

**FEDERATION AERONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE**

**COMMISSION D'AEROSTATION DE LA FAI**

**FAI BALLOONING COMMISSION**

**CIA**



**2012 Tochigi Hot Air Balloon International Championship  
2012 Hot Air Balloon HONDA Grand Prix Final round**

Competition Rules  
based on  
Version 2010 of the AXMER's

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Related Documents (latest version):

GS	Sporting Code, General Section
S1	Sporting Code, Section 1
SOH	Safety Officer Handbook
COH	Competition Operation Handbook
OH	Observer Handbook

## **SECTION I - EVENT DETAILS**

### **I. 1 TITLE**

The Event shall be known as: 2012 Tochigi Hot Air Balloon International Championship.  
This includes the final round of the 2012 Hot Air Balloon HONDA Grand Prix.

### **I. 2 SANCTION (S1 An3 2)**

THE EVENT IS AN APPROVED FAI FIRST CATEGORY SPORTING EVENT  
SANCTIONED BY THE FAI BALLOONING COMMISSION (CIA).

### **I. 3 ORGANIZATION**

The Event is organised by the Tochigi Hot Air Balloon Championship Organization, jointly operated by the Hot Air Balloon Grand Prix Organization.

### **I. 4 CORRESPONDENCE**

All entries and official correspondence should be addressed to:

Tochigi Hot Air Balloon Championship Organization  
4-20-2 Noguchi-cho, Higashi-Murayama City 189-0022, Tokyo, JAPAN  
Phone: +81 42 394 9078, Fax: +81 42 394 9540  
e-mail: ish@air-b.com

### **I. 5 PERSONNEL**

Event Director :	Les PURFIELD (GBR)
Deputy Director :	Debbie SPAETH (USA)
	Hiromori SOEJIMA (JPN)
Safety Officer :	Hans AKERSTEDT (SWE)
Steward :	Garry LOCKYER (CAN)
Jury President :	Johann FURSTNER (AUT)
Jury Member :	David MORGAN (GBR)
Jury Member :	John DAVIS (USA)

### **I. 6 PLACE**

The Event will be held at: Utsunomiya-city, Haga Town and Motegi town, Tochigi Prefecture, Japan.

### **I. 7 DATES**

The Event will run from Tuesday 20th November 2012 until Sunday 25th November 2012.  
The last competition flight will be held in the morning of Sunday 25th November 2012, unless the minimum tasks under Rule 1.2.2 (Section III) have not been achieved in which case the last competition flight will be held in the evening, Sunday, 25th November 2012.

### **I. 8 PROTEST FEE (S1 An3 8.3)**

THE PROTEST FEE TO ACCOMPANY A PROTEST SHALL BE 100 EUROS OR ITS EQUIVALENT IN LOCALLY RATED CURRENCY: (The currency rate will be decided at the General Briefing).

**I. 9 LANGUAGE (GS 3.9.5 part)**

I. 9.1 THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF THE EVENT SHALL BE ENGLISH AND JAPANESE. IN ALL INTERPRETATIONS THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE VERSION SHALL PREVAIL.

I. 9.2 Printed material (e.g. Task Data, Meteorological information etc) shall be in English and may additionally be in Japanese. The language used verbally during briefings shall be English.

**I. 10 PARTICIPATION (GS 3.6.1 part)**

THE EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL NACs WHICH HAVE MET THEIR OBLIGATIONS TO THE FAI.

**I. 11 CLOSING ENTRY DATE**

The closing entry date for the Event is: 30th June 2012

**I. 12 RISK**

The balloon and other property of a competitor shall be at the risk of the competitor at all times. By entering an Event a competitor agrees to waive all claim for injury to himself or loss or damage to his property.

**I. 13 INSURANCE**

Each competitor shall be insured against all claims by third parties to a minimum of Japanese Yen 200,000,000-. He shall produce documentary evidence of this insurance valid for the period of the Event covering himself and any balloon which he may fly, or he shall purchase such insurance from the organizers.

**SECTION II - COMPETITION DETAILS****II. 1 CONTEST AREA (7.1)**

The competition map will consist of special editions of maps published by the government. The map datum is WGS84 and UTM coordinates are applied with 1 km grids. Maps will be available in October 2012.

The contest area will be printed on the competition map. Any changes will be published on the Official Competition Map, during the morning of the General Briefing of the event.

**II. 2 OUT OF BOUNDS (7.2)**

The detail of out of bounds will be printed on the Official Competition Map. In addition to the printed areas: ALL RED PZs. ALL SA-G Golf Courses, and ALL SAs are out of bounds. Any changes will be posted during the morning of the General Briefing of the event.

**II. 3 PZ LIST (7.3)**

The detail of Prohibited Zones will be printed on the Official Competition Map, and changes will be posted during the morning of the General Briefing of the event.

All Circular PZs will use a Cylinder for their definition, and the radius will be in meters.

**II. 4 COMMON LAUNCH AREA(S) (9.1.1)**

Parking area in the Twin Ring Motegi.  
Sports area, Utsunomiya-city.  
Sports areas, Haga-town.

This data may be changed before the event and the final information will be published on the Official Notice Board, during the morning of the General Briefing of the event.

**II. 5 COMMON LAUNCH POINT(S) (9.1.2)**

Common Launch Point 1 3080 - 4240 (WGS84) 620ft MSL  
Common Launch Point 2 0786 - 4685 (WGS84) 361ft MSL

This data may be changed before the event and the final information will be published on the Official Notice Board, during the morning of the General Briefing of the event.

**II. 6 LANDOWNER'S PERMISSION (9.3)**

Must be obtained in the presence of your Observer. (If several competitors launch from the same location, each competitor must ask with his Observer present.)

Public Areas, such as public parks and river sides, are considered as places without need for permission for take-offs or landings. Landowner permission is not required if the basket is on a public road, and the envelope is laid out in a field which is not fenced and no damage is done. Traffic may not be obstructed.

These instructions maybe subject to change, before or during the event at anytime by announcements of the Event Director.

**II. 7 LIVESTOCK AND CROP (10.6)**

Balloons shall not fly closer than 500ft from livestock or buildings containing livestock.

**II. 8 DRIVING LAW (10.11)**

All participants are requested to follow Japanese laws or instructions concerning driving a car. International Driving Permits (1949) are required for driving in Japan.



**II. 9 AIR LAW (10.14)**

The entire contest area will have 6,000 ft MSL as maximum altitude during anytime of competition flights. However, this instruction may be subject to change before or during the event anytime by announcements by the Event Director.

**II. 10 RECALL PROCEDURE (10.15)**

The recall procedure will be announced at the General Briefing.

**II. 11 GOAL CENTER (12.1)**

The center point of the intersections of roads will be the intersection of the centerlines of the roads.

The director may provide a graphical definition of unusual intersections.

**II. 12 GOALS SELECTED BY A COMPETITOR (12.2)**

A list of intersections will be delivered to competitors before the event. A competitor must use an intersection from this list, unless another method is stated in the task data.

**II. 13 LOCATION OF OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD (5.10)**

The Official Notice Board is located outside of the entrance to the Briefing Room in the Haga Competition Centre.

**II. 14 COMMUNICATION TIMES (5.3)**

Replies will be published at 1100 and 1700 every day on the Official Notice Board. A reply may be posted anytime but will take effect at the next 1100 or 1700 whichever is earlier. This time factor may be subject to change at the General Briefing.

**II. 15 PUBLICATION TIMES ON THE LAST FLYING DAY (5.6.3)**

Publication times on Sunday 25th November 2012 will be every hour from 1100.

**II. 16 FLIGHT CREW (2.2.2)**

Rule 2.2.2 (Section III) applies as written.

**II. 17 DETAILS FOR THE USE OF GPS LOGGERS (6.8)**

GPS loggers will be used for competition purposes as prescribed in the rules.

If a GPS logger supplied by the organizer fails to record a log, the GPS log recorded by the GPS of the competitor may be used as backup.

**The loggers are set to record track points at a 5 second time interval, which will be confirmed at the General Briefing.**

Track data of GPS loggers may also be used for media purposes such as TV coverage or live tracking on the Internet. Track data may be made available to and used by the FAI Ballooning Commission or others for study purposes after the end of event.

Under the rule of 'ASSISTANCE', a competitor may ask the appropriate official to show his track data and ask for a copy.

**II. 18 DETAILS FOR TIME LIMITS (rest hours) (5.6)**

The hours between 2100 and 0800 local time will be disregarded for the purpose of the time limits of complaints and protests.

**II. 19      BALLOON SIZE (3.3)**

Maximum size: category AX8 (3,000cu/m /105,000cu.ft).

**II. 20      ASSESSED MARK (12.15.2)**

An assessed result based on the least advantageous interpretation of evidence available will be given, if a marker was released from lower than 2500 ft MSL

**II. 21      ALTITUDE (14.6.4)**

A barometrically corrected type of GPS Loggers (Garmin Geko 301) will be used. The altitude used in this championship will be the barometrically corrected altitude as recorded by the loggers.

## **SECTION III - RULES**

### **CHAPTER 1 - OBJECTIVES**

#### **1.1 OBJECTIVES (S1 5.2)**

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE EVENT ARE:

- TO DETERMINE THE CHAMPION PILOT;
- TO STIMULATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF AEROSTATION BY AN INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON OF PERFORMANCE OF PILOTS AND AEROSTATS;
- TO REINFORCE FRIENDSHIP AMONGST AERONAUTS OF ALL NATIONS.

#### **1.2 DEFINITION OF A CHAMPION (S1 5.8)**

1.2.1 THE WINNING COMPETITOR SHALL BE THE COMPETITOR WITH THE HIGHEST AGGREGATE SCORE AT THE END OF THE EVENT.

1.2.2 TO BE RECOGNIZED AS A FIRST CATEGORY SPORTING EVENT AND FOR A CHAMPION TO BE DECLARED, AT LEAST THREE TASKS MUST HAVE BEEN COMPLETED ON NOT LESS THAN TWO SEPARATE FLIGHTS.

#### **1.3 INTERPRETATION OF ENGLISH WORDING**

1.3.1 **Shall** and **Must** mean the application is mandatory. Failure to comply will normally lead to a penalty, disadvantageous interpretation or other disadvantages.

1.3.2 **Should** means that the application is recommended. Failure to comply may lead to penalties, disadvantageous interpretation or other disadvantages.

1.3.3 **May** means that the application is optional.

