## SECTION I - EVENT DETAILS

**I. 1      TITLE**

The Event shall be known as: **"Winter is coming (to an end)."**

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

N/A

**I. 3      ORGANIZATION**

The Event is organised by:

Some enthusiasts who mean well with (sports-) ballooning in Belgium.

**I. 4      CORRESPONDENCE**

Name: Philippe De Cock and Tom Deleersnyder

Email: wintervaart@gmail.com

**I. 5      PERSONNEL**

| | |
|---|---|
| Competition Director: | Jonas Maes |
| Scoring & Loggers: | Marnix Dobbelaere |
| Office Management: | Brigitte Fouache |
| Jury: | 3 Non-involved pilots who attended minimum in 1 National Championship |

**I. 6      PLACE**

General Briefing on 15/01/2024
Brouwerij VBDCK
Antwerpsesteenweg 12
9140 Tielrode (TEMSE)

Flying Area:
Belgium in general.

**I. 7      DATES**

The Event will run from February 1st until April 30th 2024.

During this period of 3 months, every Saturday and/or Sunday (both in the morning and in the evening) is a potential slot to make a competition flight.

The decision will be made on the Thursday or Friday before the weekend in question, and is of course weather dependent.

A maximum of 3 competition flights are organized per month, (could be) spread over the entire month.

The minimum for a valid competition each month (stage) is 1 competition flight, with a minimum of 3 tasks.

**I. 8      DEPOSIT FEE FOR PROTEST (S1 An3 8.3)**

THE AMOUNT OF THE DEPOSIT FEE TO ACCOMPANY A PROTEST SHALL BE 100 €.

**I. 9**        **LANGUAGE (GS 4.9.5 part)**

I. 9.1      THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE(s) OF THE EVENT SHALL BE ENGLISH AND DUTCH. 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 Dutch. The language used verbally during briefings shall be Dutch or English.

I.9.3       In the rules the masculine form is used as a standard. Wherever you find the masculine form, it is implied that the feminine form is included.

**I. 10**       **PARTICIPATION (GS 4.6.1 part)**

THE EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL NAC' s WHICH HAVE MET THEIR OBLIGATIONS TO THE FAI.

**I. 11**       **CLOSING ENTRY DATE**

The closing entry date for the Event is:
12 January 2024.

**I. 12**       **RISK**

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

**I. 13**       **INSURANCE**

Each balloon shall be insured against all claims by passengers and third parties according to regulation (EU) Nr. 785/2004. The competitor shall produce documentary evidence of this insurance valid for the period of the Event covering any balloon which he may fly.

## SECTION II - COMPETITION DETAILS

**II. 1      CONTEST AREA** (7.1)

A digital map will be available to each competitor. The official competition map will be distributed to the entrants per e-mail before the beginning of the event OR before that specific flight.

Input of Low-Air Regulation on the map is on full responsibility of the competitor.

scales 1/50.000
Mapdatum: WGS 84
UTM grid system

The contest area is the Belgian Territory (31-zone) shown on the official competition map!

The contest area is airspace G in general. Flying only in uncontrolled airspace is allowed.

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

- Foreign Territory
- All CTR' s where radiocontact is mandatory or you where need individual permission.
- All TMA' s
- All Radio-controlled airspace

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

A detailed PZ-list will be distributed by e-mail and/or published on the ENB before the first competition flight.

**note**: make sure you compare your maps with the official competition map, in case of doubts, the official competition map shall always prevail!

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

TBA

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

TBA

**II. 6      LANDOWNER'S PERMISSION** (9.2.2)
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. Penalty for infringement is up to 250 task points.
When competitors put their basket - during inflation or recovering - on the road or on the border of a land, laying out the envelope into the field, without making any damage AND without disturbing traffic AND making sure that there aren't any cattle near the balloon less than 500m, landowner's permission will not be necessary, however it will still be recommended.
Public areas, such as public parks,
squares and river sides, are considered as places without need for permission for takeoff and landings. Furthermore, a take-off without permission may be made from minor roads or tracks, if the balloon envelope can be laid out in the adjacent field and provided, it is freshly harvested and/or not cultivated and no damage is done. The road traffic may not be obstructed.

