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BRITISH SKYDIVING VFS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

GENERAL RULES, INFORMATION & LOGISTICS

(Note: this document details the general rules, information and logistics, and should be read alongside document "British Skydiving VFS Nationals Technical Rules 2026" which sets out the technical rules. All competitors will accept these rules as binding on entering the competition.)

1. COMPETITION CATEGORIES

- a) The competition shall comprise the following categories:
- 4-Way Vertical Formation Skydiving Advanced
 - 2-Way Vertical Formation Skydiving

2. COMPETITION AIMS

- a) To determine the British National Champions in Vertical Formation Skydiving.
- b) To determine the British standings of the competing teams.
- c) To promote and develop Vertical Formation Skydiving.
- d) To allow participants to share and exchange experience, knowledge and information.
- e) To improve judging methods and practices at National level.
- f) 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 to represent Great Britain at international competitions will be at the sole discretion of the Elite Performance Committee (EPC). Alternative selection processes can be found on Form 231.

3. COMPETITION DETAILS

- a) **Warm-up / Practice Jumps:** The host DZ's normal operating hours shall apply in the days leading up to the competition: please refer to DZ website and / or contact DZ for details. Practice jumping on the day immediately prior to the competition start date will be available up until the competition draw, subject to suitable meteorological conditions. Any practice jumps must be paid for in full prior to competition start. The DZ reserves the right to stop any teams owing monies for practice jumps from completing any further jumps (including during the competition) until outstanding balances have been paid for in full.



- b) **Kit & Documents:** A limited amount of kit and docs will be available on the Saturday morning. Competitors are encouraged to be registered with the dropzone ahead of the competition start date

4. ENTRY FORMS

- a) Amendments to team entry forms may be made after submission up until the Entry Form Deadline; however, to do so, teams shall contact the host DZ and follow its instructions on preferred process such that an auditable record of final team makeup can be retained for future reference.
- b) Changes to team compositions, up until 17:00 on Friday 18th September 2026 will be at the discretion of the Meet Director.

5. FEES & TERMS

- a) The Team Captain (specified on the Team's Entry Form) shall be liable to the host DZ for ensuring payment of the team's entry fees and jump fees due by the team, irrespective of any team line-up changes permitted (or otherwise) by the competition rules.
- b) Entry fees are non-refundable.
- c) In the event of any competitor being unable to complete any part of the competition (for whatever reason), jump fees for jumps not made are only refundable at the host DZ's sole discretion and normally only in line with paragraph 6(i) below.
- d) All jumps made - regardless of their inclusion or exclusion from the overall competition scores - will be charged for (i.e. any partially completed rounds, for any reason whatsoever, need to be paid for). Re-jumps and jump-off jumps will need to be paid for in full prior to taking place.
- e) No individual may enter in more than one team for the 2-way or 4-way events, with exception of camera flyers. Any individual who wishes to participate in more than one team (either as a camera flyer, or a competitor in both 2-way and 4-way) requires written approval from the Meet Director before the submission of their entry form.
- f) Each team may have up to one alternate flyer who must be registered with the team by the registration deadline.
- g) The British Team Fund provides medals and trophies to British Skydiving competitions and provides uniforms to competitors taking part in FAI First Category competitions. As well as donations from the membership, levies are collected from athletes competing at Nationals.

To this end, on completion and submission of the British Nationals Entry Form, the levies collected from participants will be:

£5.00 per entry to the competition and £1.00 per jump per person.