#### **1.4 DOCUMENTATION**

The following documents will be inspected when each competitor registers on arrival at the Event.

- a. Pilot License
- b. Pilot Log Book
- c. Balloon Log Book
- d. Certificate of Airworthiness
- e. Certificate of Registration
- f. Certificate of Insurance
- g. FAI Sporting License
- h. Passport or Identity Document

## **CHAPTER 2 - ENTRY CONDITIONS**

### **2.1 COMPETITOR (GS 3.2.2 part, S1 5.5.9)**

- 2.1.1 A PERSON ENTERED AND COMPETING IN A SPORTING EVENT.
- 2.1.2 AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE GENERAL BRIEFING OF A FIRST CATEGORY SPORTING EVENT, NO CHANGE OF COMPETITOR IS PERMITTED.

### **2.2 COMPETITOR'S RIGHTS OF REPRESENTATION (GS 3.7.2)**

- 2.2.1 IN INTERNATIONAL SPORTING EVENTS, A COMPETITOR REPRESENTS THE NAC THAT ISSUED HIS FAI SPORTING LICENCE, UNLESS HE BELONGS TO AN INTERNATIONAL TEAM.
- 2.2.2 If a flight crew and/or passenger flying in the basket, other than the appointed observer, has competed in any previous national or international balloon competition (events), he must be of the same nationality as the competitor.

### **2.3 QUALIFICATION (S1 5.6.4)**

PILOTS-IN-COMMAND SHALL HAVE BEEN AUTHORIZED TO ACT AS PILOT-IN-COMMAND OF THAT SUB-CLASS OF AEROSTAT FOR WHICH THE FIRST CATEGORY EVENT IS HELD, AT LEAST TWELVE MONTHS PRIOR TO THE START OF THE EVENT. EACH PILOT-IN-COMMAND SHALL HAVE ACCUMULATED AT LEAST 50 HOURS AS PILOT-IN-COMMAND OF AEROSTATS OF THAT SUB-CLASS BY THE CLOSING ENTRY DATE.

### **2.4 SPORTING LICENCE (GS 8.1.2 part)**

THE HOLDER SHALL SIGN HIS SPORTING LICENCE. IN DOING SO HE ACKNOWLEDGES THAT HE KNOWS AND UNDERSTANDS THE FAI SPORTING CODE AND COMMITS HIMSELF TO ABIDE BY IT.

### **2.5 ENTRY**

The completed entry form and entry fee for each competitor must reach the organisers by the closing entry date, except in the case of extra places offered by the organisers.

### **2.6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

A competitor who has not received an acknowledgement of his entry within seven days after the closing entry date should make inquiries of the organisers.

### **2.7 ACCEPTANCE OF SPORTING CODE, RULES AND REGULATIONS (GS 3.11.1)**

THE ENTRANTS AND COMPETITORS ARE REQUIRED TO KNOW, UNDERSTAND, ACCEPT AND ABIDE BY THE SPORTING CODE AND THE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE EVENT, AND BY ENTERING ARE DEEMED TO ACCEPT WITHOUT RESERVATION. THEY SHOULD APPRECIATE THAT THEY REPRESENT THEIR NAC AND THAT THEY SHOULD COMPETE IN A SPORTING MANNER AND THAT THEIR BEHAVIOUR MUST BE BEYOND REPROACH.

### **2.8 WAIVER**

By entering the Event, a competitor waives any right of action against the organiser, the owner of any site and their respective members, employees or personnel for any loss or damage sustained by him in consequence of any act or omission on their part, or on the part of other competitors.

### **2.9 LIABILITY TO THIRD PARTIES**

By entering an Event a competitor assumes all liability for injury, loss or damage to third parties or their property caused by himself or his crew.

**2.10 SAFETY**

Any meteorological report or forecast, or other safety or navigational information, is provided in good faith for the guidance of competitors. Officials will be appointed to regulate the inflation and launching of balloons. However, nothing shall diminish the responsibility of competitors under this chapter.

**2.11 RESPONSIBILITY (S1 An3 3)**

ENTRANTS AND COMPETITORS REMAIN COMPLETELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFE OPERATION OF THEIR AEROSTATS AT ALL STAGES OF INFLATION, LAUNCH, FLIGHT AND LANDING. THEY MUST ENSURE THAT THEIR EQUIPMENT, THEIR CREW AND THEIR OWN LEVEL OF SKILL AND EXPERIENCE ARE SUITABLE FOR THE CONDITIONS IN THEIR OWN JUDGEMENT. A COMPETITOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THE ACTIONS OF HIS CREW DURING THE EVENT.

**2.12 CONDUCT (S1 An3 4)**

ENTRANTS AND COMPETITORS AND THEIR CREWS ARE REQUIRED TO BEHAVE IN A SPORTSMANLIKE MANNER, AND TO COMPLY WITH THE DIRECTIONS OF EVENT OFFICIALS. INCONSIDERATE BEHAVIOUR SHALL BE PENALISED BY THE EVENT DIRECTOR.

**CHAPTER 3 - BALLOON QUALIFICATIONS****3.1 DEFINITION OF A BALLOON (GS 2.2.1, 2.2.1.1, S1 2.1.1.2)**

- 3.1.1 AEROSTAT - AN AIRCRAFT LIGHTER-THAN-AIR.  
FREE BALLOON - AN AEROSTAT SUPPORTED STATICALLY IN THE AIR, WITH NO MEANS OF PROPULSION BY ANY POWER SOURCE.
- 3.1.2 SUB-CLASS AX - FREE BALLOONS WHICH OBTAIN THEIR BUOYANCY SOLELY AS A RESULT OF HEATING AIR. THE ENVELOPE MAY CONTAIN NO GASES OTHER THAN AIR AND THE NORMAL PRODUCTS OF COMBUSTION.
- 3.1.3 Vents which are designed to rotate or propel a balloon may only be operated in flight after all tasks are completed. Penalty 250 to 500 task points.

**3.2 FUEL**

Each balloon shall carry sufficient fuel to complete the flight with an adequate reserve.  
Lack of fuel to complete a flight shall not be grounds for protest.

**3.3 NOMINATION OF BALLOON**

Each competitor shall nominate the balloon he is to fly during the Event. No change of balloon may be made after the start of the first task briefing, except as provided in these rules. The maximum size category is AX8 (3000cbm/105000cft). For specific events e.g. alpine balloon events, other categories may be specified in Section II.

**3.4 AIRWORTHINESS (S1 5.5.3)**

AEROSTATS FLOWN IN THE EVENT MUST HAVE CURRENT CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRATION AND AIRWORTHINESS, OR IN PLACE OF THE LATTER, AN EQUIVALENT DOCUMENT FROM THE RECOGNIZED AUTHORITY OF THE NATION CONCERNED. THE ORGANIZERS ARE EMPOWERED TO REJECT ANY AEROSTAT WHICH IN THEIR OPINION IS NOT OF A REASONABLE STANDARD OF AIRWORTHINESS.

**3.5 DAMAGE**

- 3.5.1 If a balloon is damaged during the Event, it may be repaired. Damaged components may be replaced or repaired, except that a complete envelope may be replaced only at the discretion of the Director.
- 3.5.2 Any damage to a balloon affecting its airworthiness must be reported to the Director before it is entered for a further task, and the balloon may only be flown after his approval of any repairs. Penalty: up to 1000 competition points.

**3.6 AUTOMATIC FLIGHT CONTROLS (S1 5.9.2)**

ANY DEVICE DESIGNED TO ACT AS AN AUTOMATIC FLIGHT CONTROL IS PROHIBITED, REGARDLESS OF THE SPECIFIC NATURE OF THE DEVICE.

**3.7 ALTIMETER**

Each balloon shall carry a serviceable altimeter.

**3.8 COMPETITION NUMBERS**

The organiser will provide two banners (as specified in the COH) which will be displayed on opposite sides of the basket during tasks. All crew vehicles shall be clearly identified on opposite sides with competition numbers.

**3.9 BASKET**

The term "basket" includes any crew or passenger compartment, regardless of its construction.

**3.10 RETRIEVE**

- 3.10.1 Retrieve Crew shall not be within 100m radius of a marker of the competitor unless in the presence of an Official or an Observer. Crews are not allowed to make permanent marks on an intersection (temporary marks are permitted, e.g. paper). The appointed Observer flying in the basket may allow the crew to mark the location of the marker while he is in full visual contact and calling distance.
- 3.10.2 All vehicles used to aid the retrieval of a balloon shall be marked with the competition number.
- 3.10.3 Retrieve vehicles shall not be parked within 100m of a goal/target set by the Director or selected by the competitor.

**CHAPTER 4 - ORGANIZATION OFFICIALS****4.1 EVENT DIRECTOR (GS 4.3.4.1)**

- 4.1.1 THE EVENT DIRECTOR SHALL BE IN OVERALL OPERATIONAL CHARGE OF THE EVENT. HE SHALL HAVE A DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND TECHNICAL OFFICIALS TO ASSIST HIM. THE EVENT DIRECTOR AND DEPUTY SHALL BE APPROVED BY THE CIA.
- 4.1.2 THE EVENT DIRECTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE GOOD MANAGEMENT, SMOOTH AND SAFE RUNNING OF THE EVENT. HE SHALL MAKE OPERATIONAL DECISIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF THE SPORTING CODE AND COMPETITION RULES. HE CAN PENALISE OR DISQUALIFY A COMPETITOR FOR MISCONDUCT OR INFRINGEMENT OF THE RULES. HE SHALL ATTEND MEETINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL JURY AND GIVE EVIDENCE IF REQUESTED.
- 4.1.3 In these rules the word "Director" may be used instead of "Event Director".
- 4.1.4 The Responsibility of the Event Director is limited to competition operations, and does not include any other activity within the event not related to competition operations.

**4.2 STEWARDS (GS 4.3.4.2)**

- 4.2.1 STEWARDS ARE ADVISORS TO THE DIRECTOR. THEY WATCH OVER THE CONDUCT OF THE EVENT AND REPORT ANY UNFAIRNESS OR INFRINGEMENT OF THE REGULATIONS OR BEHAVIOUR PREJUDICIAL TO THE SAFETY OF OTHER COMPETITORS OR THE PUBLIC OR IN ANY WAY HARMFUL TO THE SPORT. THEY ASSEMBLE INFORMATION AND FACTS CONCERNING MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE INTERNATIONAL JURY.
- They advise the event director on interpretation of the rules and regulations and on penalties
- 4.2.2 A STEWARD HAS NO EXECUTIVE POWERS. HE MUST NOT BE A MEMBER OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE. A STEWARD MAY ATTEND A MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL JURY AS AN OBSERVER OR WITNESS.

