

SECTION I - EVENT DETAILS

I. 1 TITLE

The Event shall be known as:
The British National Hot Air Balloon Championships 2018

I. 2 SANCTION (S1 An3 2)

THE EVENT IS APPROVED BY the British Balloon and Airship Club.

I. 3 ORGANIZATION

The Event is organised by:
BBAC Competitions Club

I. 4 CORRESPONDENCE

All entries and official correspondence should be addressed to:
Rupert Stanley, BBAC Competitions Club

I. 5 PERSONNEL

Event Director : Alison Odell
Deputy Director Jean Francois Page

I. 6 PLACE

The Event will be held at Thouars, France

I. 7 DATES

The Event will run from the afternoon of Wednesday 29th August.
Final competition flight – The last flight will be the evening of Sunday 2nd September.
However, if we have lost no more than 1 slot up to and including the Sunday morning slot (7 or 8 competition flights), then that Sunday morning slot will be the final competition flight.

Registration: Wednesday August 29th 14:00 – 15:00
General briefing: Wednesday August 29th 15:30

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: £85.

I. 9 LANGUAGE (GS 4.9.5 part)

I. 9.1 THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE(S) OF THE EVENT SHALL BE ENGLISH.

I. 9.2 Printed material (e.g. Task Data, Meteorological information etc) shall be in English. The language used verbally during briefings shall be 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 BBAC members, or members of an overseas NAC WHICH HAVE MET THEIR OBLIGATIONS TO THE FAI.

I. 11 CLOSING ENTRY DATE

The closing entry date for the Event is: 2nd April 2018.

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 balloon shall be insured against all claims by third parties to a minimum as required under EC directive EC785/2004. 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)**

The contest area is defined by the competition map. The competition map will be distributed by the organizers.

II. 2 OUT OF BOUNDS (7.2)

All red and blue PZs are out of bounds. Ground contact and other penalties will be applied.

II. 3 PZ LIST (7.3)

See reference map, official notice board and printed data provided (at the General Briefing and other briefings).

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

CLA1

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

CLP1

II. 6 LANDOWNER'S PERMISSION (9.2.2)

The presence of an official is not mandatory to get the permission of a landowner. 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.

Public areas, such as public parks, squares and river sides, are considered as places without need for permission for take-off 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 not fenced and no damage is done. The road traffic may not be obstructed.

Addition to rule 11.6

Before entering a field, even a field lying fallow or a cut grass field, with a vehicle to retrieve the balloon, each crew will try hard to obtain permission from the landowner. If the landowner is not found, the balloon must be packed up before the vehicle enters the field. Crew and vehicle will leave the field as soon as possible.

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)

Vehicles must be driven safely during the competition and comply with local driving laws. Please also note rule 3.10.3.

II. 9 AIR LAW (10.14)

No specific issues beyond the privileges of your licence.

II. 10 RECALL PROCEDURE (10.15)

Sending short messages (SMS) to the competitors' mobile phones will be used as recall procedure. The number and phone will be tested at registration.

The competitors' phone must be switched on at all times. Minor task changes may be send out by SMS, before the launch period, in case of unexpected problems with goals or other safety matters.

The SMS message service will be backed up by broadcast by the event director on 122.475MHz if balloons are already flying.

II. 11 GOAL CENTER (12.1)

The centerpoint of the intersections of roads will be:
The centre of the largest circle that can be accommodated within the area of hard road surface at the intersection.

II. 12 GOALS SELECTED BY A COMPETITOR (12.2)

The following types of roads are permitted for the purpose of goals selected by competitors:

Goal must be an intersection of at least 2 roads each of which must have at least 1 solid line.

No goal selected by a competitor shall be:

- a. within a built-up area.
- b. Within a blue PZ
- b. on the following roads; All solid Red/reddish brown roads as marked on the competitors map
- c. within 200 metres of a Red PZ
- d. within 200 metres of a motorway or a road designated to be of motorway status (measured from the outer edge as shown on the map).
All motorways and solid red/reddish brown roads are motorway status
- e. within 200 meters of a power line shown on the competition map

II. 13 LOCATION OF OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD (5.10)

The Competition Centre at the BUT factory.

Electronic Notice Board: **Details to follow**

II. 14 COMMUNICATION TIMES (5.3)

Replies to complaints will be published at 1100 and 1600 daily or according to individual notification to competitor.

