

## COMPETITION RULES: V.O.B. CHALLENGE

### Chapter 1: Details of the Competition

#### 1.1. Title

This competition is called **V.O.B. CHALLENGE**, which stands for Very Old Burners.

#### 1.2. Objectives

- To test the skills of "very old" pilots
- To determine a winner
- To promote the development of aerostation and friendship

#### 1.4. Date and Place of the Competition

The *V.O.B. Challenge* is a hot-air balloon competition. It will be held in Chambley Aerodrome during the festival MONDIAL AIR BALLONS 2017. The contest is scheduled for Thursday July 27<sup>th</sup> and can be postponed to Friday July 28<sup>th</sup> (depending on weather conditions).

#### 1.5. Organizers

The festival is organized by the association « Les Portes du Ciel ».

#### 1.3. Determine the Winner

The winner is the pilot whose marker(s) land(s) the closest to the center of the target.

### Chapter 2: Conditions of Admission

#### 2.1. Participant

The *V.O.B. Challenge* is open to all pilots who have completed registration to the MONDIAL AIR BALLONS 2017 and have obtained their hot-air balloon license before July 21<sup>th</sup>, 1997.

#### 2.2. Registration deadline

The registration deadline for the *V.O.B. Challenge* is the same as the registration deadline for MONDIAL AIR BALLONS 2017 (June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017).

#### 2.3. Acceptance of the rules

Pilots and all crew members have to know, understand, accept and abide the sporting Code, the official regulation of the challenge, and the general regulations for MONDIAL AIR BALLONS 2017.

#### 2.4. Images Rights

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

#### 2.5. Participation in the 15<sup>th</sup> MONDIAL AIR BALLONS TROPHY

By entering the *V.O.B. Challenge*, participants will be automatically classified in group B for the tests which cannot be realized.

### Chapter 3: Results and Prizes

#### 3.1. Type and Purpose of the event

The *V.O.B. Challenge* is a precision task (dropping markers). The final classification will be

based on the distance between each pilot's marker(s) and the center of the target.

### 3.2. Event Type: « Fly in ».

The target(s) will be placed on the official ground of the LORRAINE MONDIAL AIR BALLONS 2015, in Chambley Aerodrome, in front on the public.

The details of the challenge will be announced during the briefing before the flight.

### 3.3 Commitment to the event

The competitor engages in a race by accepting the markers. Markers can be issued by the presentation of the badge. The competitor may request a replacement of the markers if it fails to comply with Rule 3.5

### 3.4 Target

The target(s) will be marked by a red cross. The amount of time given to find the targets will be announced during the briefing preceding the flight.

#### 3.4.1 Marked Zone

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

### 3.5 Markers

Only the markers provided by the organization are valid. It is the competitor to collect before the event the marker provided. The marker is coated nylon, with less than 100 g/m<sup>2</sup>, length 170 cm, width 10 cm, with a weight of 70g

#### 3.5.1 Releasing the Marker

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

Dropping by gravity: no horizontal motion must be given to the marker with respect to the basket; the marker will fall under the sole influence of gravity. The person who dropped the marker must take the marker, completely unwound by the tail (part opposite the ballast), and release the tail of the marker. The marker must fall from the top edge of the platform. The hand of the person who dropped the marker should not be outside of the basket.

The free release: The marker will be completely unrolled before his release. No mechanism can be used to propel the marker. The person dropping the marker will be the feet on the floor of the basket.

### 3.5.2 Mark

The mark in the ground is where the weight of the marker came to rest after release from the balloon.  
The measurement is taken between the center of the target and the mark.

### 3.5.3 Lost Marker

A marker is considered lost if it has not been found within the specified time. If an official has reason to believe that the marker may be found, he will allow time for research. Competitors will be asked to pay for any damaged, unusable, or not reported marker.

### 3.5.4 Recovery of markers

After each test series (morning / evening), the unused markers must be returned at the gas station, at the “competition desk”.

## 3.6 Penalties

This is the official's responsibility to provide proof of any alleged violation committed by a competitor.  
The test points are subtracted from the test results in which the offense has been raised. They cannot bring the result below zero.  
The competition points are subtracted from the result in the trial where the offense has been raised. They can bring the result below zero.

### 3.6.1 Vehicle

During the takeoff, only one vehicle per balloon is admitted in the field. Penalty: 100 points.

### 3.6.2 Preparation of balloons

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

### 3.6.3 Take-off

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

### 3.6.4 Authorization for takeoff

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

### 3.6.5 Collision

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

### 3.6.6 Control of vehicles

The traffic Code must be respected. Penalty: 500 points

### 3.6.7 Contact with the ground

Contact after takeoff results in a penalty: smooth contact: 100 points, hard contact: 200 points.

### 3.6.8 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.

### 3.6.9 Releasing marker gravity / free

Penalty: 50 meters added to the measure.

### 3.6.10 Modified or unauthorized markers

The marker will be modified in any way.

Penalty: 250 points for modified or unauthorized markers.

### 3.6.11 Participation in an event

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

### 3.6.12 Recovery of markers

After each flight, the unlaunched markers shall be returned at the gas station. Pilots must inform an organization staff member of the release of the marker.

Points per unrecovered marker: 100 points.

Points for no show: 200 points.

### 3.6.13 Specific Penalties

The Flights Director has the right to insert new penalties. The description of the new penalties will be posted on the official as well as proof sheets involved.

## 3.7 Publication of Results and Awards

### 3.7.1 Results

The result of a competitor is the product of its performance in an event including penalties result. The results will be expressed in terms of test data.

### 3.7.2 Ranking

The classification of a competitor is the amount of points from test after application of appropriate formulas. Penalties or competition test will be applied as rules.

### 3.7.3 Publication of the rankings

The test results will be published as soon as possible to the official notice board.

Sheets and rankings will be identified: PROVISIONAL, OFFICIAL, FINAL.

### 3.7.4 Order of classification

Competitors will be ranked in order of performance according to the rules of the race, after application of penalties result.

### 3.7.5 Scoring

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

The best result obtained 1000 points before penalties, the second 900, then 800 and so on.

### 3.7.6 Awards

The competition will be awarded during the awards ceremony, Saturday July 29<sup>th</sup> 2017.