

## **BRITISH SKYDIVING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS** **IN SPEED SKYDIVING 2023**

**Venue:** Sky-High Skydiving, The Airfield, Shotton Colliery, Co Durham. DH6 2NH  
info@skyhighskydiving.co.uk Tel: 01915 171 234

**Event:** British Skydiving National Championships in Speed Skydiving 2023

The Nationals meet is held over the course of 3 days.

Within the Open competition, separate classifications for the British Nationals will apply as covered in Appendix 1

Qualified competitors must be present at the times scheduled by the hosting Drop Zone.

### **1. COMPETITION AIMS**

- a) To determine the British National Champions in Speed Skydiving.
- b) To determine the British standings of the competing individuals.
- c) To establish selection guidelines for National Teams and Individuals to be invited to attend FAI Category 1 Events in 2024.

In the event of any circumstances that result in no National Championship competition jumps, the criteria used for the British team/s or individuals to be selected will be at the discretion of the Elite Performance Committee (EPC).

- d) To promote and develop Speed Skydiving Competition.
- e) To allow participants to share and exchange experience, knowledge and information.
- f) To improve judging methods and practices at national level.

### **2. COMPETITION DATES**

Saturday 16 September to Monday 18 September 2023

### **3. OTHER DATES**

- a) Entry form and entry fees to arrive by 1700 on Wednesday 13 September to Sky High Skydiving. (Nationals Entry Form & Indemnity Form can be found on British Skydiving Form 274)
- b) Booking in by: 1700 on Friday 15 September 2023
- c) Competitors Briefing: 1900 on Friday 15 September 2023

#### 4. **PRACTICE JUMPS**

Practice jumping will be available on the official practice day, the day before the start of the competition.

#### 5. **ENTRY FORMS AND FEES**

- a) Completed Entry Forms accompanied by the Speed Skydiving Entry Fee must reach Sky-High Skydiving, The Airfield, Shotton Colliery, Co Durham. DH6 2NH by 19.00 on Wednesday 13 September.
- b) General entry fees are **not** refundable under any circumstances.
- d) **Entries** will only be accepted up to 1700 on Wednesday 13 September 2023 or later at the discretion of the Meet Director.
- e) In the event of any competitor being unable, through personal commitments, injury, or any other reason, to complete any part of the competition, **no** outstanding jump fees will be refunded.
- f) Full refunds will be available on jumps not taken due to incomplete events. However, this does not apply to eliminator rounds.
- g) Speed skydiving entry fee - £50 per person. This includes hire of British Skydiving Speed Measurement Devices (FlySights), which will be allocated on a first come first served basis. We would encourage competitors to use their own devices as British Skydiving do not have enough devices to cater for all competitors.

#### 6. **BOOKING IN**

- a) All competitors must book in by **1700 on Friday 15 September 2023.**
- b) All outstanding competition jump fees to be paid for when booking in (see note below).
- c) Speed Skydiving fees: £27 per person / per round (8 rounds = £216)
- d) Protest fee: **£100**
- e) Re-jumps: All re-jumps are to be paid for

**Note:** The above tariff includes a British Skydiving levy towards the British Team Fund of £5.00 per entry fee and £1.00 per person per paid jump.

#### 7. **DOCUMENTATION**

All competitors will be required to produce the following documentation when booking in:

- a) British Championship Senior category competitors - **Full** valid British Skydiving membership.  
Open Class Competitors - A valid British Skydiving Membership (Full or Temporary).
- b) Minimum British Skydiving 'C' Licence and a minimum of 200 descents.
- c) A current Medical Certificate/Declaration (Form 114)
- d) The competitor's current and up to date parachutists log book.