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

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

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

Belgian driving rules: speeds limits in Belgium 30km/h or 50 km/h within built-up area, 70 or 90 km/h on all other roads (except motorways and limitations given by sign-boards).

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

See official Low-Air map.

The contest area is only in uncontrolled airspace (G).

If the participant should enter a controlled area, this is his/her own responsibility and must provide the necessary permissions and communication.

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

By WhatsApp.

**II. 11**      **VERTICAL SPEED** (10.2)

All logger tracks will be checked using the Balloon Safety Analyzer. Competitors exceeding the limits of vertical speed below will be penalized:

The limits apply to a certain difference in vertical speed at a 3D-distance between balloons.

Limit 1: more than 3m/s at less than 25m

Limit 2: more than 5m/s at less than 50m

Limit 3: more than 8m/s at less than 75m

Limit 4: more than 8m/s vertical speed

(Limit 4 must be violated for a consecutive 5s or more to be triggered.)

<u>Scoring policy;</u> As above, the penalties mentioned in the table below are guidance therefore different penalties may be applied following review of specific cases.

| lower balloon | | | | upper balloon | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vertical speed [m/s] | Limit 1 Penalty | Limit 2 Penalty | Limit 3 Penalty | Vertical speed [m/s] | Limit 1 Penalty | Limit 2 Penalty | Limit 3 Penalty |
| | | | | $0 \leq v < -2$ | | | |
| $2 \leq v < 3$ | 50(WRN) | | | $-2 \leq v < -3$ | 100 (WRN) | | |
| $3 \leq v < 4$ | 100(WRN) | 50(WRN) | | $-3 \leq v < -4$ | 200 | 50(WRN) | |
| $4 \leq v < 5$ | 300 | 100(WRN) | 50(WRN) | $-4 \leq v < -5$ | 400 | 100(WRN) | |
| $5 \leq v < 6$ | 500 | 300 | 100(WRN) | $-5 \leq v < -6$ | 600 | 200 | 100(WRN) |
| $6 \leq v < 7$ | 700 | 500 | 300 | $-6 \leq v < -7$ | 800 | 400 | 200 |
| $7 \leq v < 8$ | 900 | 700 | 500 | $-7 \leq v < -8$ | 1000 | 600 | 400 |
| 8 and more | 1000 | 900 | 700 | -8 and more | 1000 | 800 | 600 |

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

Rules 12.2.1 and 12.2.3 will NOT be applicable, i.e. it will not be required that the goal selected by a competitor is the intersection of two roads unless otherwise set in the task data..

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

The ONB will be the ENB on
https://watchmefly.net/events/event.php?e=winter2024feb&v=enb

There will not be a physical ONB at any location.

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

Replies to general inquiries or notification of replies to complaints will be posted immediately as available on the ONB. No electronic notification may be made using a text messaging system. Timing requirements of 5.6.2 will start at the time of the ONB posting.

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

All scores, complaints, responses to complaints, protests and jury reports will be posted immediately as available.

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

Pilots may fly their crew or other passengers unless otherwise set in the task data.

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

### a) Logger:

The Logger used in this Event is the FAI "Balloon Live" app with a connected Balloon Live sensor, a connected GPS or the gps of the device running Balloon Live.

The app is available for iOS and Android and must be installed by each competitor beforehand on his own recording device (smartphone or tablet).

Each competitor must bring his own Balloon Live sensor or GPS. Recording devices and sensors are not provided by the organiser. The sensor is available for purchase from Flytec Balloon. Details and instructions can be found on balloonlive.org

### b) Change the operation mode:

Start the app "Balloon Live" and log in with your Watchmefly credentials using the user menu at the top right.

Then select the application mode:

#### Training mode

To test the app in training flights, select the "TRAINING" mode in the actions menu (top right). This mode must be used to familiarise with the use of the app. No competition data (tracks, declarations and marker drops) is stored and transmitted.