**4.3 DUTIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL JURY (GS 4.3.1, 4.3.2, S1 5.10 part)**

- 4.3.1 MATTERS OF ADVICE, ARBITRATION OR RULE INTERPRETATION, SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL JURY HAVING BEEN APPOINTED OR APPROVED BY THE CIA.
- 4.3.2 IN ADDITION TO BEING CHAIRMAN AT JURY MEETINGS, THE PRESIDENT HAS THE RIGHT TO REQUIRE THE ORGANISERS TO ABIDE BY THE FAI SPORTING CODE AND THE PUBLISHED RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE EVENT. IF THE ORGANISERS FAIL TO DO SO, THE PRESIDENT OF THE JURY HAS THE POWER TO STOP THE EVENT UNTIL A JURY MEETING HAS CONSIDERED THE SITUATION
- 4.3.3 THE JURY HAS THE RIGHT TO TERMINATE THE EVENT IF THE ORGANISERS FAIL TO ABIDE BY THE FAI SPORTING CODE AND PUBLISHED REGULATIONS. THEY MAY RECOMMEND TO THE FAI SECRETARY GENERAL THAT ALL ENTRY FEES BE RETURNED.
- 4.3.4 A JURY MEMBER MUST POSSESS A THOROUGH KNOWLEDGE OF THE RELEVANT SPORTING CODE AND THE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE EVENT. AT LEAST ONE JURY MEMBER IS TO BE ON SITE DURING COMPETITION OPERATIONS.



**4.4 SAFETY OFFICER (S1 5.11)**

4.4.1 THE SAFETY OFFICER SHALL BE APPROVED BY THE CIA.

4.4.2 THE SAFETY OFFICER SHALL GIVE ADVICE TO THE EVENT DIRECTOR ON ANY MATTERS REGARDING SAFETY. MANDATORY OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES FOR THE SAFETY OFFICER ARE CONTAINED IN THE SOH.

**CHAPTER 5 - COMPLAINTS AND PROTESTS****5.1 ASSISTANCE (S1 An3 7.1)**

A COMPETITOR WHO IS DISSATISFIED ON ANY MATTER SHOULD FIRST ASK THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL TO ASSIST HIM. HE MAY ASK FOR HIS RESULT OR POINTS SCORE TO BE CHECKED, OR THE CALCULATION TO BE EXPLAINED.

**5.2 COMPLAINT (GS 5.1.1, S1 An3 7)**

5.2.1 THE PURPOSE OF A COMPLAINT IS TO OBTAIN A CORRECTION WITHOUT THE NEED TO MAKE A FORMAL PROTEST.

5.2.2 A COMPLAINT IS A REQUEST BY A COMPETITOR TO THE DIRECTOR TO INVESTIGATE ANY MATTER IN WHICH THE COMPETITOR IS DISSATISFIED.

5.2.3 A FORMAL COMPLAINT MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ENGLISH AND IN WRITING AND WILL RECEIVE A WRITTEN REPLY.

5.2.4 COMPLAINTS SHALL BE HANDED OR TRANSMITTED BY THE COMPETITOR TO THE EVENT DIRECTOR OR HIS DESIGNATED OFFICIAL, WHO WILL ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT AND RECORD THE TIME OF RECEIPT.

**5.3 COMMUNICATION (S1 An3 7.7)**

REPLIES TO COMPLAINTS SHALL BE POSTED ON THE OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD AT FIXED TIMES, ANNOUNCED IN ADVANCE BY THE DIRECTOR.

**5.4 PUBLICATION (S1 An3 7.7)**

THE DIRECTOR MAY AT HIS DISCRETION PUBLISH THE TEXT OF ANY FORMAL COMPLAINT TOGETHER WITH HIS REPLY. IF REQUESTED BY THE COMPETITOR, HE MUST DO THIS.

**5.5 PROTEST (S1 An3 8)**

5.5.1 IF DISSATISFIED WITH THE DECISION ON A COMPLAINT MADE DURING THE EVENT, A COMPETITOR HAS THE RIGHT OF PROTEST.

5.5.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTENTION TO PROTEST AND PROTESTS WITH PROTEST FEES SHALL BE HANDED OR TRANSMITTED BY THE COMPETITOR TO THE EVENT DIRECTOR OR HIS DESIGNATED OFFICIAL, WHO WILL ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT AND RECORD THE TIME OF RECEIPT.

5.5.3 A COMPETITOR WHO HAS MADE A PROTEST HAS THE RIGHT TO MAKE A VERBAL PRESENTATION OF HIS CASE TO THE JURY. HE MAY BE ASSISTED BY AN INTERPRETER OR ADVISOR OF HIS CHOICE DURING THIS MEETING.

5.5.4 THE TEXT OF ALL PROTESTS AND THE DECISIONS OF THE JURY SHALL BE POSTED ON THE OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD.

**5.6 TIME LIMITS (GS 5.1.1, S1 An3 7)****5.6.1 TIME LIMITS FOR COMPLAINTS**

5.6.1.1 COMPLAINTS MUST BE SUBMITTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE EVENT GIVING RISE TO THE COMPLAINT AND MUST BE DEALT WITH EXPEDITIOUSLY.

5.6.1.2 Complaints concerning scoring must be made to the Event Director within eight hours of publication of the official scores for a task. The rest hours defined in the competition details will be disregarded for the purpose of the time limits.

5.6.1.3 Publication of a new version of official scores will only extend the complaint time in the matter concerned.

**5.6.2 TIME LIMITS FOR PROTESTS**

- 5.6.2.1 A competitor intending to protest, SHALL, WITHIN ONE HOUR OF THE REPLY TO HIS COMPLAINT, DECLARE HIS INTENTION TO PROTEST TO THE EVENT DIRECTOR.
- 5.6.2.2 WITHIN 8 HOURS OF THE REPLY TO HIS COMPLAINT THE COMPETITOR SHALL SUBMIT HIS PROTEST IN ENGLISH AND IN WRITING ACCOMPANIED BY THE PROTEST FEE. The rest hours defined in the competition details will be disregarded for the purpose of the time limits.

**5.6.3 SHORTENED TIME LIMITS FOR COMPLAINTS AND PROTESTS (S1 An3 7.6, 8.6 part)**

- 5.6.3.1 COMPLAINTS MADE ON OR AFTER THE LAST DAY OF THE EVENT, MUST BE SUBMITTED to the director within one hour of publication of the official scores.
- 5.6.3.2 PROTESTS MADE ON OR AFTER THE LAST DAY OF THE EVENT MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN ONE HOUR OF THE REPLY.
- 5.6.3.3 The Event Director shall announce the publication times for all task scores on the last flying day.
- 5.6.3.4 Time limits applying to scores published after 1300 on the day before the last flying day will also be reduced to one hour on or after the last flying day of the event.

**5.7 TREATMENT OF PROTESTS (GS 4.3.2, 5.5 part)**

- 5.7.1 THE EVENT DIRECTOR MUST PRESENT ANY PROTEST TO THE JURY PRESIDENT WITHOUT DELAY. THE PRESIDENT SHALL CALL A MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL JURY WITHIN 24 HOURS OF RECEIVING A PROTEST.
- 5.7.2 THE JURY SHALL HEAR BOTH SIDES ON THE MATTER OF ANY PROTEST, APPLYING THE RELEVANT FAI REGULATIONS AND THE RULES FOR THE EVENT.
- 5.7.3 THE PRESIDENT OF THE JURY SHALL REPORT THE RESULT AND A SUMMARY OF ANY RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS IN WRITING TO THE EVENT DIRECTOR WITHOUT DELAY, WHO SHALL MAKE PUBLIC THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

**5.8 RETURN OF DEPOSIT (GS 5.4.3, 5.4.4)**

- 5.8.1 NORMALLY THE DEPOSITED FEE IS RETURNABLE ONLY IF THE PROTEST IS UPHOLD, OR IS WITHDRAWN PRIOR TO THE HEARING BY THE JURY.
- 5.8.2 ALL NON-REFUNDED DEPOSIT FEES FROM PROTESTS WILL BE SENT BY THE JURY TO THE FAI, TO THE ATTENTION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL, WITHIN 28 DAYS OF THE CONCLUSION OF THE EVENT. THE FEE WILL THEN BE SEGREGATED FOR THE USE OF THE CIA.

**5.9 JURY APPROVAL OF SCORES & PRIZEGIVING (GS 3.16.1)**

- 5.9.1 THE scores OF THE EVENT SHALL BE FINAL ONLY AFTER ALL PROTEST HAVE BEEN DEALT WITH BY THE JURY AND THE JURY HAS CEASED ITS FUNCTIONS. THE FINAL scores MUST BE MADE PUBLIC BEFORE THE PRIZEGIVING IS HELD.
- 5.9.2 The Jury shall verify and sign the final total scores before they are made public.

**5.10 OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD**

The Event Director will announce at the General Briefing the place where the Official Notice Board is located. This should be marked OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD and is the place where all results, scores, replies to complaints and protests, and other official communications directly relating to the event will be published. All information posted shall be signed, dated and timed.

**CHAPTER 6 - OBSERVERS****6.1 OBSERVERS**

An Observer is a competition official, responsible to the Chief Observer. His duties are primarily the impartial recording of particulars of positions, times, distances etc. achieved during a flight. He also has the duty to report any apparent infringement of these rules or of air law, and any case of inconsiderate behaviour towards landowners or the public by any competitor or crew member.

**6.2 APPOINTMENT**

At the task briefing an Observer will be appointed to each competitor. An Observer will not be appointed to the same competitor more than once. In WAG, World Championships and European Championships, the observer will not be of the same nationality as the competitor.

**6.3 ASSISTANCE**

6.3.1 An observer may not assist the competitor with advice at any time. He should not attempt, to amplify, explain or interpret the rules to a competitor.

6.3.2 He may not handle the marker or any of the controls of the balloon during a task.

6.3.3 If he wishes, and is invited by the competitor, he may assist in the ground handling and inflation and, if flying, may assist with the final landing under the competitor's direction.

**6.4 REQUEST TO WITNESS**

If an observer is asked by a competitor to record or witness any particular piece of information during a task he shall do so.