- e) Speed Skydiving competitors must have their logbook endorsed as being competent to participate in Speed Skydiving at competition level. This endorsement can be from either their CI, a FF2 coach, or a person recognised by the host CI as having a good knowledge of Speed Skydiving. (Hosting DZ CI has final approval)
- f) Competitors must have completed at least 20 jumps in the last 3 months.
- g) Sporting Licences are not required for entry into the British National Championships. However, any competitor who feels they or their team may achieve a world record during the Nationals (or at any other time) must have (a) current Sporting Licence(s) prior to achieving that record. Also, any competitor wishing to be eligible to represent the UK at a World Championships or World Cup must be eligible for a current UK Sporting Licence (eligibility criteria can be found on British Skydiving Form 110). Competitors may obtain a new Licence or the current 'stamp' at any time. Applications for a Sporting Licence or Sporting Licence renewal stamp must be made using British Skydiving Form 110 directly to the British Skydiving office. A fee applies. Sporting Licences or currency stamps will no longer be issued at British Skydiving Parachute Training Organisations (PTOs). Sporting licences should be applied for at least one month before the National Championships, as British Skydiving will require supporting documentation for those competitors not holding a UK passport. The Sporting Licence holder must be included on the FAI database by British Skydiving, at least one month prior to an FCE when representing the UK.

## **10. EVENT ELIGIBILITY**

Eligibility for these events is covered in Appendix 1.

## **11. EQUIPMENT**

Each individual is responsible for supplying his or her own equipment. This must consist of:

- a) A serviceable main and reserve parachute, container and harness. This must be 'freely friendly' equipment (at CIs discretion). No extra weight permitted.
- b) The use of an electronic Automatic Activation Device (AAD) is mandatory and must be used for every jump. The use of an Audible Altimeter is mandatory.
- c) An equipment record of inspection (if packed in the UK) and a reserve data packing card.
- d) Suitable clothing and footwear of a protective nature.
- e) FlySight SMD – British Skydiving has a limited number of FlySight SMDs (Speed Measurement Devices). These will be allocated to the first complete entries submitted. They will be allocated free of charge on a first come first served basis so competitors are advised to bring their own devices.

N.B. All equipment and documents must comply with the requirements of the British Skydiving Operations Manual.

## **12. COMPETITION AIRCRAFT**

At the time of writing the competition aircraft are expected to be:

1x Cessna Caravan (Max 15 or 20 Parachutists)

Each numbered round will be performed from one specific aircraft type.



### 13. **COMPETITION OFFICIALS**

Competition Officials will be notified during the competition briefing.

### 14. **TROPHIES**

All competitors who won trophies last year are asked to return them to the host venue by the beginning of June 2023 should they not be attending the Nationals.

### 15. **CATERING FACILITIES**

Full catering facilities will be available either at the drop zone or at the drop zones restaurant a short walk from the drop zone during competition times.

### 16. **DRUG TESTING**

British Skydiving fully supports Drug-Free Sport and is committed to preventing drug misuse in sport parachuting. Drug misuse is cheating and it may prejudice your safety and the safety of others. There is no place for the misuse of drugs in our sport. The British Skydiving's Anti-Doping Policy and Rules are set out in **British Skydiving Form 220** which is downloadable from the British Skydiving website and available on request from the British Skydiving Office.

**ANY COMPETITOR** may be required to take a random drugs test. Refusal to provide a urine sample for analysis will result in disqualification. Many medications that you may need to take for common medical conditions, such as asthma or hay fever, may contain Prohibited Substances. It is vital that you do not accidentally take a prohibited substance, the consequences are the same as if you were doping. Getting it from a doctor on prescription is no defence!

For further information, please see the anti-doping page of the British Skydiving website <https://britishskydiving.org/competitions/drug-free-sport/> which has links to the FAI and World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) websites, where you can find up-to-date information about the prohibited list of substances and therapeutic use exemptions (see below).

Each competitor is STRICTLY LIABLE- this means that it is your own personal responsibility as a competitor to ensure you comply fully with this policy. A positive test result means disqualification for the whole team, a loss of any funding, and a ban for the individual. British Skydiving Form 220 sets out the procedure to be followed in the event of a positive test. The test is concerned with whether a prohibited substance is present in the body, not how or why it got there.

The Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) application process gives competitors a means of attaining approval to use a prescribed Prohibited Substance or Method for the treatment of a legitimate medical condition. This process is in place to protect the rights of competitors to compete on a level playing field.

