



*Fédération
Aéronautique
Internationale*

Competition Rules

For
Speed Skydiving

2016 Edition
Effective 1 March 2016

*Maison du Sport International
Av. de Rhodanie 54
CH-1007 Lausanne
(Switzerland)
Tél. +41 (0)21 345 10 70
Fax +41 (0)21 345 10 77
E-mail: sec@fai.org
Web: www.fai.org*

FEDERATION AERONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

MSI - Avenue de Rhodanie 54 – CH-1007 Lausanne – Switzerland

Copyright 2016

All rights reserved. Copyright in this document is owned by the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI). Any person acting on behalf of the FAI or one of its Members is hereby authorized to copy, print, and distribute this document, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The document may be used for information only and may not be exploited for commercial purposes.**
- 2. Any copy of this document or portion thereof must include this copyright notice.**
- 3. Regulations applicable to air law, air traffic and control in the respective countries are reserved in any event. They must be observed and where applicable, take precedence over any sport regulations.**

Note that any product, process or technology described in the document may be the subject of other Intellectual Property rights reserved by the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale or other entities and is not licensed hereunder.

RIGHTS TO FAI INTERNATIONAL SPORTING EVENTS

All international sporting events organised wholly or partly under the rules of the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) Sporting Code¹ are termed *FAI International Sporting Events*². Under the FAI Statutes³, FAI owns and controls all rights relating to FAI International Sporting Events. FAI Members⁴ shall, within their national territories⁵, enforce FAI ownership of FAI International Sporting Events and require them to be registered in the FAI Sporting Calendar⁶.

An event organiser who wishes to exploit rights to any commercial activity at such events shall seek prior agreement with FAI. The rights owned by FAI which may, by agreement, be transferred to event organisers include, but are not limited to advertising at or for FAI events, use of the event name or logo for merchandising purposes and use of any sound, image, program and/or data, whether recorded electronically or otherwise or transmitted in real time. This includes specifically all rights to the use of any material, electronic or other, including software, that forms part of any method or system for judging, scoring, performance evaluation or information utilised in any FAI International Sporting Event⁷.

Each FAI Air Sport Commission⁸ may negotiate agreements, with FAI Members or other entities authorised by the appropriate FAI Member, for the transfer of all or parts of the rights to any FAI International Sporting Event (except World Air Games events⁹) in the discipline¹⁰, for which it is responsible¹¹ or waive the rights. Any such agreement or waiver, after approval by the appropriate Air Sport Commission President, shall be signed by FAI Officers¹².

Any person or legal entity that accepts responsibility for organising an FAI Sporting Event, whether or not by written agreement, in doing so also accepts the proprietary rights of FAI as stated above. Where no transfer of rights has been agreed in writing, FAI shall retain all rights to the event. Regardless of any agreement or transfer of rights, FAI shall have, free of charge for its own archival and/or promotional use, full access to any sound and/or visual images of any FAI Sporting Event. The FAI also reserves the right to arrange at its own expense for any and all parts of any event to be recorded,

-
- 1 FAI Statutes,Chapter 1,para. 1.6
 - 2 FAI Sporting Code, Gen. Section,Chapter 4,para 4.1.2
 - 3 FAI Statutes,Chapter 1,para 1.8.1
 - 4 FAI Statutes,Chapter 2,para 2.1.1; 2.4.2; 2.5.2 and 2.7.2
 - 5 FAI By-Laws,Chapter 1,para 1.2.1
 - 6 FAI Statutes,Chapter 2,para 2.4.2.2.5
 - 7 FAI By-Laws,Chapter 1,paras 1.2.2 to 1.2.5
 - 8 FAI Statutes,Chapter 5,paras 5.1.1, 5.2, 5.2.3 and 5..2.3.3
 - 9 FAI Sporting Code, Gen. Section,Chapter 4,para 4.1.5
 - 10 FAI Sporting Code, Gen. Section,Chapter 2,para 2.2.
 - 11 FAI Statutes,Chapter 5,para 5.2.3.3.7
 - 12 FAI Statutes,Chapter 6,para 6.1.2.1.3

This document, the Competition Rules for Speed Skydiving, 2016 Edition, takes effect on the 1st March 2016. The 2016 Edition differs from the 2015 Edition in those paragraphs with a vertical bar in the margin.