**6.5 OBSERVER ON RETRIEVE**

6.5.1 When the observer is not flying, he will occupy a seat with a window in the retrieve vehicle and the crew must do their best to keep in visual contact with the balloon until the final marker has been dropped. The observer may not drive the vehicle. He may assist with map reading during the retrieve if asked to do so by the crew, at their responsibility.

6.5.2 It is the duty of the competitor and crew to convey the observer to the launch area, and to return him promptly to the Competition Center after measurement of results and recovery of the balloon.

**6.6 PHOTOGRAPHY**

An Observer may not take a camera on board or engage in photography while flying, except by permission of the competitor, or if required by his duties.

**6.7 OBSERVER REPORT**

The competitor should read and sign the observer's report sheet after completion of the flight. If the competitor disagrees with any information on the sheet, it should be noted at the time of signing.

**6.8 GPS LOGGERS**

A GPS logger is a device that logs the track and altitude of a balloon. GPS loggers may be used in competition as an observation tool to monitor compliance with the rules, for task setting and for achieving a score or result. For task setting and achieving a score or result, specific rules are required. Competitors shall comply with the operational instructions on their use.

**CHAPTER 7 - MAPS****7.1 CONTEST AREA**

An area defined by reference to the Official Competition Map, published at the start of the Event. Tasks will not be set, and results will not be measured, outside this area. Once a competitor has flown out of the contest area, he may not re-enter for the purpose of achieving further results.

**7.2 OUT OF BOUNDS**

The Director may define areas or airspaces as out of bounds. Take-Offs or contest landings in OFB Areas are prohibited and the competitor will achieve no result in the relevant task. Goal declarations in OFB areas or airspaces will be considered invalid. Competitors cannot achieve a valid mark, valid track point or result in OFB areas or airspaces.

**7.3 PROHIBITED ZONES (PZs)**

7.3.1 The director may define airspace or areas as prohibited. A mark or track point inside red, yellow or blue PZ is valid unless the area is defined as OFB. The boundaries and, if applicable, the altitude limits in feet MSL, shall be published in writing for each PZ.

7.3.2 Circular PZs (cylinder or dome shape) shall be defined by the center point map reference and radius in meters and/or feet. PZs with natural boundaries shall be defined by marked copies of the competition map to each competitor individually.

7.3.3 There are three classifications of PZs, Red, Yellow and Blue.

7.3.4 A RED PZ is a restricted airspace and will include an upper altitude limit which a competitor shall not fly below.

7.3.5 A YELLOW PZ is a restricted area where no take-offs or landings are permitted.

7.3.6 A BLUE PZ is a restricted airspace and will include a lower altitude limit which a competitor shall not fly above.

**7.4 PZs IN FORCE**

At each task briefing PZs will be published as in force or not in force for competition purposes in that flight. This does not necessarily describe their operational activity or status for other aviation purposes.

**7.5 PZ INFRINGEMENT**

A competitor violating a PZ in force will be penalised by up to 1000 competition points, proportionally to the offence.

**7.6 MAPS**

A competitor is required to carry a competition map in the basket. All published PZs, whether or not in force for the task, and all out-of-bounds areas shall be clearly and accurately marked on these maps. An adequate map of aeronautical restrictions must be carried, unless these are also marked on the competition map. A competitor violating this rule will be penalised up to 250 competition points.

**7.7 EARTH TO BE FLAT**

For scoring purposes the earth is flat. Calculations based on the competition map will be taken as accurate.

**7.8 MAP COORDINATES**

To identify a point on the competition map, the coordinates must be written in eight-digit format. First four digits west/east and the second four digits south/north. (Easting then Northing.) For goal declaration of pre-defined goals, the 3-digit goal number may be used.

**7.9 DEGREE REFERENCE**

Unless otherwise stated, directions are expressed in degrees referenced to the grid system printed on the competition map.

**CHAPTER 8 - PROGRAM, BRIEFINGS****8.1 TASK PROGRAM**

The Event will consist of a series of tasks. The number and frequency of the tasks and rest periods are at the discretion of the Director. At the first task briefing on the day before the last planned flying day, the director shall publish the remaining flying program.

**8.2 VALID TASK (S1 5.9.1)**

8.2.1 A VALID TASK IS DEFINED AS ONE IN WHICH ALL ENTERED COMPETITORS WERE GIVEN A FAIR OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A valid take-off, UNLESS THEY HAD WITHDRAWN OR HAD BEEN DISQUALIFIED.

8.2.2 The Director has the authority to cancel a task(s) for safety reasons at any time before the task scores are published.

**8.3 TASK SELECTION**

The Director shall select tasks from those described in Chapter 15. Particular tasks may be set more than once or not at all.

**8.4 MULTIPLE TASKS**

8.4.1 The Director may set more than one task to be performed on one flight. The tasks will be scored separately, with a winning score of 1000 points before penalties for each task. The combination of tasks should aim at the possibility of winning each task independently.

8.4.2 Unless otherwise specified, tasks in a multiple task flight shall be flown in the order indicated in the task data, penalty up to 1000 task points in each task.

8.4.3 Penalties related to the take off will normally be applied in the first task. Penalties related to the landing will normally be applied in the last task. Other penalties should be applied in the task in which they were incurred unless this is impossible, in which case they will be divided equally over more than one or all tasks.

8.4.4 If not otherwise stated in the Task Data, the minimum distance from the launch point to a goal/target applies as well to all further goals/targets on that flight.

8.4.5 Marker order. The task data shall specify for each task the marker(s) to be used. If no competitive advantage is gained, the penalty for releasing the wrong marker is 25 task points per task.

**8.5 MODIFICATION OF RULES (GS 3.9.1 part)**

8.5.1 COMPETITION RULES FOR A PARTICULAR EVENT SHALL NOT CONFLICT WITH THE SPORTING CODE. THEY SHALL BE APPROVED IN ADVANCE BY THE CIA AND MUST NOT BE CHANGED THEREAFTER.

8.5.2 The task rules of Chapter 15 are defined as variable rules and changes to those may be made without authorisation.

8.5.3 Variations to task rules shall be notified individually to each competitor in writing.

**8.6 GENERAL BRIEFING (S1 An3 6)**

A GENERAL BRIEFING ON THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND MAJOR ASPECTS OF THE EVENT SHALL BE HELD BEFORE THE START OF THE EVENT. ATTENDANCE AT THE GENERAL BRIEFING IS COMPULSORY FOR ALL ENTRANTS, OBSERVERS AND OTHER OFFICIALS. THE OFFICIAL COMPETITORS LIST, COMPILED FROM THE ROLL CALL OF THE ENTRANTS TAKEN AT THE GENERAL BRIEFING, SHALL BE PUBLISHED AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE AFTER THE GENERAL BRIEFING BUT BEFORE THE FIRST TASK BRIEFING. WHERE A JUSTIFIABLE REASON EXISTS, A LATE ENTRY MAY BE ACCEPTED BY THE DIRECTOR IN CONSULTATION WITH THE JURY, BUT BEFORE PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST SCORES.

**8.7 TASK BRIEFING**

8.7.1 Task briefings will be called by the Director at times published on the official notice board. Alternative methods may be used as announced in the GB. At the briefing the following information will be given verbally, by written circular or by posted notices.

- a. Arrangements for Observers
- b. Meteorological information
- c. Air traffic and safety information (if any)
- d. Task data

8.7.2 Where written information is supplied, five minutes study time should be allowed before briefing proceeds.

**8.8 TASK DATA**

8.8.1 At task briefings the task data, preferably in writing, shall be given to competitors. They shall contain flight data related to all tasks and individual task data.

8.8.2 Flight data:

- a. date
- b. official sunrise/sunset
- c. PZs in force
- d. launch area
- e. launch period
- f. provisional time and place of next briefing
- g. observer (to follow on ground/competitors invitation)
- h. solo flight (if directed)
- i. search period.

8.8.3 Individual task data:

- a. Marker(s) colour to be used
- b. Task/Marker order (if other than normal)
- c. Dropping method (if gravity drop directed)
- d. scoring period, scoring area and/or scoring airspace (if set)
- e. task data as per task rule

**8.9 SUPPLEMENTARY BRIEFING**

If it should be necessary to publish additional or revised information to competitors at the common launch area, a pink flag will be raised at the signals point. The competitor should attend in person or send a responsible crew member to the signals point. The information will be given verbally and a written copy may be displayed. All competitors will be deemed to have proper notice of the information. Alternatively, an official may circulate a written notice to each balloon and obtain the signature of the competitor or crew member.

**8.10 ENTRY FOR TASKS**

A competitor shall enter a task by answering his name or competition number at the roll call at the task briefing. Alternative methods of checking the competitor's attendance may be used.

**8.11 LATE ENTRY**

8.11.1 A competitor may make a late entry at the signals point with a penalty of 50 task points up to five minutes before the start of the launch period, or 100 task points thereafter. Officials will not be available to give a personal briefing except for Air Traffic, safety matters and PZs.

8.11.2 In tasks where competitors select their own launch areas, late entries shall be made at the Competition Center.



**8.12 OFFICIAL TIME**

The official time is GPS time corrected for the local time offset. Competitors, observers and officials not using GPS must ensure to set their watches to GPS time

**CHAPTER 9 - LAUNCH PROCEDURES****9.1 COMMON LAUNCH AREA(S)**

- 9.1.1 One or more areas defined by the organiser and used when the task requires all competitors to launch from a common area. A competitor taking off outside the prescribed common launch area (CLA) will not achieve a result in all tasks of that flight.
- 9.1.2 The COMMON LAUNCH POINT (CLP) is a point in or near the launch area, physically marked on the ground before the beginning of the Event, from which all angles and distances are measured, irrespective of the take-off points of individual balloons.
- 9.1.3 The Director may establish an improvised CLA by a radius around a coordinate or clearly bordered area. Competitors will select their own launch positions within this area. The use of launch masters and relevant rules is at the Director's discretion. Competitors must take-off within the set launch period or if flag signals are used within the period indicated by the flag signals. The Director will declare the CLP used for this CLA at the task briefing. The Director may also apply this procedure to the CLA.