Any competitor with a TUE must attach a copy to the competition entry form and must also file a copy with the British Skydiving Office before he or she competes. TUE forms may be downloaded from the anti-doping section of the FAI website: <https://www.fai.org/anti-doping>

### 17. **PRIZE GIVING**

Prize giving will begin as soon as the host Drop Zone can arrange after the event has been completed or by 8pm.

In the Open event, only a gold medal may be awarded. The Open gold medal will, however, be awarded only if the winner is ineligible for the British Nationals AND has won the event in its entirety.

### 18. **LICENCE TO USE IMAGES**

In entering this competition, competitors agree to grant British Skydiving Ltd a royalty-free non-exclusive licence to use any video or other images submitted to the competition for training and judging purposes.

August 2023

*Patron: His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales*

*Affiliated to The Fédération Aéronautique Internationale through the Royal Aero Club of the United Kingdom.*

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## 1 DEFINITIONS OF WORDS AND PHRASES USED IN THESE RULES

### 1.1 SPEED MEASURING DEVICE (SMD)

A device used to determine the vertical speed of the skydiver, which is mounted on the skydiver's helmet.

### 1.2 BREAKOFF ALTITUDE

Breakoff altitude is set at 5,600 ft. (1,707 metres). Below the breakoff altitude no speed measurements are taken into account.

Note: All altitude information refers to altitude above ground level (AGL) as measured by the approved SMD.

### 1.3 PERFORMANCE WINDOW

The performance window is the scoring part of the speed jump, which starts at exit. The end of the performance window is either 7,400 ft. (2,256 metres) below exit or at Breakoff altitude whichever is reached first.

### 1.4 VALIDATION WINDOW

The validation window is the part of the jump which is used to determine the accuracy of the SMD data. The validation window is 3300ft (1006m) in length, the end of which is determined by the end of the performance window.

## 2 THE EVENT

### 2.1 EVENT DESCRIPTION

2.1.1 The discipline will be comprised of the following event:

Speed Skydiving Open

Within the Speed Skydiving Open event, separate classifications will be made for:

Speed Skydiving Female

2.1.2 The placements in the separate classifications are determined during the Open event rounds using the Open event scores, not through separate jumps.

2.2 The final scores in the open event are carried across to female, junior, junior female classifications as soon as all competitors in that classification have completed a round during the open event. [PROGRAMME OF EVENTS](#)

2.2.1 The Open event consists of 8 rounds.

2.2.2 The minimum number of rounds for a valid event is one.

2.2.3 The final results for the classifications are obtained from the Open event.

### 2.3 OBJECTIVE OF THE EVENT

The objective of the event is for the competitors to fly their body as fast as possible to achieve the highest average vertical speed through a 3 second window (see 5.5.1).

## 3 GENERAL RULES

### 3.1 EQUIPMENT

3.1.1 Competitors may not wear additional weight on their body, in any of their equipment, or on any of their equipment.

3.1.2 Parachutes and equipment will be inspected by the Chief Judge or Meet Director to confirm that they conform to normal weights for that equipment. Chief Judge and Meet Director may

delegate this task to a qualified person, such as a Rigger, Senior Rigger or Master Rigger. If, in the opinion of the Chief Judge and Meet Director, the equipment does not conform to normal weights for that equipment, the competitor may be required to demonstrate that the equipment does not contain extra weight. This decision is not grounds for protest.