Page

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|---|
| Chapter 1: FAI Authority | 2 |
| 1.1 FAI Authority | 2 |
| Chapter 2: Definitions of Words and Phrases Used in these Rules | 2 |
| 2.1 Course | 2 |
| 2.2 Speed Measuring Device | 2 |
| 2.3 Scoring Technical Director | 2 |
| Chapter 3: The Event | 2 |
| 3.1 Event Description | 2 |
| 3.2 Objective of the event | 2 |
| 3.3 Performance Requirements | 2 |
| Chapter 4: General Rules | 3 |
| 4.1 Equipment | 3 |
| 4.2 Training jumps | 4 |
| 4.3 Order of jumping | 4 |
| 4.4 Determination of the Winners | 4 |
| Chapter 5: Rules Specific to the Event | 4 |
| 5.1 Jumping Procedure | 4 |
| 5.2 Exit order | 5 |
| 5.3 Exit Altitude | 5 |
| 5.4 Speed Measuring Device | 5 |
| 5.5 Scoring speed skydiving | 6 |
| 5.6 Speed skydiving penalties | 6 |
| Chapter 6: Work of the Judges in the Discipline | 6 |
| 6.1 Scoring the jump | 6 |
| 6.2 Collation of the score sheets | 7 |
| 6.3 Determining placing | 7 |
| 6.4 Other responsibilities | 7 |
| Chapter 7: Title of the Competition | 7 |
| 7.1 Aims of the Competition | 7 |
| 7.2 Programme of Events | 8 |
| 7.3 Composition of Delegations | 8 |
| 7.4 Protest Fees | 8 |
| 7.5 World Champions | 8 |
| 7.6 Prizes and Awards | 8 |

1 FAI Authority

- 1.1 The competition will be conducted under the authority granted by the FAI, according to the regulations of the Sporting Code of the FAI, General Section, and Section 5 as approved by the IPC and validated by the FAI, and these rules. All participants accept these rules and the FAI regulations as binding by registering in the competition.

2 Definitions of Words and Phrases Used in these Rules

- 2.1 **Course:** A vertical kilometre where speed measurements are taken, starting at 2700 metres (8858 ft) above the ground and ending at 1700 metres (5577 ft) above the ground.
- 2.2 **Speed Measuring Device (SMD):** A device used to determine the vertical speed of the parachutist, which is mounted on the parachutist's body or equipment.
- 2.3 **Scoring Technical Director (STD):** Appointed by the IPC Speed Skydiving Committee and approved by the organiser for that position. The Scoring Technical Director is responsible for the planning, setup and maintenance of the downloading and analysing software before and during a World Championship/FCE.

3 The Event

3.1 Event Description

- 3.1.1 The discipline will be comprised of the following event:
Speed Skydiving Open
- 3.1.2 Within the Speed Skydiving Open event, separate classifications will be made for:
Speed Skydiving Male
Speed Skydiving Female
Speed Skydiving Junior Male
Speed Skydiving Junior Female
- 3.1.3 All competitors enter the Open event, but are then also automatically entered in the classifications for which they are qualified.
- 3.1.4 The competition in the classifications takes place during the preliminary rounds, and no separate jumps are made. The scores achieved in the preliminary rounds are used to determine the placings in the classifications.
- 3.1.5 Following the preliminary rounds, the Open event continues into a semi-final and final round.
- 3.1.6 The final scores in the junior female classification are also carried across to the female classification.
- 3.1.7 The final scores in the junior male classification are also carried across to the male classification.
- ### 3.2 Objective of the event
- 3.2.1 The objective of the event is for the competitor to fly his body as fast as possible to achieve the highest average vertical speed through the course.

3.3 Performance Requirements

- 3.3.1** The accumulated total of the best competition jumps, depending on the number of rounds completed, is used to determine the final placings. The standings will also have a column showing the average speed based on number of rounds completed
- 3.3.2** At least two rounds must be completed to determine placings and declare winners.