**9.2 INDIVIDUAL LAUNCH AREAS**

- 9.2.1 Individual launch areas are selected by the competitors. The boundary of the launch area is a circle of 100 meter radius from the individual launch point or the physical boundary of the area if closer.
- 9.2.2 In tasks where competitors select an individual launch area, the INDIVIDUAL LAUNCH POINT (ILP) is the position of the basket at the start of hot inflation.
- 9.2.3 Individual launch areas shall not be selected outside the contest area.  
Penalty: no result in the first task of that flight.
- 9.2.4 A balloon inflated in an individual launch area shall not be moved and take off outside of it unless it is deflated, moved to another launch area and re-inflated.  
Penalty: no result in the first task of that flight.

**9.3 LANDOWNER'S PERMISSION**

Competitors must ensure permission has been obtained from the landowner or occupiers before driving onto, or launching from, any land which is enclosed or cultivated or apparently private or used for agricultural purposes. The permission must be obtained in the presence of an official or observer. Penalty for infringement is up to 250 task points.

**9.4 VEHICLES**

- 9.4.1 Not more than one vehicle per balloon may be present in the launch area during the launch period.  
Penalty 100 task points.
- 9.4.2 Vehicles must be driven at suitably reduced speeds within the launch area. The Safety Officer and the Launchmasters may bar from the area any vehicle that is driven inconsiderately.

**9.5 LATE VEHICLES**

No vehicle may enter the launch area after the advance yellow warning flag has been raised except by permission of a launchmaster.  
Penalty 100 task points.

**9.6 PREPARATION OF BALLOONS**

- 9.6.1 The launchmaster will allocate to each competitor a space in which to prepare and inflate his balloon. He has the authority to regulate the operation of all balloons and vehicles on the launch area.

Penalty is up to 200 task points.

- 9.6.2 Quick-release tie-offs must be used for all balloons inflating in a common launch area and are recommended in individual launch areas.

## **9.7 COLD INFLATION**

Burners may be briefly tested and cold air may be introduced into envelopes for rigging and inspection, but before permission for hot inflation has been given, there must be no hot inflation, no use of powered fans, and no part of the envelope fabric may be more than two meters off the ground. Fans may be tested or used before the launch period until a flag of any colour has been raised. This rule does not apply to ILA.

## **9.8 SIGNALS POINT**

One or more points at the launch area at which flag signals are displayed and competitor's task declarations, late entries and supplementary briefings take place. Competitors are responsible for keeping observation on the signals point, and its obscuring shall not be grounds for complaint.

## **9.9 LAUNCH SIGNALS**

- 9.9.1 Coloured flags shall have the following meanings when displayed at the signals point:

RED	No take-off permitted. Any previous permission to take-off cancelled.
GREEN	Permission to all balloons to begin hot inflation.
BLUE	Permission to 'blue' wave (odd numbered balloons) to begin hot inflation.
WHITE	Permission to 'white' wave (even numbered balloons) to begin hot inflation.
YELLOW	Five minute warning.
PINK	Supplementary or amended briefing information available.
BLACK	Task cancelled.
VIOLET	Reserve: meaning as declared at task briefing.

- 9.9.2 An audible signal may be given to draw attention to changes of flag signals.

## **9.10 PUBLIC ADDRESS**

Unless the Director has specified at the flight briefing that the public address system will be used, any information given over the public address system is of no effect for competition purposes.

## **9.11 LAUNCH PERIOD**

Take-off may not be made before or after the launch period. Any take-off made outside the launch period, except under rule 9.13, will be subject to a penalty of 100 task points per minute or part minute early or late. The yellow warning flag will be raised 5 or more minutes before the end of the launch period.

## **9.12 ADEQUATE TIME**

A competitor who is given permission to begin hot inflation 20 or more minutes before the end of the launch period is deemed to have adequate time, even if the launch period is curtailed for any reason.

## **9.13 EXTENSION OF TIME**

A competitor may request an extension of time from the launchmaster. The launchmaster may grant an extension if he is satisfied that the competitor was delayed by the action of officials or other competitors, or by other causes outside his control (equipment malfunction excluded).

**9.14 LAUNCHING ORDER**

Balloons may be allotted an order of priority for inflation, which will be rotated from one task to the next. Competitors may commence hot inflation according to the flag signal or when given individual permission by a launchmaster.

**9.15 READINESS FOR TAKE-OFF**

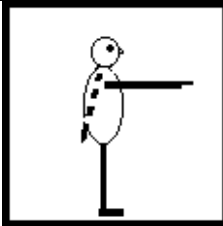

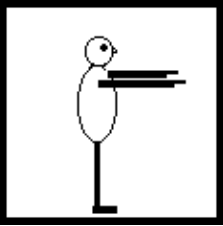


When a competitor is completely ready for take-off, and has positive buoyancy, he should wave a white flag to indicate his readiness to the launchmaster. When the launchmaster has acknowledged this signal, the competitor should leave the flag displayed on the edge of the basket and await further instructions while maintaining his readiness to take off. The launchmaster will, as far as possible, launch balloons in the order of signalling their readiness. Competitors should equip themselves with a suitable white flag about 50 cm square for this purpose.

**9.16 OBSTRUCTION**

Once his balloon is fully inflated a competitor may not unnecessarily remain in position where his balloon obstructs another.

**9.17 TAKE-OFF PERMISSION**

9.17.1 The launchmaster will give each competitor permission to take-off according to the signals as published. The competitor may then take-off at will, subject to any instructions from the launchmaster at the time.

				
I acknowledge your white flag.	Stay on ground, follow instruction of my right hand.	I'm going to clear you for take-off.	Clear for take-off	Cancel all previous instructions, wait.

9.17.2 This permission does not relieve the competitor of complete responsibility for his take-off, including adequate lift to clear obstacles and other balloons, and to continue safely in flight. A competitor taking off without permission, whether due to loss of control or any other reason, may be penalised up to 500 competition points

9.17.3 If the balloon does not take off within 30 seconds, permission to take off may be cancelled by the launchmaster.

**9.18 LOSS OF CONTROL**

A competitor losing control of his balloon shall deflate immediately or take appropriate action.

**9.19 TAKE-OFF (S1 3.2.6.2, 3.2.6.6)**

THE POINT AND/OR TIME AT WHICH ALL PARTS OF AN AEROSTAT OR ITS CREW CEASE TO BE IN CONTACT WITH OR CONNECTED TO THE GROUND OR WATER.

**9.20 VALID TAKE-OFF**

A balloon is considered to have taken off and to be flying the task if it passes over the boundary of any launch area.

**9.21 ABORTED TAKE-OFF**

- 9.21.1 A competitor may abort his take-off for safety reasons but must avoid the obstruction of other balloons. He may attempt further take-offs inside the Launch Period.
- 9.21.2 At a common Launch Area he must inflate in his originally allocated space, except by permission of the launchmaster, and must again obtain permission to take off.

**9.22 CLEARING LAUNCH AREA**

Within three minutes of his basket first leaving the ground a competitor shall have passed over the boundary of the launch area or shall have climbed to 500 feet above ground level. He shall not re-enter the launch field below 500 ft before the end of the launch period or after all balloons have taken off, whichever is earlier.

**CHAPTER 10 - FLIGHT RULES****10.1 MIDAIR COLLISION**

- 10.1.1 When two balloons are converging in flight, both competitors are responsible to avoid collision. The competitor of the higher balloon shall give way and shall climb if necessary.
- 10.1.2 Competitors shall not initiate or maintain a vertical speed exceeding 1,5 m/s (300 ft/min) unless they are certain that no balloon is in their flight path.
- 10.1.3 Competitors causing a collision will be penalised by up to 1000 competition points.  
A repeated offence will be penalized at least 1000 competition points and the competitor may be grounded for the next flight(s).
- 10.1.4 Envelope to envelope contact in approximate level flight will generally not be penalised.

**10.2 RECKLESS FLYING**

Reckless flying (e.g. any flying creating an unnecessary risk to other balloons, or people on the ground), not necessarily causing a collision, will be penalized up to disqualification from the event (GS 5.3).

**10.3 CLEARING GOAL/TARGET AREA**

A competitor who has dropped his marker shall clear the vicinity of the goal/target as quickly as reasonably possible.

**10.4 DROPPING OBJECTS**

No object may be dropped from the balloon except for official markers, or small pieces of paper or similar lightweight materials for navigational purposes.

**10.5 BEHAVIOUR**

Competitors are required to fly with proper consideration for persons and livestock on the ground and to follow good landowner relations etiquette or code of conduct when provided. Inconsiderate behaviour by competitors or crew members, or endangering the public during flight, may be penalised by up to 1000 competition points.

**10.6 LIVESTOCK AND CROP**

Balloons shall not fly closer than defined in Section II from livestock or buildings containing livestock, and competitors and crews must not damage crops unless given permission by the landowner or person responsible for the crop. Penalty: up to 1000 competition points.

**10.7 LANDOWNER**

In these rules the term "Landowner" means the person who is responsible for any crop or livestock on the land, not necessarily the legal owner of the land itself.

**10.8 COLLISION**

A competitor whose balloon is in collision with power or telephone wires or their supports, at any time between inflation and completion of final landing will be penalised up to 500 competition points. Collisions may additionally be penalised under the rule for reckless flying.

**10.9 PERSONS ON BOARD**

- 10.9.1 Competitors may carry other crew during a flight, and they may perform any duties he wishes to assign to them, except to act as pilot-in-command.
- 10.9.2 Competitors may, with the agreement of the Observer, carry him in the basket on a particular flight.

10.9.3        The total number of persons on board (including competitor and observer) shall not exceed 3.

10.9.4        Competitors may be required to perform a particular flight "solo" or "solo with the observer as an option" as specified in the task data.  
Penalty: the competitor will not achieve a result.

**10.10        GROUND CREW**

Each competitor shall ensure that he has sufficient crew to operate his balloon and retrieve vehicle. He shall ensure that all those involved with his balloon are adequately briefed on safety.

**10.11        DRIVING**

Vehicles must be driven safely during the retrieve and comply with local driving laws.  
Penalty up to 500 competition points

**10.12        DISEMBARKATION**

No person may enter or leave the basket between take-off and final landing (except as in 11.1.3).

**10.13        ASSISTANCE**

The use of handling lines or any handling assistance from persons on the ground is forbidden during flight.

**10.14        AIR LAW**

Infringements of air law which do not contravene the rules of the Event or provide competition advantage will not be penalised by the Director except in cases of damage, disturbance or reasonable complaint from persons not connected with the Event.

**10.15        RECALL PROCEDURE**

The organiser may introduce a recall procedure to be defined in the competition details.

