

8th CHAPTER: FAI CIRCUMNAVIGATOR DIPLOMA

8.1 INTRODUCTION

The Circumnavigator Diploma serves to recognize the significant achievements of pilots of powered aerodynes (vehicles governed by Section 2 of the FAI Sporting Code) making around the world flights.

FAI will maintain chronological lists (based on the completion date of the flight) on its website of all diplomas issued.

8.1.1 Available diplomas

Pilots may obtain only one diploma for each of the four types of flights as follows:

Eastbound

Westbound

Polar

Nonstop

8.2 REQUIREMENTS

8.2.1 GENERAL DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

All diploma flights must meet the following requirements:

8.2.1.1 A minimum of six and maximum of ten control points must be used to satisfy the course distance requirement. Start and Finish points are required control points.

8.2.1.2 The course must return to the start point or within 60 kilometers of the start point.

8.2.1.3 All flights must be completed within 120 days, except Polar Diploma flights which must be completed within 150 days.

8.2.1.4 Applicants must have been onboard the aircraft during the entire flight.

8.2.1.5 The aircraft must be flown under its own power along the course.

8.2.1.6 The same aircraft must be used throughout the flight. The wings and fuselage of the aircraft may not be replaced. However, replacements of the engine and other components are permitted.

8.2.1.7 Only pilots holding a valid FAI Sporting License throughout the flight and actively engaged in flying the aircraft may obtain the diploma.

8.2.1.8 The diploma may not be awarded posthumously.

8.2.2 DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS OF EACH DIPLOMA

8.2.2.1 Eastbound Diploma

The eastbound diploma recognizes around the world flights travelling from west to east.

The following requirements apply:

8.2.2.1.1 The course must be a minimum distance of 27,000 kilometers.

8.2.2.1.2 The course must cross all meridians.

- 8.2.2.1.3 All control points must be in an easterly succession.
- 8.2.2.2 Westbound Diploma
The westbound diploma recognizes around the world flights travelling from east to west.
The following requirements apply:
- 8.2.2.2.1 The course must be a minimum distance of 27,000 kilometers.
- 8.2.2.2.2 The course must cross all meridians.
- 8.2.2.2.3 All control points must be in a westerly succession.
- 8.2.2.3 Polar Diploma
The polar diploma recognizes around the world flights travelling to both Polar Regions.
The following requirements apply:
- 8.2.2.3.1 The course must be a minimum distance of 34,000 kilometers.
- 8.2.2.3.2 The flight must have been made to a control point north of 75 degrees North latitude and a control point South of 75 degrees South latitude.
- 8.2.2.3.3 All crossings of the equator must be separated by 90-180 degrees of longitude.
- 8.2.2.4 Nonstop Diploma
The nonstop diploma recognizes an eastbound, westbound, or polar around the world flight that was made without any intermediate landing.
The following requirements apply:
- 8.2.2.4.1 The flight must meet the general and specific requirements listed above, as appropriate.
- 8.2.2.4.3 The aircraft may not land during the flight. Refueling in flight may not occur.
- 8.2.3 APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
- 8.2.3.1.1 Only one application may be submitted per flight. The application must include all pilots who qualify for the diploma. Additional copies of the diploma may be purchased from FAI.
- 8.2.3.1.2 Holders of world records for Speed around the World are not required to complete Part IIa (page 2) of the application.
- 8.2.3.1.3 All diploma applications must be submitted to FAI by the NAC that issued the FAI Sporting License to the applicant. Only the prescribed application form found in Section 2, Annex 5, will be accepted.
- 8.2.3.1.4 All evidence submitted must have originated from an independent source. Passengers, pilots, or other persons onboard the flight may not attest to information concerning the flight, unless they were designated as an Official Observer as part of a record attempt and meet all requirements of General Section, Chapter 5. General press accounts and newspaper articles are not acceptable.
- 8.2.3.1.5 All control point evidence must include the following information:
Date
Place
Aircraft Registry
Name of Pilot
- 8.2.3.1.6 Participants of FAI-sanctioned competitions (see Air Racing, paragraph 8.4) may qualify for the diploma based on information supplied to FAI by the event organizer.