4 General Rules

4.1 Equipment

- 4.1.1** Competitors may not wear additional weight on their body, in any of their equipment, or on any of their equipment.
- 4.1.2** Parachutes and equipment will be inspected by the Chief Judge or Meet Director to confirm that they conform to normal weights for that equipment. Chief Judge and Meet Director may delegate this task to a qualified person, such as a Rigger, Senior Rigger or Master Rigger. If, in the opinion of the Chief Judge and Meet Director, the equipment does not conform to normal weights for that equipment, the competitor may be required to demonstrate that the equipment does not contain extra weight. This decision is not grounds for protest.
- 4.1.3** Parachutes and equipment will be inspected by the Chief Judge, Meet Director or FAI Controller to confirm that they are safe for the event. Chief Judge, Meet Director or FAI Controller may delegate this task to a qualified person, such as a Rigger, Senior Rigger or Master Rigger. If, in the opinion of the Chief Judge, Meet Director and FAI Controller, the parachute and/or equipment are not safe for the event, the competitor will not be permitted to use it. This decision is not grounds for protest.
- 4.1.4** Each competitor must wear a functioning audio altitude warning device on every jump. Two functioning audio altitude warning devices, with visual indications in the goggles/visor, are recommended.
- 4.1.5** Each competitor will wear two SMDs issued by the Chief Judge. The devices will be attached
(i) on the lateral webbing on each side of the competitors harness, or
(ii) on each side of the competitors container horizontally in line with the lowest part of the lateral webbing when the competitor is standing upright. In either case, the SMDs must be sited predominately on the sides of the rig. The devices will be located to the satisfaction of the Chief Judge, and this decision is not grounds for protest.
- 4.1.6** The SMDs will be attached by the competitor, supervised and sealed in location by a member of the judging staff. The devices will be attached prior to boarding the aircraft.
- 4.1.7** Immediately after the jump, the competitor is to report to the judges area to have the measuring devices removed.
- 4.1.8** If one or both seals are found to be broken after the jump, and in the opinion of the Chief Judge and Meet Director this was not caused by normal parachuting conditions outside the control of the competitor, then the competitor will receive a score of zero for that jump - broken seals are not ground for a re-jump. This decision is not grounds for protest.
- 4.1.9** If one or both SMDs malfunctions, and this malfunction, in the opinion of the Chief Judge and Meet Director, was not caused by interference by the competitor, then the competitor has the choice for making a re-jump or accepting the score of zero for the jump. The competitor must make an immediate decision and must inform the Chief Judge of the decision; otherwise a re-jump must be made.
- 4.1.10** A competitor may not wear personal SMDs in the area of the official measuring devices.

4.2 Training jumps

- 4.2.1** All competitors must have the opportunity on the official practice day to make at least one official training jump, weather permitting.
- 4.2.2** The SMDs in use in the competition, and all competition rules and procedures, will be used for these jumps.
- 4.2.3** The official training jumps shall be judged by the Official Panel of Judges, or Judges in Training under direct supervision of the Chief of Judge Training, and the scores may be published.

4.3 Order of jumping

- 4.3.1** The order of jumping in the first round will be determined by reverse order of placing during the last World Championship.
- 4.3.2** Individuals not covered by this procedure will jump at the beginning or end of the first round, with order determined at the discretion of the Meet Director and Chief Judge.
- 4.3.3** Time permitting, and at the discretion of the Meet Director, reverse order of ranking may be used for all other rounds.

4.4 Determination of the Winners

- 4.4.1** At the end of all completed rounds, the accumulated total of the best competition jumps, depending on the number of rounds completed, is used to determine the competitor's score. The competitor with the highest score is the winner.
- 4.4.2** In the event of a tie in the first three places in the Open event, the following rules apply:
- (i)** Where possible tie-break jumps shall be made.
 - (ii)** If this does not break a tie, then the competitor with the highest average speed in any one round obtains the higher place.
 - (iii)** If this does not break a tie, the competitor with the highest average speed, starting with the last completed round and continuing in reverse order, round by round until the tie is broken, obtains the higher place.
 - (iv)** If the tie cannot be broken, the competitors concerned shall be declared co-medallists.
 - (v)** All other ties shall be ranked equal.
- 4.4.3** In the event of a tie in the first three places in any of the classifications, paragraphs 4.4.2 (ii) to 4.4.2 (v) will be applied.

5 Rules Specific to the Event

5.1 Jumping Procedure

- 5.1.1** The exit point is determined by the pilot in conjunction with the Meet Director. The aircraft pilot will signal the competitors when they are clear to exit. All the competitors will be briefed on the specific exit signals at the pre-event competitors' meeting.
- 5.1.2** The exit delay between competitors must be such so as to ensure safe separation, and be at least 5 seconds.

5.1.3 The first person to exit on a pass goes 90 degrees to the right of the aircraft line of flight, the second goes 90 degrees left, and so on. If a competitor uses a technique that results in horizontal movement across the ground during the jump, then that competitor must turn to the appropriate direction shortly after exit. If a competitor uses a technique that results in a vertical flight path with little or no horizontal movement across the ground during the jump, then that competitor may make the turn to the appropriate direction during deceleration after leaving the course.

5.2 Exit order

5.2.1 For safety reasons, the exit order in a jump run is determined by the personal best of the competitors. The exit order in a jump run is personal best descending.