**CHAPTER 11 - LANDINGS****11.1 LANDINGS**

- 11.1.1 A competitor may land at will when he has released all markers during flight.
- 11.1.2 A competitor makes a contest landing when he retains any marker(s) not released during flight.
- 11.1.3 In order to reduce damage or to reach a safe or more convenient point, ground handling of the balloon is permitted after the landing point has been marked by any official or observer.

**11.2 LANDING AT WILL**

- 11.2.1 When a competitor makes a landing at will, the landing point is the final resting place of the basket after landing.
- 11.2.2 Unless otherwise stated in the task data, a landing at will is not permitted within 200 meters of goals/targets, or any mark of the competitor.

**11.3 CONTEST LANDING**

- 11.3.1 Where a competitor elects not to release his marker, his landing will be deemed a contest landing. The scoring position for a contest landing is the final resting place of the basket. Published scoring periods and search periods apply.
- 11.3.2 No handling assistance may be received from anyone on the ground and no one of the flight crew may leave the basket before the basket has reached its final resting place.
- 11.3.3 Any retained marker must be handed over to the appointed observer at the earliest opportunity.
- 11.3.4 Unless otherwise stated in the task data, a contest landing is not permitted within 200 meters of goals/targets.

**11.4 GROUND CONTACT 1**

After passing over the boundary of any launch area, no part of the balloon or anything attached to it may make contact with the ground or water surface or anything resting on or attached to the ground, until the last task has been completed. Penalty for each contact is 100 competition points if light or 200 competition points if solid. Note: A contact is solid if as a result a change of motion of the basket or the envelope is observed.

**11.5 GROUND CONTACT 2**

No part of the balloon or anything attached to it may make contact with the ground or water surface or anything resting on or attached to the ground, (marker excepted) within 200 meters of any goal/target set by the Director or selected by the competitor. Penalty for each contact is 100 competition points if light or 500 competition points if solid. Note: A contact is solid if as a result a change of motion of the basket or the envelope is observed.

(Note: Competitors will not be penalised under both rules for any single contact.)

**11.6 PERMISSION TO RETRIEVE**

Competitors must ensure that permission has been obtained from the landowner or occupier before driving onto any land which is enclosed or cultivated or apparently private or used for agricultural purpose. Penalty up to 250 task points.



**CHAPTER 12 - GOAL, MARKER****12.1 GOAL**

- 12.1.1 A place defined by grid reference to the competition map, set by the Director or chosen by a competitor.
- 12.1.2 A competitor arriving at an expected goal that was rebuilt or moved, should aim for the closest replaced goal within 100 m. If the goal has ceased to exist and no similar goal is seen within 100 m, the competitor should aim for the coordinates. These coordinates will also be taken to calculate/measure any other related tasks of that flight.

**12.2 GOAL SELECTED BY A COMPETITOR**

- 12.2.1 A goal selected by a competitor shall appear from the map to be easily accessible to vehicles on the ground and precisely identifiable for measurement. Unless otherwise allowed in the task data, the goal shall be the intersection of two roads.
- 12.2.2 Measurements will be made from the center of the intersection as specified in the competition details. If the intersection shown as a crossroad on the map turns out to be a staggered tee-intersection, then the goal will be the midpoint between the points defined with the method mentioned in the competition details.
- 12.2.3 The types of roads allowed for goal declarations by competitors will be published in Section II.

**12.3 DECLARATIONS BY COMPETITORS**

- 12.3.1 A competitor shall identify his goal by map coordinates. He shall add descriptive detail to distinguish between possible goals located close together near his coordinates. For goal declaration of pre-defined goals, the 3-digit goal number may be used.
- 12.3.2 In case of ambiguity between more than one valid goal within 200 m of the coordinates, the goal achieving the least advantageous result will be placed upon a competitor's declaration. If there is no valid goal shown on the map within 200 m of the coordinates, the competitor will not achieve a result.
- 12.3.3 A goal declaration violating the restrictions of Section II will be considered invalid and the competitor will not achieve a result. In case the competitor is allowed to declare more than one goal in a task and one or more goals are invalid, the competitor will be scored to the nearest valid goal if any. If more goals or declarations are made than permitted, the competitor will not achieve a result.
- 12.3.4 In tasks where a competitor is required to declare his goal(s) or other declarations according to the TDS, he shall do so in writing and his declaration shall be deposited before declaration time at the place specified in the briefing data, clearly identified with his name and/or competition number.
- 12.3.5 A competitor who wishes to revise his declaration may deposit a further declaration, within the declaration time, provided that it is clearly marked to distinguish it from any previous declaration(s).
- 12.3.6 The timekeeper will close the declaration box precisely at the declaration time, and will accept late goal declarations, writing the time in minutes and seconds on each. Penalty for late declarations is 100 task points per minute or part minute late.
- 12.3.7 If the declaration has to be made before take off (as per 9.19) and the competitor fails to do so, he will not achieve a result.

**12.4 (NOT USED)**

**12.5 TARGET**

A prominent cross (as specified in the COH) displayed in the vicinity of a goal or at a specified coordinate. Where a target is displayed, any measurements are made from the target, not from the goal. A competitor reaching a goal where an expected target is not displayed should aim for the goal coordinate.

**12.6 MARKER**

Markers (as specified in the COH) supplied by the organizers will be used for scoring purposes to create a physical mark. Competitors are responsible for collecting the necessary marker(s) before the task. The marker must not be modified in any way. Penalty for modified or unauthorized markers is up to 250 task points.

**12.7 (NOT USED)****12.8 MARKER RELEASE**

The marker may be thrown by hand, unless Gravity Marker Drop is specified at the task briefing.

**12.9 GRAVITY MARKER DROP**

In a Gravity Marker Drop, no horizontal motion shall be applied to the marker in relation to the basket and gravity shall be the only means for the marker to drop. The person releasing the marker must hold the unrolled marker by the tail (non weighted part of the marker) and release the tail of the marker. The marker shall be allowed to fall from the top edge of the basket. The person's hand holding the tail of the marker shall not be outside the basket. Penalty for minor infringements with no competitive advantage: 50 task points. Otherwise, 50 meters will be added to the competitors result in the least advantageous direction. A marker thrown into a scoring area will be regarded as a valid result and the penalty will be applied.

**12.10 FREE MARKER DROP**

The marker must be completely unrolled when released. No mechanism may be used to propel the marker. The person releasing the marker must stand on the floor of the basket. Penalty for minor infringements with no competitive advantage: 50 task points. Otherwise 50 meters will be added to the competitors result in the least advantageous direction.

**12.11 MARK**

A physical mark is the point on the ground vertically below the weighted part of the marker where it comes to rest after falling from the balloon. If the marker is displaced after coming to rest or disappears subsequently from view (e.g. beneath water level), the earliest position an official or observer has seen the marker in ground contact will be taken with the accuracy available. Same applies, if the marker is carried on top of another balloon.

**12.12 (NOT USED)****12.13 INTERFERENCE WITH MARKER**

No person other than an official or the appointed observer may touch or interfere with a marker on the ground.

**12.14 SEARCH PERIOD**

12.14.1 Competitors have a specified period from the actual start of the launch period in which to find their marker(s).

12.14.2. The choice between searching for the marker, or first recovering the competitor rests with the competitor or his crew.

**12.15 LOST MARKER**

- 12.15.1 A marker is considered lost if it is not found and in possession of Officials or an Observer within the time limit specified, except that the Director, or his delegated official may grant an extension of this time limit if there is sufficient reason to believe that the marker(s) may be found.
- 12.15.2 If the marker has earlier been seen on or falling to the ground by an Official or Observer, then the competitor will be given an assessed result based on the least advantageous interpretation of evidence available, provided that the marker was released from an altitude lower than the one defined in Section II. Otherwise the competitor will be scored to his nearest marker or landing position, which ever is best.
- 12.15.3 Competitors may be required to pay for any marker damaged, not re-usable, lost or not brought back in time.

**12.16 SCORING PERIOD**

- 12.16.1 When defined by the Director in the task briefing, the scoring period is the time limits, within which a goal/target or scoring area is valid.
- 12.16.2 A competitor will only score if his marker is found or seen falling to the ground by an Officials or an Observer within the set time limit. However, a competitor will score if he has landed or if his next marker was found within that set time limit or logger information shows that the marker was dropped in time.
- 12.16.3 A competitor who does not achieve a scoring position within the Search Period will not achieve a result.
- 12.16.4 Under all circumstances scoring after official sunset is prohibited.

**12.17 SCORING AREA**

- 12.17.1 An area or areas, defined by the Director in the task data within which a valid mark can be achieved. Unless otherwise stated in the task data the boundary will be the inner hard surface or gravel edge of a road, the inner bank of a river, or other defined marked area. Any part of the weighted bag that is on the inner edge will be considered valid.
- 12.17.2 A competitor who does not achieve a scoring position inside the scoring area(s) will not achieve a result.

**12.18** (not used)

**12.19** (not used)

**12.20 VALID MARK**

- 12.20.1 A physical mark is considered valid if it is within the scoring area and within the scoring period if set. It is the duty of the retrieve crew to assist the observer to locate the marker and measure its position. The observer may not be left unaccompanied to search for a marker.
- 12.20.2 (not used)
- 12.20.3 A valid physical mark shall have precedence over any track point.
- 12.20.4 Measurements will be made to the closest point of the weighted bag portion of the marker.

**12.21 TRACK POINT**

- 12.12.1 A track point is defined by recorded date / time, coordinates and altitude of a point of the track of a GPS logger.

**12.22 VALID TRACK POINT**

A valid track point is a track point meeting all scoring criteria set in the task data such as scoring area and/or scoring period.

## CHAPTER 13 - PENALTIES

### 13.1 SERIOUS INFRINGEMENTS, UNSPORTING BEHAVIOUR (GS 5.2 part)

- 13.1.1 Serious Infringements includes dangerous or hazardous actions or repetitions of lesser infringements, and will be penalised according to the appropriate rule.
- 13.1.2 CHEATING OR UNSPORTING BEHAVIOUR, INCLUDING DELIBERATE ATTEMPTS TO DECEIVE OR MISLEAD OFFICIALS, WILFUL INTERFERENCE WITH OTHER COMPETITORS, FALSIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS, USE OF FORBIDDEN EQUIPMENT OR PROHIBITED DRUGS, OR REPEATED SERIOUS INFRINGEMENTS OF RULES SHOULD, AS A GUIDE, RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE EVENT.