#### Competition Mode

To enter competition mode, select the appropriate competition from the available competitions the user menu. When entering competition mode, the latest competition data is retrieved from the server. The device must be online to do this. It is recommended to load the competition data during flight preparation.

The connection of a Balloon Live sensor or alternate GPS is mandatory for all flights. Please make sure the sensor is connected using Bluetooth before entering competition mode.

To start the flight (recording), the latest flight data must also be loaded from the server. This flight data is valid for 5 hours only. Therefor it is recommended to be

online within the last 5 hours before the start of the recording, or just before start, to load the flight data.

Tap the red button at the bottom of the screen to start a new flight recording and transmitting the track data to the server.

**c) Preconfigured setup for this competition:**
- Competition name: Winter is coming (to an end).
- Logging interval (seconds): 1
- UTC offset (seconds): 3600
- Allow multiple marker drops: inactive
- Allow multiple goal declarations: active
- Declaration format: 5/4
- Altitude mode: GPS
- Geodetic system: UTM WGS84

Multiple recording devices may record the flight at the same time. The first started recording will be considered as the primary recording and will be used for scoring.

**d) Handling by competitor:**
- Throughout the event the competitor is responsible for storing, charging, handling as well as the proper functioning of the devices (phone, tablet) and sensors or gps used.
- The latest version of the Balloon Live app and sensor firmware must be used.
- The Balloon Live app and sensor or gps must be started 10-5 min before the intended take-off to allow proper GPS initialization. The recording must also be started soon after by tapping the red button.
- The competitor is considered entering the competition flight according to the selected TDS with the start of the track recording and the take off.
- The recording device and Balloon Live sensor or GPS must remain attached to the basket (uprights or basket edge) to ensure optimum GPS reception.
- The Balloon Live app must remain in the foreground on the recording device (phone, tablet) to avoid any recording interruption.
- Declarations must be made in 4/4 format unless otherwise stated in the TDS.
- Altitudes do not need to be declared unless otherwise stated in the TDS. Altitudes must be indicated with the minimum needed digits.
- Goal declarations are registered at the time when the **"DECLARE x"** button is pushed. (x is the number of the goal declaration slot)
- Electronic marker drops are registered at the time when the **"DROP x"** button is pushed. (x is the number of the marker)
- 5-10 minutes after landing track recording must be stopped in the action menu at the top right in the Balloon Live app.
  For the transfer of the data, please see under point f) below.

**e) Scoring:**
- Unless otherwise stated in the TDS, an electronic mark is mandatory for each task where no valid mark has been achieved by physical marker.
- In case the same logger-goal is declared more than once the last valid declaration will be used.
- If an electronic mark is used more than once, the first mark will be used.

**f) Track data:**

The track data is transferred to the server automatically if a data connection is available during flight or when made available after the flight.

To resume the data transfer later after the flight, reopen the app and the transmission will start within a minute. Make sure all track points are sent before closing the app or disconnecting the internet connection of the device.
The upload icon A⬆ at the top left will indicate if the automatic upload is in progress. The color of the icon shows the number of remaining track points to upload: red = more than 100, yellow = between 30 and 100, white = less than 30. If the icon switches to ⬆ , then

the upload is completed. Make sure all track points are sent before closing the app or disconnecting the internet connection of the device.

The track must be transferred to the server latest 6 hours after the flight has been started. For tracks that are transferred later, the competitor will be penalised by 10 competition points per minute (or part) late (in the last task).

The track data remains the property of the competitor but may be made available to the public for live tracking. In such case, explicit permission must be given by the competitor and the publication should have a minimum of 10 min delay.

**g) Recommendations:**
- Only use recording devices in online mode as the accuracy of the recording is increased and the data transferred immediately.
- Use a powerbank to avoid problems with the battery capacity of your device.

Failure to follow the instructions 'Details for the use of GPS Loggers' may be penalized without warning.