5.2.2 There will be a maximum of eight (8) competitors per exit pass, but this may be reduced by the Meet Director taking into consideration the aircraft size and the dropzone area.

5.3 Exit Altitude

5.3.1 Exit Altitude: 13000ft (3962 metres).

5.3.2 For meteorological reasons or air traffic circumstances only, and with the consent of the FAI Controller and the Chief Judge, the Meet Director may lower the exit altitude to 12000ft (3658 metres) and continue the competition. However, the course remains 2700-1700 metres. If the exit altitude is lowered it must apply for a complete round for all competitors.

5.4 Speed Measuring Device (SMD)

5.4.1 The SMD must be capable of gathering data, or transmitting real-time data to a ground station or stations, which allows the competitor's average vertical freefall speed between 2700m and 1700m above ground to be displayed to a resolution of one hundredth of a kilometre per hour, and the competitors exit altitude to be determined to an accuracy of 10m.

5.4.2 The data from an SMD may or may not be required to be downloaded to computer in order to determine the competitors speed.

5.4.3 The device must not require any action by the competitor in order for it to function, and it must activate its recording function automatically upon exit of the competitor.

5.4.4 If settings on the device can be altered after the device has been attached to the competitor, it must be evident to the judges that this has occurred, the alteration must be capable of being easily reversed, and the alteration must not affect the data gathered. Alternatively, once attached to the competitor, the settings on the device must not be capable of being altered by the competitor, the device must not be capable of being switched off by the competitor, nor must it be possible for the competitor to delete the data.

5.4.5 If the device measures altitude from pressure readings, then the altitude is not to be compensated for ambient temperature, and temperature according to International Standard Atmosphere is to be used.

5.4.6 If the analysis software can compensate for ambient temperature, that facility is not to be used, and temperature according to International Standard Atmosphere is to be used.

5.4.7 If the SMD transmits its data to the ground station during the jump, then that data must be recorded and saved when it is received.

5.4.8 If the data from the SMD is downloaded for analysis to a computer after landing, then that data must be recorded and saved when it is downloaded.

5.4.9 If the speed is read directly from the SMD after landing, then it does not need to be retained on the SMD, and need only be recorded on the score sheets.

5.5 Scoring speed skydiving

5.5.1 The score for a Speed Skydiving jump is the average vertical speed in kilometres per hour, to the nearest hundredth of a km/h, that the competitor achieves through the course. This score is obtained by taking the average of the speeds obtained from the two SMDs.

5.5.2 SMDs should be rotated between competitors as much as possible.

5.6 Speed skydiving penalties

5.6.1 If the difference of the two average speeds is 60.01 km/h or greater, the jump is considered to be outside the scoring boundaries (OB) and the score is 0.00.

5.6.2 If the difference of the two average speeds is 30.01 km/h or greater but less than 60.01 km/h the score for the jump is the average of these two average speeds minus the excess of the difference between the two speeds over 30.00 km/h to the nearest hundredth of a km/h, rounded down.

6 Work of the Judges in the Discipline

6.1 Scoring the jump

6.1.1 Each performance shall be assessed by at least 2 Judges. All Judges must be FAI Speed Skydiving Judges. FAI Speed Skydiving Judges in Training, provided they are under the direct supervision of the Chief of Judge Training or his designee, having attended the Judge's Conference, may be used in addition to the Official Panel of Judges.

6.1.2 One judge conducts the analysis of the jump and determines the appropriate score. The second judge then checks the analysis and score before collation of the score sheet.

6.1.3 The data from the two SMDs is used to obtain the two average vertical speeds through the course.

6.1.4 If a computer is used to analyse the data to obtain the speed, then the data must be downloaded as soon as possible after the competitor has handed in the devices, and before the SMDs are used by another competitor.

6.1.5 If the speed is read directly from the device, then the readings are to be taken when the competitor hands in the SMDs, the speeds are to be written directly on to the score sheets, and the competitor is to sign for the two speeds. The SMDs may then be used for another competitor.

6.1.6 If the speed is obtained from data transmitted during the jump to a ground station or stations, the SMDs may only be used by another competitor once it has been determined that valid data has been obtained.

6.1.7 If the difference of the two average speeds is 30 km/h (18.64 mph) or less, then the jump is considered to be within the scoring boundaries, and the score for the jump is the average of the two speeds to the nearest hundredth of a km/h, rounded down.

6.1.8 If the difference of the two average speeds is 30.01 km/h or greater but less than 60.01 km/h the score for the jump is calculated as described in paragraph 5.6.2.