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

If the last competition flight is Sunday morning, publication times on the last flying day will be on the full hour starting at 11:00.

If the last competition flight is Sunday evening, the publication times on the Monday will be on the half hour, starting at 08:00.

II. 16 FLIGHT CREW (2.2.2)

Not applied.

II. 17 DETAILS FOR THE USE OF GPS LOGGERS (6)

a) Logger:

- The Logger used in this Event is the FAI/CIA Flytec logger.
- The logger will be configured by the Event Direction and at no time a competitor is allowed to interfere with the configuration. If the competitor notices a different setup he shall contact the appointed official.

- Details on the operation of the logger can be seen on the website <http://www.balloonloggers.org/>, a tutorial is available at <http://www.debruijn.de/FAllogger/lgrindex.php>.

b) Configuration:

The setup for this event will be:

- time interval: 1 second
- altitude: barometric, corrected for QNH as specified on the TDS
- altitude unit: feet
- date/time: local time
- map datum: WGS84/UTM

To qualify as backup a competitor's logger should be set up to a time interval of 3 seconds or less. Satellite based augmentation (WAAS) should be enabled.

c) Handling by competitor:

- The logger will be handed out at the General Briefing. The competitor is responsible for storing, charging and handling the logger throughout the event. Note that the charger is a European 2 pin charger, so you will need an adapter such as a shaver adapter to fit a UK 3 pin standard socket.
- The logger must be switched on 10-5 min before the intended take-off to allow proper GPS initialization.
- During flight the logger must remain attached to the basket to ensure optimum GPS reception.
- Marker drops and goal declarations are registered at the time the OK key is pressed.
- Declarations in the logger 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.
- 5-10 minutes after landing the logger must be switched off.
- The SD card in the logger may not be removed or used for any purpose by the competitor except with the explicit permission or instruction of the appointed official
- Competitors experiencing logger operation problems must contact the appointed official before any self-remedy is exercised.

d) 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 a required altitude declaration is missing, or the declared altitude is below the ground, the competitor will be scored 3D-distance (as per II.22) to the goal will be assumed to be at 1,000 ft MSL.

e) Track data:

The GPS logger track is the property of the competitor and shall not be made available to the public without his permission. The Director may announce at the General Briefing a procedure for competitors to retrieve their track logs.

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

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

The hours between 22:00 – 06:30 and 13:00 – 16:30 local time will be disregarded for the purpose of the time limits of complaints and protests.

II. 19 BALLOON SIZE (3.3)

No limits.

II. 20 ASSESSED MARK (12.15.2) (for events with observers and no loggers)

An assessed result based on the least advantageous interpretation of evidence available will be given, if a marker was released from lower than 2000 ft AGL.

II. 21 ALTITUDE (14.6.4)

Barometric altitude, corrected for QNH (as per TDS), will be used in this event.

II. 22 2D/3D SCORING METHODS (12.22.2) (for events with logger scoring)

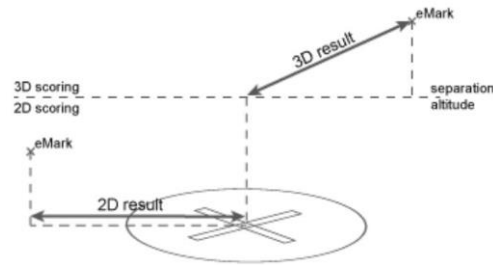
The separation altitude between 2D and 3D scoring in this event is 1500 ft MSL.

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, results based on track points will be the 3D-distance unless otherwise specified in the TDS.

II. 23 COMPETITION STRUCTURE (6.1)

The competition will be conducted using logger scoring and measuring teams without observers.

II. 24 MAP COORDINATES (7.8)

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

4-4 format: this format uses two times four-digits. First four digits easting and the second four digits northing. (e.g. 5857-5226), leaving out the 1m digit.

Easting's may be separated from Northing's by: a blank space, 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.

II. 25 SAFETY (10.1)

All pilots are required to carry a serviceable airband radio with which they can broadcast and receive radio transmissions on 122.475. Whilst this frequency may be used by pilots and crews for communication, the primary purpose within the competition is to avoid midair collisions by pilots' communication between themselves and asking whether they are clear to climb.