

COMPETITION RULES : 15th MONDIAL AIR BALLONS TROPHY

Chapter 1: Competition

1.1. Title

The competition is titled **15th MONDIAL AIR BALLONS TROPHY**

1.2. Objectives

The objectives are:

- a. Determine a winner
- b. Establish the ranking of all the pilots
- c. Promote the development of ballooning by international performances
- d. Promote international relations and friendship among all nations practicing ballooning, and between pilots.

1.3. Date and Place of the Competition

15th *Mondial Air Ballons Trophy*, competition of hot air balloons will take place in Chambley Aerodrome from July 24th (morning flight) until July 28th (evening flight) 2017.

1.4. Organizers

The event is organized by the association "Les Portes du Ciel"

Chapter 2: Admission Conditions

2.1. Participation

The event is open to all pilots regularly enrolled in the festival MONDIAL AIR BALLONS 2017 whatever the category of his balloon.

Each competitor will fly the designate balloon during the championship. He may change the balloon if the organizer is informed. The volume of the envelope is not limited.

2.2. Closing Date for Entries

Registrations for the 15th *Mondial Air Ballons Trophy* are at the same time as registering for MONDIAL AIR BALLONS 2017.

2.3. Acceptance of Regulations

The pilots and their crews are expected to know, understand, accept and respect the Sporting Code, the Official Rules of the competition and the general regulations of the event MONDIAL AIR BALLONS 2017. They are required to take a sporting attitude and impeccable behavior.

2.4. Image Rights

The organizers reserve all the rights concerning the media reports, pictures, and all other utilizations of event's images.

Chapter 3: Tests and Prices

3.1 Program of the events

The competition consists of a series of tests. The amount and frequency of tests is determined by the Flight Director.

A test is valid if the competitors involved had a good opportunity to make a valid take off except in cases of abandonment or disqualification.

The Flight Director has the authority to cancel an event for safety reasons at any time prior to publication of the results of the test.

The Director will select tests from the provisions of paragraph 3.3. Some tests can be run several times, others not at all.

3.2 Multiple Tests

The Flight Director can run multiple tests per flight. Tests are calculated separately, each related 1000 points to the winner before penalties. Combinations of tests should aim to help make each event independently.

Unless otherwise indicated, multiple tests will be run in the order sheet test, under penalty of not score points in the events concerned.

Penalties apply for takeoff in the first tests. Penalties related to land apply the latest events. Other penalties apply to the test when the offense was committed. If this is not possible, the penalties are distributed equally across some or all flight tests.

3.3 Tests

The main tests are: goal chosen by the organizer, fox hunting, dithering, go now, sprint, shortest distance between two markers, greater distance between two markers, watership Down, Gordon Bennett Memorial... The details of each event will be announced at the briefing preceding the flight.

3.4 Tests Data

At the briefing, the items are communicated to competitors, preferably in writing. They relate to flights and test data.

3.5 Commitment to the test

The competitor enters a race by accepting the markers.

Markers can be issued by the presentation of competitor's badge.

The competitor may request the replacement of the marker(s) if do not comply with Rule 3.7.

3.6 Target

The target tests have a limited time; the targets are represented by red crosses.

3.6.1 Marking Zone

The scoring area will be represented by a circle of radius centered on the objective materialized by the target. The marking area is defined at each trial. A competitor whose mark is on the outside of a marking area does not result.

3.7 Marker

Only markers provided by the organization are valid. It is the competitor prior to the event to collect the marker provided. The marker is coated nylon, less than 100 g / m², length 170 cm, width 10 cm, with a weight of 70g.

3.7.1 Marker Dropping

The marker can be launched by hand, except in cases of drop by gravity indicated in the test sheet.

Dropping by gravity: no horizontal movement of the marker must be given over to the car, the marker fall under the influence of gravity alone. The person releases the marker must hold the marker, completely unwound, by the tail (portion opposed to the weight), and release the tail of the marker. The marker should fall from the top edge of the basket. The hand of the person who dropped the marker should not be outside of the basket.

The free release: The marker will be fully unwound before its release. No mechanism can be used to propel the marker. The person dropping the marker has feet on the basket floor.

3.7.2 Mark

The mark is the point on the ground where the weight of the marker is fixed after release from the balloon.

The measurement is taken between the center of the target and the mark.

3.7.3 Lost Marker

A marker is considered lost if it has not been found within the time specified. If an official has reason to believe that the marker may be found, he may grant a period of research.

Competitors will be asked to pay for any damaged, unusable, or not reported marker.

3.7.4 Markers Recovery

After each test series (morning / evening), the unused markers must be given back at the gas station, at the "competition desk".

3.8 Penalties

It is the official's responsibility to provide proof of any alleged offense committed by a competitor.

Points are subtracted from the test results in which the offense was detected. They cannot bring the result below zero.

Competition points are also deducted from the total points of the competitor in the race. They cannot give a negative result in a test that will be deducted from the total points in the standings.

3.8.1 Vehicle

During the takeoff, one vehicle per balloon is admitted on the ground. Penalty: 100 points.