6.1.9 If the difference of the two average speeds is 60.01 km/h or greater, the jump is considered to be outside the scoring boundaries (OB) as described in paragraph 5.6.1.

6.1.10 The scores will not be final until the data have been reviewed. The Chief Judge is responsible for determining a competitor's final score and placing.

6.2 Collation of the score sheets

6.2.1 The scores are collated immediately after the judges have assessed the jump. The results of the collation must be checked by at least one Judge who was not one of the assessing judges.

6.3 Determining placing

6.3.1 Depending on the number of rounds completed, a different number of jumps will be used to determine placings as follows:

- (i) If 2 rounds have been completed, the competitor's best single round is used.
- (ii) If 3 rounds have been completed, the competitor's best 2 rounds are used, and the score is the total of the two speeds. As additional information the average of the two speeds can be shown on the score sheet.
- (iii) If 4 or 5 rounds have been completed, the competitor's best 3 rounds are used, and the score is the total of the three speeds. As additional information the average of the three speeds can be shown on the score sheet.
- (iv) With round 6, 7 or 8 completed, the competitor's best 4 rounds are used, and the score is the total of the four speeds. As additional information the average of the four speeds can be shown on the score sheet.

6.3.2 While a round is in progress, unofficial results may be published using the criteria in para 6.3.1 applied to individual competitors. However, if the round does not get completed, the scores from the incomplete round must be discarded and the results must be amended to reflect the scores from the number of completed rounds.

6.4 Other responsibilities

6.4.1 The Chief Judge may decide to interrupt the event if he considers that the meteorological conditions are not safe for the conduct of the event. This decision is not grounds for a protest.

7 Title of the Competition

"The --- **FAI World Speed Skydiving Parachuting Championship**, (insert location), (insert year)", or

"The --- **FAI (insert continent) Speed Skydiving Parachuting Championship**, (insert location), (insert year)", or

"The --- **FAI World Cup of Speed Skydiving**, (insert location), (insert year)", or

"The --- **FAI (insert continent) Cup of Speed Skydiving**, (insert location), (insert year)"

7.1 Aims of the Competition

7.1.1 To determine the Champions of Speed Skydiving

7.1.2 To promote and develop Speed Skydiving training and competition.

7.1.3 To establish new World and Continental Speed Skydiving competition records.

7.1.4 To exchange ideas and strengthen friendly relations between sport parachutists, judges and support personnel of all nations.

7.1.5 To allow participants to share and exchange experience, knowledge, and information.

7.1.6 To improve judging methods and practices

7.2 Programme of Events

7.2.1 The event consists of 6 preliminary rounds, plus a semi-final and final round.

7.2.2 The minimum number of rounds for a valid event is two.

7.2.3 Competitors make the 6 preliminary rounds in the Open event, and do not make separate jumps for the classifications. The final results for the classifications are those obtained at the completion of the preliminary rounds.

7.2.4 Following the preliminary rounds, selected competitors move forward to semi-finals and finals in the Open event as follows:

(i) The top 25% competitors, or 10 competitors, whichever is the greater, in the Open event, after completion of the preliminary rounds, continue into the semi-final.

(ii) The top 50% competitors, or 5 competitors, whichever is the greater, in the Open event, after completion of the semi-final round, continue into the final round.

7.2.5 In the event of a tie in the selection of competitors moving forward to the semi-final or final round, both competitors go forward.

7.2.6 If adverse weather conditions dictate, and there is insufficient time to complete all rounds (after the minimum number has been completed), the Meet Director, in consultation with the Chief Judge, may decide in the interest of the event, to move straight into the final round of the Open event with the top 25% competitors in the Open event. In this case, the final results for the other classifications will be those obtained from the preliminary rounds that have been completed.

7.3 Composition of Delegations

7.3.1 Each delegation may be comprised of:

One Head of Delegation

One Team Manager/Coach

A maximum of 6 competitors for a World Parachuting Championship.

A maximum of 8 competitors for a World Cup or a Continental Regional Championship

Judges and trainee judges as decided by the IPC

Accompanying persons at the discretion of the event organiser.

7.4 Protest Fees

7.4.1 A fee of 50 EUR shall accompany each protest.

7.5 World Champions

7.5.1 The title of World Champion is awarded to the first placed competitor in the Open event, and in each classification.

7.6 Prizes and Awards

7.6.1 Medals are awarded to the three competitors who have the highest placing in the Open event, and in each classification.

7.6.2 Diplomas are awarded to all competitors that are ranked in first to tenth place in the Open event, and in each classification.