- 3.1.3 Chief Judge, or the person appointed by the Chief Judge for this purpose, at the start of the competitions wearing all competitor's normal jump equipment to establish a baseline weight. The Chief Judge or appointed by the Chief Judge for that purpose person must conduct subsequent random weight checks, which may deviate from the base line weight no more than +/- 2 kg before requiring an inspection. If the additional or removal weight is detected, the result for that jump will be zero. This decision shall not be grounds for protest.
- 3.1.4 Parachutes and equipment will be inspected by the Chief Judge or Meet Director to confirm that they are safe for the event. Chief Judge or Meet Director may delegate this task to a qualified person, such as a Rigger. If, in the opinion of the Chief Judge or Meet Director, the parachute and/or equipment are not safe for the event, the competitor will not be permitted to use it. Inspections that do not interfere with a competitor's performance may be made at any time during the competition, as determined by the Chief Judge. If any equipment does not meet the requirements as determined by the Chief Judge or Meet Director, this equipment will be deemed to be unusable for the competition. This decision is not grounds for protest.
- 3.1.5 Each competitor must wear a suitable audible altitude warning device on every jump. Two suitable audible altitude warning devices, with visual indications in the goggles/visor, are recommended.
- 3.1.6 Each competitor will wear one SMD provided by the organiser and issued by the Chief Judge. The SMD will be attached on the competitor's helmet to the satisfaction of the Chief Judge.
- 3.1.7 If at any time after the start of the competition the Chief Judge finds the mounting position of the SMD unsatisfactory (for example, if the GPS signal is compromised) the chief judge may require the SMD to be remounted or for the competitor to wear a second SMD mounted on their helmet, body or equipment to the satisfaction of the Chief Judge.
- 3.1.8 If a competitor changes his rig or helmet during competition, the new rig or helmet must be inspected by the Chief Judge or Meet Director according to 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3 and 4.1.5 before the competitor is allowed to jump with the rig or helmet. Prior to the start of the competition the SMD will be attached on the competitor's helmet by a member of the judging staff. The SMD will be attached with the antenna having a clear view of the sky, located and positioned to the satisfaction of the Judge.
- 3.1.9 A competitor shall not wear any other electronic device or wires closer than 2.54 cm from the official SMD as measured by the judging staff. However, a second identical SMD unit may be worn without regard to this separation requirement. If any such electronic device affects the SMD system, and the source of the interference is not obvious and beyond the reasonable control of the jumper, a rejump may be granted by the Chief Judge.
- 3.1.10 The SMD will be turned on before the jump and off after the jump by a Judge or by the competitor if instructed to do so by any Judge. The judge will verify that the SMD is on and receiving satellite signal.
- 3.1.11 Immediately after the jump, the competitor must return the SMD to the judging staff. The competitor is not allowed to read the data directly from the SMDs before it is registered by the judges.
- 3.1.12 Within the validation window every SMD data sample used for scoring must satisfy precision criteria. Every data sample must have a speed accuracy of less than 3m/s (10.8 kmh). If the accuracy requirement of the SMD data is not met then a re-jump will be given.
- 3.1.13 If the SMD is found to have been tampered with and if in the opinion of the Chief Judge this was not caused by circumstances beyond the control of the competitor, then no re-jump will be awarded and the competitor will receive a score of zero for that jump. This decision shall not be grounds for a protest.

- 3.1.14 If the SMD malfunctions and, in the opinion of the Chief Judge, the malfunction was not caused by an action or interference by the competitor, then the competitor will be given the option of making a re-jump or receiving a score of zero for that jump.

## 3.2 TRAINING JUMPS

N/A

## 3.3 ORDER OF JUMPING

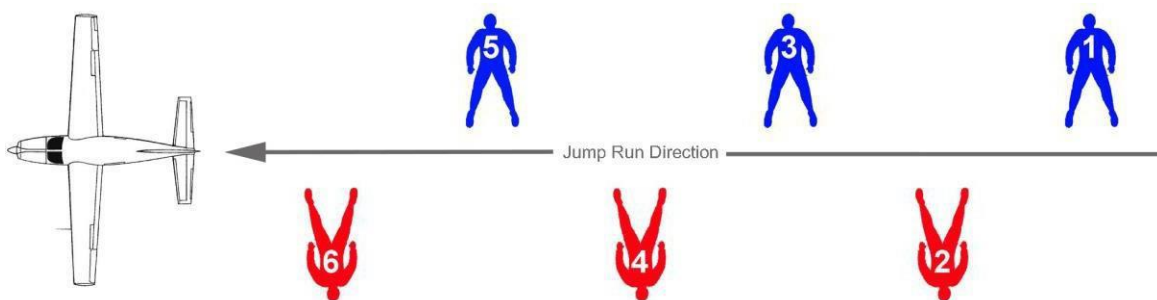
- 3.3.1 The order of jumping in the first round will be determined by reverse order of competition personal best speeds. For competitors with no previous competition results the official practice jump speeds may be used to determine jump order.
- 3.3.2 Individuals not covered by this procedure will jump at the beginning or end of the first round, with order determined at the discretion of the Meet Director and Chief Judge.
- 3.3.3 Time permitting, and at the discretion of the Meet Director, reverse order of ranking may be used for all other rounds.