### 13.2 UNSPECIFIED PENALTIES

- 13.2.1 A competitor infringing any rule for which the penalty is not specified may have a penalty (distance, angle or time) applied to his result or a deduction of points.
- 13.2.2 Where safety is not an issue, and no competitive advantage has been gained, he will normally receive a warning in the first instance.
- 13.2.3 A competitor may not be penalised under this rule if he has already been penalised under the same rule in a previous task, but has not been informed of the fact before the beginning of the task in question, except for follow-on tasks in the same flight.

### 13.3 DISTANCE INFRINGEMENTS

- 13.3.1 Where the individual launch point, a goal selected by a competitor, a mark, or a final landing infringes a distance limit at any time, the competitor will be penalised.
- 13.3.2 If a launch point infringes a natural set boundary, the infringement is the distance to the closest correct point.
- 13.3.3 Where the penalty relates to landing too close to a goal/target or mark, the competitor will only receive a result penalty for the greater infringement. The result penalty will be waived if the competitor can show that he was unable to comply because of safety reasons, or because of light wind (unable to clear area within 10 minutes).
- 13.3.4 The result penalty will be in case of:
- a) an Elbow task an increase or an Angle task a decrease of the competitors achieved angle with:  

$$2 \times \text{ARCSIN} [ \text{INFRINGEMENT} / \text{DISTANCE LIMIT} ]$$
  - b) a Race to an Area or Land Run task:  
 1 task penalty point per meter infringement.
  - c) all other tasks:  
 An increase (or decrease) of the competitors result by twice the amount of the infringement.

### 13.4 PENALTY POINTS

- 13.4.1 There are two kinds of point penalties: task points and competition points.
- 13.4.2 Task point penalties are subtracted from a competitor's task score, which cannot be reduced below zero. Competition point penalties are also subtracted from a competitors task score and may result in a negative score, which will be set against his total score in the Event.

**13.5 PROOF OF RULES VIOLATION (S1 An3 8.9)**

THE PRODUCTION AND DEMONSTRATION OF EVIDENCE FOR ANY ALLEGED INFRINGEMENT BY A COMPETITOR ALWAYS RESTS ENTIRELY WITH THE EVENT OFFICIALS. RULES SHALL NOT BE WRITTEN IN ORDER TO OBLIGE THE COMPETITOR TO PROVE HIS COMPLIANCE WITH THE RULES OR HIS INNOCENCE IN CASE OF ALLEGED INFRINGEMENT.

**CHAPTER 14 - SCORING****14.1 RESULT**

A competitors result is the achieved outcome in a task including result penalties. Results will be expressed in meters, square kilometers, minutes or degrees with an accuracy of two decimal places.

**14.2 SCORE**

A competitors score is the number of points achieved in a task when applying the appropriate formulas. Task or competition penalties may be applied according to the rules.

**14.3 PUBLICATION OF SCORES (S1 5.9.4 part)**

14.3.1 THE scores OF EACH TASK SHALL BE PUBLISHED WITH THE MINIMUM OF DELAY on the Official Notice Board.

14.3.2 Task score sheets shall include:

- a. EVENT NAME, TASK DATE and time, TASK SEQUENCE NUMBER, TASK NAME AND RULES reference.
- b. for each competitor his: rank, competition number and name, result, score and if applicable, penalties followed by the kind of penalty, a rule reference and a brief description.
- c. THE FIXED DATA USED IN THE SCORING FORMULAS (P, A, M, RM, W AND SM) and the checksum
- d. Publication date and time, version number and signature of the director.
- e. IF MORE THAN ONE score SHEET VERSION IS PUBLISHED FOR A PARTICULAR TASK, THE CHANGES FROM THE PREVIOUS ISSUE SHALL BE MARKED AND THE DIFFERENT VERSIONS SHALL BE NUMBERED IN SEQUENCE.

14.3.3 Task score sheets will have the following status:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| PROVISIONAL | Provisional scores are published for information only and have no validity for timing purposes.   |
| OFFICIAL    | Time periods for complaints/protests start from the publication of official scores.   |
| FINAL       | Official scores become final after all relevant time periods have expired. The jury may require a correction of the results and/or penalties prior to approving and signing the final scores. |

14.3.4 Total score sheets shall include:

- a. Event name
- b. for each competitor his: rank, competition number and name, total score and task scores
- c. task checksums

14.3.5 Total scores are for information only and will not carry a signature.

**14.4 RANKING ORDER**

- 14.4.1 Competitors will be ranked in order of performance according to the rules for each task, after adjustment for any result penalties. Competitors will be ranked in the following groups for each task:
- Group A Competitors whose results have been measured, or assessed under the rule for lost markers.
  - Group B Competitors flying the task, but not achieving a result. They will be scored equally using Formula Three, or share equally the remaining points available using Formula Two, whichever is the higher.
  - Group C Competitors not making a valid launch or disqualified in the event, all scoring zero points.
- 14.4.2 After calculating the points score with the applicable formula, any penalty points will be subtracted to obtain the competitors final task score. The competitors final task scores will be ranked again before being published.

**14.5 POINTS FORMULA**

- 14.5.1 Each competitor will then be awarded a number of points according to his performance. The formula to be used will depend on the competitor's place in the ranking order for the Task.
- 14.5.2 The best result will be awarded 1000 points before points penalties.
- 14.5.3 The superior half of the results will receive a score between 1000 and approximately 500 points, in proportion to their performance using Formula One.
- 14.5.4 The inferior half of the results will receive a score between approximately 500 points and 0 points according to their relative position in the ranking order using Formula Two.
- 14.5.5 FORMULA ONE: (superior half of performances).
- $$1000 - [(1000 - SM)/(RM - W)] \times (R - W)$$
- FORMULA TWO: (inferior half of performances).
- $$1000 \times (P + 1 - L)/P$$
- FORMULA THREE: (competitors in group B).
- $$1000 \times [(P + 1 - A)/P] - 200$$
- P = number of competitors entered in the competition.  
M = P/2 (rounded to the next higher number) (Median Rank).  
R = competitor's result (meters, etc.) if in the superior half.  
RM = result achieved by the median ranking competitor.  
L = competitor's ranking position if in the inferior portion.  
W = the winning result of the task.  
A = number of competitors in group A.  
SM = rounded points score of the median ranking competitor, calculated under formula two.
- 14.5.6 If fewer than half of the competitors achieve a result in the task, the following changes in definition will apply:
- RM = lowest ranking result in group A.
  - SM = rounded score of the lowest ranking competitor in group A, calculated under Formula Two.
  - M = lowest ranking competitor in group A.
- 14.5.7 In tasks where no competitor achieves a result, all competitors in group B will receive a score of 500 points before any penalty points.
- 14.5.8 Points scores will be rounded to the nearest whole number.

**14.6 PRECISION**

14.6.1 Results shall be established with the highest precision at hand.

14.6.2 The following standards will be used:

Result method	Precision	Printout example [m]
tape / surveying	centimeters	1.23
pacing	meters	236.00
map coordinate	decameters	1250.00
Track point/GPS	meters	1231.00

Any combination of result methods will revert to the lowest precision method used.

If positions can be determined relative to a common coordinate with a more accurate method, the precision of that method will be used.

Interpolation between track points may be used to establish the scoring position.

14.6.3 Results are considered tied when the outcome is the same after applying above mentioned principles. Competitors whose results are tied will share equally between them the points which they would have received had they not been so tied.

14.6.4 The altitude used in competition is specified in Section II.

**14.7 MEASURING**

14.7.1 Measurements by the measuring officials take precedence.

14.7.2 Within 200m, [tape/surveying](#) should be used. If there is reason to believe that a GPS measurement may be more accurate or safer for officials/crew than [tape/surveying](#), a GPS measurement shall be recorded.

14.7.3 Pacing should not be used within 200m.

14.7.4 All marks outside 200m shall be recorded by GPS. In case of a goal selected by the competitor, the coordinates of the goal shall also be recorded by GPS.

**14.8 TOTAL TIED SCORES**

Where two competitors have equal total scores in the Event, the competitor with the smaller difference between his best and worst scores will be ranked higher.



## **CHAPTER 15 - TASKS**

### **15.1 PILOT DECLARED GOAL (PDG)**

- 15.1.1 Competitors will attempt to drop a marker close to a goal selected and declared by him before flight.
- 15.1.2 Task data:
- a. Declaration time and place
  - b. number of goals permitted
  - c. minimum and maximum distances of goal(s) from CLP or ILP as per TDS
- 15.1.3 The result is the distance from the mark to the nearest valid declared goal. Smallest result is best.
- 

### **15.2 JUDGE DECLARED GOAL (JDG)**

- 15.2.1 Competitors will attempt to drop a marker close to a set goal.
- 15.2.2 Task data:
- a. position of set goal/target
- 15.2.3 The result is the distance from the mark to the target, if displayed, or goal. Smallest result is best.
- 

### **15.3 HESITATION WALTZ (HWZ)**

- 15.3.1 Competitors will attempt to drop a marker close to one of several set goals.
- 15.3.2 Task data:
- a. position of various set goals/targets
- 15.3.3 The result is the distance from the mark to the nearest target, if displayed, or goal. Smallest result is best.
-

**15.4 FLY IN (FIN)**

- 15.4.1 Competitors will find their own launch areas and attempt to drop a marker close to a set goal or target.
- 15.4.2 Task data:
- a. position of set goal/target
  - b. minimum and maximum distances from ILP to the goal/target
  - c. Number of take-offs permitted
- 15.4.3 The result is the distance from the mark to the target, if displayed, or goal. Smallest result is best.
- 15.4.4 Only one scoring attempt (marker drop or contest landing) may be made. A contest landing shall be declared as such to the appointed observer at the earliest opportunity.
- 

**15.5 FLY ON (FON)**

- 15.5.1 Competitors will attempt to drop a marker close to a goal selected and declared by them during flight.
- 15.5.2 Task data:
- a. minimum and maximum distance between previous mark and declared goal
  - b. number of goals permitted
- 15.5.3 The result is the distance from the mark to the nearest valid declared goal. Smallest result is best.
- 15.5.4 The competitor shall write clearly on the previous marker his declared goal(s) for fly on. If the previous marker is not dropped or no goal is written on it or if more goals are declared than permitted the competitor will not achieve a result.
- 15.5.5 As a precaution, in case the previous marker should be lost, the competitor may personally write a provisional goal on the observer's sheet. He will be scored to this goal if the previous marker is lost. The competitor may make or revise this provisional declaration at any time up to the release of the previous marker. A verbal declaration of a goal to the observer is of no effect and will not be recorded. If the observer is flying in the basket, he should witness and record on the observer sheet the declaration written on the marker before release.
- 

