



Parachutists Over Phorty Society (POPS) General Competitions Rules 15th Worlds POPS 2022

General Competitions Rules – UK 2022

1. Information Bulletin:

a) The Organiser will:

- i. Set up an information website and will publish an Information Bulletin thereon, no later than six months before the start of the competition.
- ii. The Bulletin and website will include all necessary information regarding the competition, including, but not limited to:
 - Competition Dates
 - Location and access by air, road etc
 - Aircraft to be used
 - Speed of Jump Aircraft at time of exit
 - Competition Rules for all events
 - Name of Chief Judge and Meet Director
 - Registration Forms
 - Entry fees and what is included in the fees
 - Entry fees payment date and bank details etc
 - Hotel accommodation information
 - Social program
 - Banquet and prize giving
 - Any other information considered useful

b) The website should also be used for on-line registration

2. General Rules for Competition Events

a) All competitors must be a member of their National POPS Organisation, and, if jumping as SOS (Skydivers Over Sixty), be a member of their national SOS organisation or of the international chapter of SOS. All competitors must show current membership cards of both organisations, as appropriate. As an alternative, the respective National Top POP or his alternate may confirm such Memberships.

b) In order to ensure the highest level of safety, all competitors must meet any currency or proficiency requirements required by the host Parachute Training Organisation (PTO)/Drop Zone (DZ).

c) The parachute equipment of each competitor will be checked by the Organiser or an appointed representative before the competition starts. **The use of an AAD for this meet, is mandatory for all disciplines.**

d) Each jumper must have:

- i. current parachuting license;
- ii. reserve canopy packed in date, according to participant's home country rules;
- iii. current third-party liability insurance through British Skydiving (temporary membership, one month from date of purchase);
- iv. In addition to these, there may be additional local requirements. If so, these will be included in the organiser's Information Bulletin.

e) Each competitor is responsible for the payment of entry fees and event fees in accordance with the published deadline dates. Registration closes a month before the start date and jumps must be paid for in advance of the event (if applicable). Late entries will be honored though there is no guarantee that all benefits of the registration. The Organiser must allow registration and entry fee payment to be made for a particular competition event (see 3) at any time before the opening ceremony.

f) Judges - The Chief Judge will be chosen by a joint decision of the Organiser and the World Top POP. The number of judges required and any financial arrangements (provision of accommodation, meals, travel costs etc) will be decided by a joint decision of the Chief Judge, World Top POP and the Organiser. In the accuracy events, the judges at the target must be clearly distinguished by wearing brightly coloured vests.

g) The award of a re-jump will be decided by the judges subject to any provisions in the specific event competition rules. The re-jump will be at the expense of the jumper/team making the re-jump unless otherwise decided by Meet Director. Re-jumps will be made as soon as possible after the incident causing the re-jump. If the competitor/team is not satisfied with a decision of the judges or any other matter connected with a particular event, an appeal may be made to a three-person panel made up of Top POPS, chosen before the competition starts. If any such panel member has a conflict of interest, a replacement must be found. The decision of this panel will be final without further appeal.

h) A briefing will be conducted by the Chief Judge and Meet Director prior to the start of each event to ensure that all competitors, staff (including pilots) and judges are aware of the rules being used for the event. Unless otherwise stated in the Competition Rules for an event (see 3) that a lower maximum wind speed is applicable to that event, the maximum wind speed at ground level for parachuting to take place 20 knots. British Skydiving operations manual will be adhered to.

3. The events will be:

- 4-way Scrambles – 4 rounds
- National 4-Way or A Class Open Event – 5 rounds (POPS and SOS)
- Speed Star – 3 rounds
- Precision Accuracy – 6 rounds (POPS and SOS)
- Sport Accuracy – 3 rounds (POPS and SOS)
- Hit'n'Rock – 1 round (POPS and SOS)

a) It is proposed that the 4-Way Scrambles will take place before the National and A Class Open 4-Way events and the Hit'n'Rock will be the last event. Each event has a set of Competition Rules, which set out the specific rules governing each event. These Rules can be obtained from the World Top POP and will also be included on the website and in the Information Bulletin (see above).

4. Time between jumps and Boarding Calls.

a) The Meet Director must allow sufficient time between jumps for packing and recovery and is requested to exercise common sense and flexibility in this regard, without unduly causing delays. The minimum time interval between arriving at or returning to the competition site and the first call for the next jump is suggested as being 1 hour for the accuracy jumps and Formation Skydiving (FS) jumps. This time interval does not apply to the first jump of the day or re-jumps, nor to tie breaking jumps, which must be done as soon as possible after the previous jump. The first jump call will be given approximately 30 minutes before aircraft boarding. There will be a second call approximately 15 minutes before aircraft boarding, further calls will be subject to PTO/DZ operations.

5. Speed of Jump Aircraft at time of exit

a) During the Accuracy and Hit'n'Rock Events, the speed of the aircraft at the time of exit may not exceed 80 knots (92 mph) indicated. During the FS Events, the speed of the aircraft at the time of exit will be 85 (+/- 5) knots (98 mph +/- 6) indicated. It is the responsibility of the pilot to maintain the airspeed within these limits. Any variation from these limits will be decided by joint decision of the Chief Judge, World Top POP and the Organiser.

6. Medals

a) At a minimum, gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded for the three competitors/teams placing first, second and third in each category in each event.

b) In the POPS Spirit, the Organiser is encouraged to award additional recognition to 4th, 5th, etc, if practical.

c) In order to receive medals, each individual competitor or individual National 4-Way team member must compete in at least two different events. Any competitor who competes in only one event, will have their/team scores removed from the final results list and they/team will not be eligible for any awards.

7. Categories

a) There will be two categories, POPS and SOS (subject to 8 a) below), in each event except in 4-Way Scrambles and Speed Star. Before an event starts, each competitor/team will be listed according to category for that particular event, based on the age(s) declared on the entry form. In the National 4-Way and A Class Open event, any team with at least one POPS member will be listed in the POPS category. However, an SOS competitor/team may request to be listed in the POPS category for a particular event and once so requested may not revert to SOS for that event. It is not permitted to be registered as both a POPS and SOS competitor/team in the same event.

8. Results Lists

a) Separate POPS and SOS results lists will be produced for each event (excluding Scrambles and Speed Star).

9. Safety

a) All competitors competing in FS jumps must:

- i. wear a hard hat;
- ii. have an AAD;
- iii. flat track away from the formation before deploying;
- iv. be under a full canopy, at a minimum height for main parachutes of:
 - British Skydiving 'B' Licence skydivers and below 3,000ft AGL (915m)
 - British Skydiving 'C' Licence skydivers and above 2,500ft AGL (765m)
- v. are also recommended to have an audible.

b) All competitors competing must have an AAD for all events.