## 4 RULES SPECIFIC TO THE EVENT

### 4.1 EXIT PROCEDURE

- 4.1.1 The exit point is determined by the pilot in conjunction with the Meet Director. The aircraft pilot will signal the competitors when they are clear to exit. All the competitors will be briefed on the specific exit signals at the pre-event competitors' meeting.
- 4.1.2 The exit delay between competitors must be such so as to ensure safe separation, and be at least 5 seconds.
- 4.1.3 The first person to exit on a pass turns 90 degrees to the right of the aircraft line of flight, the second turns 90 degrees left, and so on. All Competitors must turn to the appropriate direction immediately after their freefall trajectory is no longer affected by the forward throw/momentum of the aircraft. This is to prevent horizontal movement in the line of flight of the jump run. See figure 1.

Figure 1:



### 4.2 EXIT ORDER

- 4.2.1 For safety reasons, the exit order in a jump run is determined by the personal best of the competitors. The exit order in a jump run is personal best descending.
- 4.2.2 There will be a maximum of six competitors per exit pass, but this may be reduced by the Meet Director taking into consideration the aircraft size and the dropzone area.

### 4.3 EXIT ALTITUDE

- 4.3.1 Standard Exit Altitude: 13,000 ft. (3,962 metres) to 14,000 ft. (4,267 metres). It is the responsibility of the Meet director in conjunction with the pilot(s) to make sure that the maximum and minimum exit altitudes (as measured by the approved SMD) are not exceeded.
- 4.3.2 For meteorological reasons or air traffic circumstances only, and with the consent of the Chief Judge, the Meet Director may reduce the minimum exit altitude by any amount down to 11,000 ft. (3,353 metres) to continue the competition. The maximum altitude and the performance window will be reduced by the same amount but the breakoff altitude still remains 5,600 ft. (1,707 metres). Any one round must be completed with the same altitude parameters.
- 4.3.3 Maximum Exit Altitude: The maximum exit altitude for a valid jump is 14,000 ft. (4,267 metres) as measured by the approved competition SMD. A competitor should not exit the aircraft at a higher altitude than the maximum exit altitude. If the SMD registers a higher exit altitude than the maximum exit altitude, the jump will be considered as not valid and a re-jump will be granted.
- 4.3.4 Minimum Exit Altitude: The minimum exit altitude for a valid jump is 13,000 ft. (3,962 metres) a competitor should not exit the aircraft at a lower altitude than the minimum altitude. If the SMD registers a lower exit altitude than the minimum exit altitude the competitor may choose to accept the score for the jump. The competitor must make an immediate decision and inform the Chief judge of their decision; otherwise a re-jump will be granted automatically.



#### 4.4 SPEED MEASURING DEVICE (SMD)

- 4.4.1 The SMD must be capable of gathering data, and/or transmitting real-time data to a ground station or stations, which allows the competitor's vertical freefall speed to be displayed in kilometres per hour to an accuracy of less than 10.8 km/h (3m/s), The SMD must also be capable of recording the exit altitude to an accuracy of 33 ft. (10 metres).
- 4.4.2 The data from an SMD may or may not be required to be downloaded to computer in order to determine the competitors speed.
- 4.4.3 If the SMD transmits its data to the ground station during the jump, then that data must be recorded and saved when it is received.
- 4.4.4 If the data from the SMD is downloaded for analysis to a computer after landing, then that data must be recorded and saved when it is downloaded.
- 4.4.5 If the speed result is to be read directly from the SMD after landing, then the result needs to be retained on the SMD for the duration of the competition and recorded on the score sheets.
- 4.4.6 The SMD must record real-time three-dimensional (3D) data with a resolution of at least 5Hz and a speed accuracy of less than 3m/s
- 4.4.7 The SMD must not require any action by the competitor in order for it to function.
- 4.4.8 It should not be possible for a competitor to alter settings or data on the SMD without this being evident to the judges. Tampering with the device will result in a score of zero for the jump. This decision is not grounds for protest.