**15.6 HARE AND HOUNDS (HNH)**

- 15.6.1 Competitors will follow a hare balloon and attempt to drop a marker close to a target displayed by the hare no more than two meters upwind of the basket after landing.
- 15.6.2 Task data:
- a. description of the hare balloon
  - b. intended flight duration of the hare balloon
- 15.6.3 The result is the distance from the mark to the target. Smallest result is best.
- 15.6.4 Variation from intended flight duration of the hare shall not be ground for complaint.
- 15.6.5 The hare may deflate after landing and may be removed from the field.
- 15.6.6 The hare may display a banner hanging below his basket. No competitor shall display any banner hanging below the basket during this task.
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**15.7 WATERSHIP DOWN (WSD)**

- 15.7.1 Competitors will fly to the launch point of a hare balloon, follow the hare and attempt to drop a marker close to a target displayed by the hare no more than two meters upwind of the basket after landing.
- 15.7.2 Task data:
- a. description of the hare balloon
  - b. location of the launch point of the hare balloon
  - c. set take-off time of the hare balloon
  - d. intended flight duration of the hare balloon
- 15.7.3 The result is the distance from the mark to the target. Smallest result is best.
- 15.7.4 If the hare balloon does not take off within 5 minutes after the set time then this task is considered cancelled.
- 15.7.5 Variation from the flight duration of the hare shall not be ground for complaint.
- 15.7.6 The hare may deflate after landing and may be removed from the field.
- 15.7.7 The hare may display a banner hanging below his basket. No competitor shall display any banner hanging below the basket during this task.
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**15.8 GORDON BENNETT MEMORIAL (GBM)**

- 15.8.1 Competitors will attempt to drop a marker within a scoring area(s) close to a set goal.
- 15.8.2 Task data:
- a. position of goal/target
  - b. description of scoring area(s)
- 15.8.3 The result is the distance from the mark to the target, if displayed, or goal. Smallest result is best.
- 

**15.9 CALCULATED RATE OF APPROACH TASK (CRT)**

- 15.9.1 Competitors will attempt to drop a marker within a valid scoring area close to a set goal. The scoring area(s) will have unique times of validity.
- 15.9.2 Task data:
- a. position of goal/target.
  - b. description of scoring area(s) and their validity times
- 15.9.3 The result is the distance from the mark to the target, if displayed, or goal. Smallest result is best.
- 15.9.4 A competitor who does not achieve a mark inside a scoring area during its time of validity, will not achieve a result.
-

**15.10 RACE TO AN AREA (RTA)**

15.10.1 Competitors will attempt to drop a marker in the shortest time within a scoring area(s).

15.10.2 Task data:

- a. arrangements of timing
- b. description of scoring area(s)

15.10.3 The result is the elapsed time from the take off to the marker drop. Smallest result is best.

15.10.4 The timing ends at the moment the marker is released, falling or on the ground as seen by the observer or recovered in the hands of the observer which ever is first. Observers must ensure that they have stop-watches when observing in this task.

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**15.11 ELBOW (ELB)**

15.11.1 Competitors will attempt to achieve the greatest change of direction in flight.

15.11.2 Task data:

- a. description of point "A", "B" and "C".
- b. minimum and maximum distances from "A" to "B".
- c. minimum and maximum distances from "B" to "C".

15.11.3 The result is 180 degrees minus the angle ABC. Greatest result is best.

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**15.12 LAND RUN (LRN)**

15.12.1 Competitors will attempt to achieve the greatest area of a triangle "A", "B" and "C"

15.12.2 Task data:

- a. location of point "A"
- b. method of determining point "B"
- c. method of determining point "C"
- d. description of scoring area(s)

15.12.3 The result is the area of triangle ABC. Greatest result is best.

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**15.13 MINIMUM DISTANCE (MDT)**

- 15.13.1 Competitors will attempt to drop a marker close to the CLP, after flying a minimum set time.
- 15.13.2 Task data:
- a. minimum set time
  - b. arrangements for timing.
- 15.13.3 The result is the distance from the mark to the CLP. Smallest result is best.
- 15.13.4 The scoring position is the mark if the observer has seen the marker drop after the minimum set time. Otherwise the scoring position will be the landing position, provided that the balloon has been seen by an official to be still airborne after the minimum time.
- 15.13.5 Penalty for violating the rule of CLEARING THE LAUNCH AREA is 100 task points per minute or part minute late.
- 15.13.6 The penalty for each ground contact in this task is 500 task points.
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**15.14 SHORTEST FLIGHT (SFL)**

- 15.14.1 Competitors will attempt to drop a marker close to the CLP within a set scoring area(s).
- 15.14.2 Task data:
- a. description of scoring area(s)
- 15.14.3 The result is the distance from the mark to the CLP. Smallest result is best.
- 

**15.15 MINIMUM DISTANCE DOUBLE DROP (MDD)**

- 15.15.1 Competitors will attempt to drop two markers close together in different scoring areas.
- 15.15.2 Task data:
- a. description of scoring areas.
- 15.15.3 The result is the distance between the marks. Smallest result is best.
- 15.15.4 Competitors will not achieve a result if one or both marks are outside the scoring area or both marks are in one scoring area.
-

**15.16 MAXIMUM DISTANCE TIME (XDT)**

- 15.16.1 Competitors will attempt to drop a marker far away from the CLP, within a maximum set time.
- 15.16.2 Task data:
- a. maximum set time
  - b. arrangements for timing.
- 15.16.3 The result is the distance from the mark to the CLP. Greatest result is best.
- 15.16.4 If the observer does not see the marker release, falling or on the ground or the marker is not recovered in his hands within the maximum set time, the competitor will not achieve a result.
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**15.17 MAXIMUM DISTANCE (XDI)**

- 15.17.1 Competitors will attempt to drop a marker far away from the CLP within a set scoring area(s).
- 15.17.2 Task data:
- a. description of scoring area(s)
- 15.17.3 The result is the distance from the mark to the CLP. Greatest result is best.
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**15.18 MAXIMUM DISTANCE DOUBLE DROP (XDD)**

- 15.18.1 Competitors will attempt to drop two markers far apart in the scoring area(s).
- 15.18.2 Task data:
- a. description of the scoring area(s)
- 15.18.3 The result is the distance between the marks. Greatest result is best.
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**15.19 ANGLE (ANG)**

- 15.19.1 Competitors will attempt to achieve the greatest change of direction from a set direction. The change of direction is the angle between the set direction and line "A-B".
- 15.19.2 Task data:
- a. description of point "A" and "B"
  - b. set direction
  - c. minimum and maximum distances from "A" to "B"
- 15.19.3 The result is the angle between the set direction and the line "A-B". Greatest result is best.
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Note: Directors may use tasks from the AXMERG except in world and continental championships.

**ANNEX 1 - ABBREVIATION LIST**

<b>Rule ref</b>	<b>Abbr.</b>	<b>Rule</b>
7.1	<b>CTA</b>	CONTEST AREA (CTA)
7.2.	<b>OFB</b>	OUT OF BOUNDS (OFB)
9.1	<b>CLA</b>	COMMON LAUNCH AREA(S) (CLA)
	<b>CLP</b>	COMMON LAUNCH POINT(S) (CLP)
9.2.	<b>ILA</b>	INDIVIDUAL LAUNCH AREAS (ILA)
	<b>ILP</b>	INDIVIDUAL LAUNCH POINT(S) (ILP)
9.3	<b>LO</b>	LANDOWNER'S (LO) PERMISSION
9.19	<b>T/O</b>	TAKE-OFF (T/O) (S1 ... etc.)
11.1	<b>LND</b>	LANDINGS (LND)
12.6	<b>MKR</b>	MARKER (MKR)
12.4	<b>SRP</b>	SEARCH PERIOD (SRP)
12.16	<b>SCP</b>	SCORING PERIOD (SCP)
12.17	<b>SCA</b>	SCORING AREA (SCA)
12.9	<b>GMD</b>	GRAVITY MARKER DROP (GMD)
12.10	<b>FMD</b>	FREE MARKER DROP (FMD)
15.1	<b>PDG</b>	PILOT DECLARED GOAL (PDG)
15.2	<b>JDG</b>	JUDGE DECLARED GOAL (JDG)
15.3	<b>HWZ</b>	HESITATION WALTZ (HWZ)
15.4	<b>FIN</b>	FLY IN (FIN)
15.5	<b>FON</b>	FLY ON (FON)
15.6	<b>HNH</b>	HARE AND HOUNDS (HNH)
15.7	<b>WSD</b>	WATERSHIP DOWN (WSD)
15.8	<b>GBM</b>	GORDON BENNETT MEMORIAL (GBM)
15.9	<b>CRT</b>	CALCULATED RATE OF APPROACH TASK (CRT)
15.10	<b>RTA</b>	RACE TO AN AREA (RTA)
15.11	<b>ELB</b>	ELBOW (ELB)
15.12	<b>LRN</b>	LAND RUN (LRN)
15.13	<b>MDT</b>	MINIMUM DISTANCE (MDT)
15.14	<b>SFL</b>	SHORTEST FLIGHT (SFL)
15.15	<b>MDD</b>	MINIMUM DISTANCE DOUBLE DROP (MDD)
15.16	<b>XDT</b>	MAXIMUM DISTANCE TIME (XDT)
15.17	<b>XDI</b>	MAXIMUM DISTANCE (XDI)
15.18	<b>XDD</b>	MAXIMUM DISTANCE DOUBLE DROP (XDD)
15.19	<b>ANG</b>	ANGLE (ANG)
15.20	<b>BOX</b>	BOX (BOX)
	<b>MMA</b>	Marker Measuring Area (MMA) (for AXMERG)
	<b>TDS</b>	Task (data) sheet
	<b>WIS</b>	Weather Information sheet
	<b>FRF</b>	Flight Report Form
	<b>GMF</b>	GPS Measuring Form
	<b>TAS</b>	Task Score Sheet
	<b>TOS</b>	Total Score Sheet
	<b>GC</b>	Ground Contact
	<b>GB</b>	General Briefing