**Flight Report Forms must be completed on Watchmefly.net as quick as possible and maximum NINETY (90) minutes after the landing of that specific flight !! When there are problems during your retrieve, please contact the competition director and ask for an 'extension of time' : +32 477.16.02.73.**
**If the FRF is received too late without an extension of time you may be penalized up to 1000 points!**


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

N/A


**II. 19      BALLOON SIZE** (3.3)

N/A


**II. 20      ASSESSED MARK** (12.16.2)

N/A


**II. 21      ALTITUDE** (14.6.4)

All altitudes in this event are described in feet AMSL.

GPS altitude will be used in this event.


**II. 22      2D/3D SCORING METHODS** (12.22.2) (for events with logger scoring)
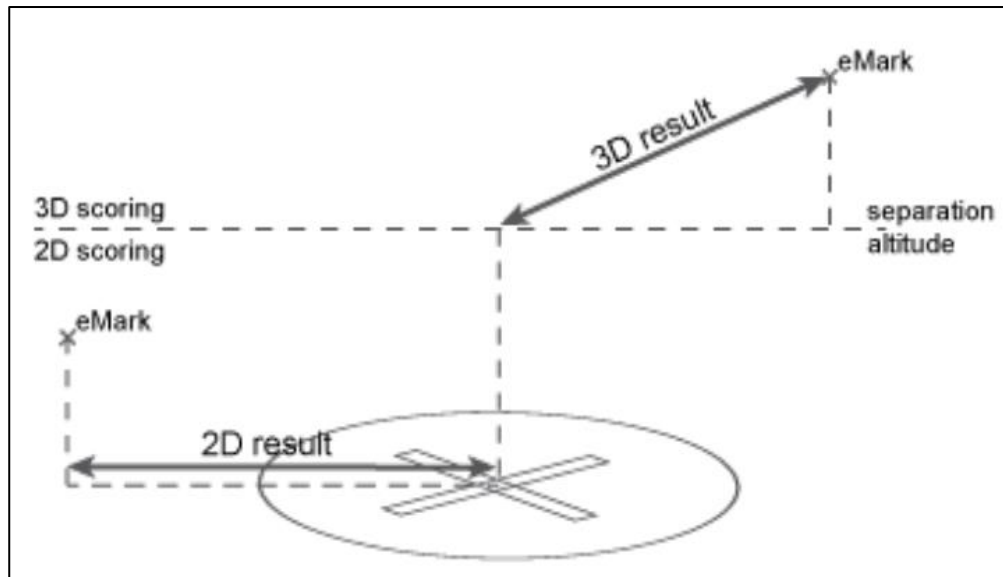
The separation altitude between 2D and 3D scoring in this event is 700ft MSL unless otherwise stated on the TDS. TDS always prevail.

When goals or targets on the ground are used, results based on track points will be the:

- 3D-distance to the point at the separation altitude above the goal/target if the track point or electronic mark is above the separation altitude

or

- 2D-distance to the goal/target  if the track point/electronic mark is at or below the separation altitude.

When goals/targets above the ground are used, result based on track points will be the 3D distance.

## II. 23 COMPETITION STRUCTURE (6.1)

The competition will be conducted using markers and logger-scoring only.

## II.24 MAP COORDINATES (7.8)

The basic map coordinate of a UTM map with WGS84 datum is:

31K (Zone reference, where 31=zone and K=latitude band.

458565 (6 digit Easting)
5552261 (7 digit Northing)

To identify a point on the competition map, the coordinates must be written in one of the following formats:

6-7 format: this complies with the standard UTM grid format. First six digits easting and second, seven digits northing. (e.g. 458565-5552261 alternatively 0458565-5552261)

5-5 format: this format uses two times five-digits. First five digits easting and the second five digits northing. (e.g. 45857-55226), leaving out the 1m digit.

Easting's may be separated from Northing's by: a carriage return (= new line), by the minus character or the slash character. In all cases the parts of the coordinates shall be clearly separated and with Easting's first.

**Extra information:**

Emergency & retrieve number / Extension of time: Mob. 0032477160273 (Jonas Maes)


Sunrise: As this event running over a period of 3 months, officials sunrise and sunset will be mentioned on the Task Data Sheet each flight.


Obligated Frequency: 122.255 MHz