

POPS General Competitions Rules 2015

World POPS Meet and Championships 2016

General Competitions Rules

(1) Information Bulletin:

The Organiser will set up an information website and will publish an Information Bulletin thereon no later than six months before the start of the competition.

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

The website should also be used for on-line registration

(2) General Rules for Competition Events

2.1 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 TopPOP or his alternate may confirm such memberships.

2.2 In order to ensure the highest level of safety, all competitors must meet any currency or proficiency requirements required by the host drop zone.

2.3 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 is always highly recommended and may be mandatory if local rules require it.

2.4 Each jumper must have:

- current parachuting license;
- reserve canopy packed in date, according to participant's home country rules
- current third party liability insurance, in the minimum amount of Euro/\$ and valid for the competition in (insert country)

In addition to these requirements, there may be local or other regulations that apply. If so, these will be included in the Organiser's Information Bulletin.

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2.5 Each competitor is responsible for the payment of entry fees and event fees in accordance with the published deadline dates.

Registration for the competition must be completed in accordance with the published deadline date and registration for a particular event must be completed before the start of that competition event.

The Organiser must allow registration and entry fee payment to be made for a particular competition event (see 2.9) at any time before the event starts.

2.6 Judges

The Chief Judge will be chosen by a joint decision of the Organiser and the World TopPOP.

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 TopPOP and the Organiser.

In the accuracy events, the judges at the target must be clearly distinguished by wearing brightly coloured vests.

2.7 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 management. 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 TopPOPS, 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.

2.8 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 2.9) that a lower maximum wind speed is applicable to that event, the maximum wind speed at ground level for parachuting to take place is 11 m/sec. If the steady wind exceeds this limit, jumping will not take place.

2.9 The events will be:

4 way Scrambles – 4 rounds

National 4 way – 5 rounds

Speed Star – 3 rounds

Precision Accuracy – 6 rounds

Sport Accuracy – 3 rounds

Hit'n'Rock – 1 round

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N.B. 4 way Scrambles must take place before National 4 way and 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 TopPOP and will also be included on the website and in the Information Bulletin (see above).

2.10 Time between jumps and Boarding Calls

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 1 hour and 30 minutes for the FS jumps. This time interval does not apply to the first jump of the day and rejumps nor to required tie breaking jumps, which must be done as soon as possible after the previous jump.

The first call to go the loading area will be given approximately 15 minutes before aircraft boarding. There will be a second call approximately 5 minutes before aircraft boarding.

2.11 Speed of Jump Aircraft at time of exit

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 TopPOP and the Organiser.

2.12 Medals:

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

In order to receive medals, each individual competitor or individual National 4 Way team member must compete in at least two different events. Any individual competitor who competes in only one event will be deleted from the results list for that event and will receive no medal. If any member of a National 4 Way team competes in only the National 4 Way event, that team will be deleted from the results list for that event and its members will receive no medal

2.13 Categories

There will be two categories, POPS and SOS (subject to 2.14 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 event, any team with at least one POPS member will be listed in the POPS category.

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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

2.14 Results Lists

Separate POPS and SOS results lists will be produced for each event if there are at least five POPS or SOS competitors or teams. If there are less than five POPS or SOS competitors or teams, one combined results list will be produced and only one set of medals will be awarded.