
  - b. This policy may only be applied during official NIFA practice or flight events.
  - c. The following list of infractions will trigger this policy:
    - (1) Involvement in an accident
    - (2) Involvement in an incident
    - (3) Disqualification in a landing event on two (2) or more landings for the same reason
    - (4) Willful violation of Federal Aviation Regulations
    - (5) Landing off the runway
    - (6) Runway excursion
    - (7) Violation of any specific criteria established and published by the Chief Judge prior to the competition
    - (8) Other unsafe, careless, or hazardous operation
  - d. The following judges present at SAFECON may invoke this policy:
    - (1) Event Judge
    - (2) Chief Judge
    - (3) Associate Chief Judge (not applicable at a regional competition)
    - (4) NIFA Senior Chief Judge (not applicable at a regional competition)
    - (5) Safety Judge
    - (6) Any judge may recommend this policy to one of the above-named positions, but only the above-named positions may elect to invoke this policy
  - e. Should this policy be invoked, the following procedure shall take place:
    - (1) All above-named judges shall meet and discuss the infraction. If a judge recommended this policy, that judge shall also be included.
    - (2) The Chief Judge and Associate Chief Judge shall both be present unless an equally pressing matter dictates that one must leave.
    - (3) If the NIFA Senior Chief Judge is not present, one of the above-named judges shall attempt to contact the NIFA Senior Chief Judge for consultation.
    - (4) At a Regional SAFECON, the NIFA Regional Representative shall join the meeting, if present.
    - (5) The parties present at the meeting shall vote to remove the student from flight status. A minimum vote of 2/3 in favor shall be needed to remove the student from flight status.
  - f. This policy must be implemented in a timely manner. Notification must be given, the meeting must occur, and the results of the vote must be communicated no later than the end of scheduled events on the day of the infraction. Notification that a meeting will take place must occur no later than one (1) hour from the latest of the following times:
    1. Occurrence of the infraction
    2. Completion of the heat in the landing event in which the infraction occurred
      - a. All engines shut down in the shut down box defines the completion of the heat
    3. Discovery of the infraction by one of the positions named in 1 (d) above.
  - g. The affected student and school will be notified immediately after the meeting has reached the decision to remove the student from flight status.
    1. The Chief Judge and Safety Judge shall meet with the Advisor for the affected school.
      - a. The student should also be present; however, the Advisor will make the final determination on whether the student attends.
    2. Notification shall be treated as a learning experience and not a punitive measure to the greatest extent practical.
    3. Notification shall also reinforce that the removal from flight status has no impact on any previously completed events or any remaining ground events.