

Canadian Championship 2026 - General Briefing

Director's notes

Roll Call

		Present?
1	Martin Unsworth	Yes
2	Jason Adams	Yes
3	Jacob Benjamin	Yes
4	Natacha Berger-Benoit	Yes
5	Francis Bonnette	Yes
6	Philippe Levesque	Yes
7	Johann Ouellette-Frève	Yes
8	Sebastien Poupart	No
9	Annie Santerre	Yes

No Shows

The official list will be published on WatchMeFly. Sebastien Poupart will be removed from the competitor list. Annie Santerre will remain on the list but be noted as not flying.

1. Introductions and welcome

- a. CBA (Johann)
- b. AMQ (Jacob)

2. Officials

- a. Event Director: Jonathan Perron-Clow
- b. Deputy Director: Andre Lapointe
- c. Safety Officer: Mario Bilodeau
- d. Director's Assistants: Emelie Perron-Clow & Kayleigh Beaudry
- e. Scorers: Karine & Marie-Christine Dery
- f. Measuring Team Manager: Laurent Bovey
- g. Jury President: Mary Ann Stevens - thank you

3. Overall comments

Vision for the event

- Trying to support Canadians going or planning to go to World Championships through a safe event. Aim to focus on precision and flight planning
- Reached out to Claude Weber, directing the worlds this year. He always has an emphasis on dropping physical markers because he knows pilots like it and it's a better visual. With the Worlds this year so close to Ukraine, GPS jamming is a real concern. So potential of more limited scoring areas. No observers regardless.

Respect

- Please don't hesitate to ask for assistance if you feel you need explanations for a result. Remember that provisional scores can change significantly (good or bad) and that once they become official, there are time limits on asking for a change (5.1.5 and 5.1.6).
- When asking for assistance, if it is something complex, please make sure we are in a position to write it down, and as per 5.1.1 - the appropriate official to ask is Andre

4. SFOC

To be added

5. NOTAM

To be added

6. Safety

- a. Launch/Inflation Safety
 - i. We will have some security to control public at common launch sites
 - ii. We will not be using launch directors
 - iii. Pilots are responsible for public's safety at individual launch sites
 - iv. Ti-offs are required at all times
- b. Aircraft Radios / St-Jean Airport (CYJN)
 - i. Aircraft radios are required
 - ii. All pilots are required to maintain a listening watch on 118.20 when within the CYJN control zone and within 9 nm of CYJN
 - iii. TC has been advised that balloons might be on 123.45 (balloon-to-balloon)
 - iv. See Event GB notes/presentation and competition map for other airports/frequencies.

7. Media relations

- a. In the event of an unusual event:

- i. Take care of any injured persons then notify competition officials
 - 1. Call 911 immediately
 - 2. Do not make any statements to the media
 - 3. Allow event organization to handle all media questions
 - 4. The safety team will review the situation and recommend and/or take appropriate actions

8. Schedule:

- a. AM Briefing: 5h00
- b. PM Briefing: 17h45

- c. Awards Brunch - Sunday at noon at the restaurant in the hotel

9. Meteorological information

- a. Met data will be drawn from a variety of sources such as:
 - i. GFA (ON and QC)
 - ii. Winds Aloft (YUL)
 - iii. Local Windsond (either pre-briefing in AM or *after* in PM)
 - iv. Spot, Windline and PPG report
 - v. NOAA Ready meteogram, sounding, windgram
(<https://www.ready.noaa.gov/READYcmet.php>)

10. Rules

- a. I.7 Dates
 - i. Last competition flight is planned for the evening of Saturday, July 4
 - ii. If the minimum number of flights (2) or the minimum number of tasks (3) has not been achieved, then there is no champion.

- b. II.3 PZs
 - i. See attached (need to grab from 2025)
 - ii. Please make us aware of any egregious new ones we may need to add or any new ones that are discovered during the course of the event. We did reach out to experienced local pilots and they didn't provide any additional ones except B24 is BACK on the list of PZs. All other Yellow and Red PZs listed in Pilot's guide and shown on official map
 - iii. Blue PZs: NOTAM Airspace, 9 NM above 7,500ft from the centre of the circle. The NOTAM is for awareness, not permission, must respect the Blue PZ everywhere. Blue PZ is extending to the entire map for consistency, except as noted next.
 - 1. Including in St-Jean control zone and Montreal Terminal Control zone

- 2. Increase in IFR and jets at CYHU with Porter now flying there. That is far to the north of where we expect to fly. If you see a Dash 8 or E2, you are at the wrong place, but I have seen on FR24 jets at 5,000 feet or so in our area in recent weeks
 - iv. Green Zones: Balloons are welcome, but permission must be obtained for each use.
- c. II.4 and 5 - CLAs and CLPs

Add any confirmed

- d. II.20 Recall Procedure
 - i. Primary method.
 - 1. WhatsApp
 - 2. Send test message to competitors during GB
 - 3. See Marie-Christine D if message not received
 - ii. Secondary methods
 - 1. CYUL Tower 118.2
 - 2. Balloon to balloon: 123.45
 - iii. A code word will be provided at flight briefing if using the recall procedure is anticipated
- e. II.12 Goals selected by a competitor
 - i. Areas shown in Pink on competition map are considered built up areas
 - ii. Minimum altitude rules apply
 - iii. "Goals will normally be declared by coordinates and optionally, altitude."
 - iv. I do not intent to use road intersections as goals. But the roads are very busy - be careful when driving and stopping to watch
- f. II.13 Official Notice Board
 - i. This will be online this year due to difficulty in giving you access to this space at all times during the day.
 - ii. Results will be posted on the event's WMF page
- g. II.17 Loggers
 - i. We will exclusively be using the BLS
- h. II.22 Scoring Method
 - i. 3D scoring above 700 ft MSL will be used
- i. III 4.3.5 Jury
 - i. President: Mary Ann Stevens - onsite - thank you for being here
 - ii. Member: David Gleed - Remote

iii. Member: Cliff Skocdopole - Remote

j. III.6.11 Flight Report Form

- i. Fill it out in paper anyway and send a picture of it, especially for flight 1
- ii. We are trying to do this electronically
- iii. The more information the better to help the scoring team

k. Significant changes to the rules

- Changes related to how to change tasks via electronics (8.10)
- Changes related to when a marker becomes official - when it hits the ground (12.13.2)

l. Time limits

- Look at section 5.1 of the rules, section 3

Last flying day Saturday. There will be shorter limits, but that will carry over into Sunday if we fly Saturday PM. Communication of the results will be on Whatsapp

11. Additional information

Propane

- If you think you're going to be late, let it be known
- Don't go for breakfast before propane, go straight there
- Please indicate when you've landed via Whatsapp which is helpful for propane and scoring. Make sure to stop your flight in BLS which also allows the scoring to begin.

12. Next Briefing: 1st flight briefing: July 1, 2026 5h00