3.8.2 Preparation of balloons

The organizer will assign each competitor a location. The starter has full authority to direct the implementation of balloons and vehicle movements on the ground. Penalty: 100 points

3.8.3 Take off Period

It is not allowed to take off outside the take-off period. Penalty: 100 points.

3.8.4 Authorization for takeoff

All take off without authorization will be penalized up to 500 points.

3.8.5 Collision

When two balloons converge in flight, two competitors are responsible for collision avoidance. The competitor's balloon is the highest priority and let up if necessary. Penalty: up to 1000 points. All inconsiderate behavior will be penalized by the Director.

3.8.6 Control of vehicles

The traffic must be respected. Penalty: 500 points.

3.8.7 Contact with the ground

Contact after takeoff results in a penalty: Smooth Contact: 100 points, Hard Contact: 200 points.

3.8.8 Contact with the ground near a target

Contact after takeoff within 200m of a target results in a penalty: Smooth Contact: 250 points, Hard Contact: 500 points.

3.8.9 Dropping marker gravity / free

Penalty: 50 meters added to the measurement.

3.8.10 Modified or Unauthorized Markers

The marker will be changed in any way. Penalty: 250 points for altered markers.

3.8.11 Participation in a test

Participation in a test is validated at the general briefing upon presentation of the pilot's card. The pilot who did not recover the marker will be automatically classified in group C (see ranking).

3.8.12 Markers Recovery

After each flight, the unused markers will be given back at the gas station. Pilots must inform an organization staff member of the release.

Points by unrecovered marker: 100 points.

Points for no show: 200 points.

3.8.13 Specific Penalties

The Flight Direction reserves the right to insert new penalties. The description of the new penalties will be posted on the official notice board and on the proof sheets involved.

3.9 Publication of Results and Awards

3.9.1 Definition of a Winner

The winner is the balloon that got the most points at the end of the competition. At least one test will be organized by flight. Competitors are not required to participate in all tests. The cumulative performance of all events determines the overall standings at the end of the competition.

At least three rounds of competition will be run in at least two separate flights.

3.9.2 Results

The result is a competitor performance in a test including penalties result. The results are expressed in terms of test data.

3.9.3 Ranking

The ranking of a competitor is the amount of points obtained in the test after the application of appropriate formulas. Penalties or competition test will be applied according to the rules.

3.9.4 Publication of rankings

The results of each test are published as soon as possible on the official information. Leaves and rankings are identified: PROVISIONAL, OFFICIAL, FINAL.

3.9.5 Sort Order

Competitors will be ranked in order of performance according to the rules of each event, after application of penalties result. Competitors will be classified into the following groups for each event:

Group A: Competitors whose results were measured.

Group B: Entrants to the test, but without result. They are classified according to the formula equal 3, or share equally the remaining points according to the formula 2, whichever is greater. The pilot participants to specific events (Very Old Burners, Passing the Bruner) cannot participate in the competition of the 15th *Mondial Air Ballons Trophy* will be automatically placed in this group.

Group C: Competitors who have not made a valid or disqualified from the competition. The result is 0.

After calculating the points by applying the adapted formula penalty points are subtracted to obtain the final ranking of competitors in the event. Competitors are classified after subtracting penalty points in each test.

3.9.6 Scoring

Each competitor gets an amount of points depending on its performance. The formula used depends on the position of the competitor in the classification of the event.

The best result achieved 1000 points before penalties.

Competitors whose performance is part of the first half of the results, obtain between 1000 and about 500 points, depending on their performance in the application of the formula 1.

Competitors whose performance is part of the second half of the results, get about 500 to 0 points, depending on their relative positions in the ranking by applying the formula 2.

FORM 1 (upper half performance):

$$\text{POINTS} = 1000 - ((\text{SM}-1000) / (\text{MR}-\text{W})) * (\text{R}-\text{W})$$

FORM 2 (lower half performance):

$$\text{POINTS} = 1000 * ((\text{P} + 1 \text{ L}) / \text{P})$$

FORM 3 (pilot group B):

$$\text{POINTS} = 1000 * ((\text{P} + 1 \text{ A}) / \text{P}) - 200$$

P = number of competitors participating in the competition
M = P / 2 rounded to higher (median ranking)
R = result of competitor (m, etc ...) in the first half
RM = result of competitor rank M, median
L = competitor's ranking in the lower half
W = best test result
A = number of drivers in group A
SM = points rounded competitor median, according to the formula 2

If less than half of the competitors scored a result in the event, these changes definition shall apply:

RM = result of competitor ranked last in Group A
SM = points (rounded) of the last group A, Form 2
M = last classified competitor in Group A.

If no competitor obtains a test result, all points competing in Group B will get 500 points, before the application of penalty points.

STANDINGS points are rounded to the nearest whole number.

3.9.7 Awards

The competition will be awarded at the ceremony awards.

3.9.8 Tied overall

If two competitors have the same amount of points at the end of the championship, the competitor with the lowest point difference between its extreme results will be ranked higher.