#### 4.5 SCORING SPEED SKYDIVING

- 4.5.1 The score for a Speed Skydiving jump is the average vertical speed in kilometres per hour, to the nearest hundredth of a km/h, of the fastest 3 seconds, which the competitor achieves within the performance window.
- 4.5.2 The length of the performance window is 7400 ft. (2,256 metres), this is determined by the distance between the minimum exit altitude and breakoff altitude.
- 4.5.3 In the case of a standard exit altitude of between 13,000 ft. (3,962 metres) and 14,000 ft. (4,267 metres) the performance window is the maximum of 7,400 ft. (2,256 metres). The competition window ends 7,400 ft. (2,256 metres) below exit altitude.

### 5 WORK OF THE JUDGES IN THE DISCIPLINE

#### 5.1 SCORING THE JUMP

- 5.1.1 Each performance shall be assessed by at least 1 Judge. All Judges must be British Skydiving or FAI Speed Skydiving Judges or Speed Skydiving Judges in Training, provided they are under the direct supervision of the Chief Judge.
- 5.1.2 One or more individuals, supervised by the Chief Judge (or trainees under the supervision of the Chief of Judge) may support the judges in equipment and device management
- 5.1.3 N/A
- 5.1.4 If a computer is used to analyse the data to obtain the speed, then the data must be downloaded as soon as possible after the competitor has handed in the device, and before the SMD is used again.
- 5.1.5 If the speed is read directly from the device, then the readings are to be taken when the competitor hands in the SMDs, the speeds are to be written directly on to the score sheets, and the competitor is to sign for the score. The SMDs may then be used again.

- 5.1.6 If the speed is obtained from data transmitted during the jump to a ground station or stations, the SMD may only be used again once it has been determined that valid data has been obtained.
- 5.1.7 The scores will not be final until the data have been reviewed. The Chief Judge is responsible for determining a competitor's final score and placing.

## 5.2 COLLATION OF THE SCORE SHEETS

- 5.2.1 The scores are collated immediately after the judges have assessed the jump. The Chief Judge must check the results of the collation.
- 5.2.2 The score sheet must also have a column showing the average speed of completed rounds, rounded to the nearest hundredth of a km/h.

## 5.3 DETERMINING PLACING

- 5.3.1 At the end of a completed round, the accumulation of the competitor's single scores is used to determine the competitor's total result. The total result for the competitor determines the ranking. The competitors are ranked in descending order of their total results.
- 5.3.2 While a round is in progress, unofficial results may be published. However, if the round does not get completed, the scores from the incomplete round must be discarded and the results must be amended to reflect the scores from the number of completed rounds.
- 5.3.3 In case if the round is incomplete in open event, but complete in any of separate classifications, this round will be accepted as a complete round for these separate classifications.

## 5.4 DETERMINATION OF THE WINNERS

- 5.4.1 The competitor with the highest score is the winner.
- 5.4.2 In the event of a tie in the first three places, the following rules apply:
  - (5.4.2.i) Where possible tie-break jumps shall be made.
  - (5.4.2.ii) If this does not break a tie, then the competitor with the best result in any one round obtains the higher place.
  - (5.4.2.iii) If the tie cannot be broken, the competitors concerned shall be declared co-medalists.
  - (5.4.2.iv) All other ties shall be ranked equal.
- 5.4.3 In the event of a tie in the first three places in any of the classifications, paragraphs 6.4.2 will be applied.

## 5.5 OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Meet Director and Chief Judge may decide to interrupt the event if they consider that the meteorological conditions are not safe for the conduct of the event. This decision is not grounds for a protest.

## **6 DETERMINATION OF CHAMPIONS**

### **6.1 INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION**

The title of British Champion is awarded to the first placed competitor in the Open event, and in each classification.

### **6.2 NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPION**

N/A

### **6.3 MEDALS AND AWARDS**

Individual Medals – Open: Champion, 2nd place, 3rd place

Individual Medals – Female: Champion, 2nd place, 3rd place