6. COMPETITOR EQUIPMENT & DOCUMENTATION

- a) It is each individual competitor's responsibility to ensure that all documentation provided - and equipment used - is in a serviceable condition, is suitable for the individual (and the intended nature of use), complies with the requirements of the British Skydiving Manual, and complies with any additional host DZ's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
- b) If a competitor has any doubts as to the suitability of their equipment or documentation, they must contact the host DZ in advance of the competition start date to seek clarity and resolve. This will avoid unnecessary logistical challenges during competition.
- c) As a minimum competitors shall use / have available for use:
 - i. A serviceable and suitable main parachute, reserve parachute, container and harness,
 - ii. An electronic Automatic Activation Device (AAD),
 - iii. A helmet (with a single-point release / cutaway system if performing the role of Camera Flyer),
 - iv. A hook knife,
 - v. A visual and audible altimeter,
 - vi. Suitable footwear and clothing.
- d) As a minimum for kit and documentation checks, competitors shall have available for inspection:
 - i. The kit (comprising the list in paragraph 6(c) above) intended for use during the competition,
 - ii. A record of inspection (if packed in the UK) and a valid and in-date reserve packing data card for the reserve parachute intended for use during the competition,
 - iii. The competitor's current and fully updated Parachutist's Logbook,
 - iv. The competitor's valid British Skydiving Membership (Full or Temporary),
 - v. The competitor's current Medical Certificate or Declaration,
 - vi. The competitor's British Skydiving National Parachutists Licence with an FF2 sticker, with exception to the 2-way event, where the camera flyer only requires FF1 (and approval by the Chief Instructor)
- e) Any competitor not holding a British Skydiving Licence (but holding a licence from a different nation) should contact the host DZ to seek confirmation as to whether their particular licence (and any discipline-specific qualifications) are adequate prior to entering the competition. The competitor must also comply with all other rules set out herein.

7. COMPETITOR ELIGIBILITY & SPORTING LICENCES

- a) British Skydiving has decided to comply with the FAI rules regarding competitor eligibility. Please refer to the FAI Sporting Code – General Section, which can be found on the documents page of the FAI website: <https://www.fai.org/isc-documents>.



- b) Only teams competing in the VFS 4-way category shall be considered by EPC for representation of Great Britain at international competitions.
- c) UK Sporting Licence eligibility criteria can be found on the British Skydiving Form 110.
- d) Competitors selected for representation of Great Britain at any international competitions must hold a UK Sporting Licence, and be included on the FAI database by British Skydiving, at the point of entry for (and not later than one month prior to) the competition in question.
- e) All members comprising a team that sets a world record must have a current Sporting Licence for that record to be recognised and recorded as such. Teams that judge they are likely to set a record are therefore encouraged to obtain Sporting Licences prior to the British Skydiving VFS Nationals competition.
- f) Competitors may obtain a new Sporting Licence or renewal at any time. Applications for a Sporting Licence or renewals must be made using the British Skydiving Form 110 directly to the British Skydiving office. A fee applies. Sporting Licences or renewals will no longer be issued at British Skydiving PTOs. Sporting Licences should be applied for at least one month before the deadline for which they are required since British Skydiving will require supporting documentation for those competitors not holding a UK passport.
- g) Any competitor not holding a British Skydiving Licence (but holding a licence from a different nation) should contact the host DZ to seek confirmation as to whether their particular licence (and any discipline-specific qualifications) are adequate prior to entering the competition. The competitor must also comply with all other rules set out herein.

8. 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. 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 ([Drug-Free Sport - British Skydiving | Legacy](#)) 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 sponsorship, 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>.

9. COMPETITION AIRCRAFT

- a) At time of writing the competition aircraft are expected to be 3 x Cessna Caravan single turbines.
- b) Each numbered round will be performed from the same aircraft type (for all categories) to avoid any unfair advantages / disadvantages for any particular team.
- c) Teams will perform the rounds in whichever order facilitates the most economic use of the time available to complete the competition within the allotted time. Scores may therefore be posted out of numerical sequence.

10. COMPETITION OFFICIALS

Competitors will be notified of the attending officials during the Competition Brief.

11. MEET DIRECTOR TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Meet Director responsibilities are as follows:

- a) Ensure liaison with the Drop Zone for the administrative co-ordination of the event schedule.
- b) Ensure a visible point of contact amongst the competitors is maintained at least for 25% of the event time to allow the opportunity for feedback and clear access to officials.
- c) To have the casting vote on any matters identified by the Chief Judge.

12. PRIZE GIVING LOGISTICS

- a) Prize giving will begin as soon as the host Drop Zone can arrange after the event has been completed and once any dignitaries who will be involved in the presentation are available.



- b) Competitors shall return any 4-Way National trophies from the previous year's competition to the Chief Judge when completing this competition's check-in, or (if this is not possible) to the British Skydiving Office by June 2026. Trophy winners will be required to sign the Trophy Safe Custody Statement (Form 225), and adhere to the points listed on this form.
- c) Medals will be awarded for the top 3 placing teams in each discipline.

13. LICENCE TO USE RECORDED MEDIA

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

14. COURTESY & RESPECT

The CI, Meet Director, Judges, Staff and competitors all have the right to be treated with courtesy. Any threatening or abusive behaviour will not be tolerated and will result in the individual being removed from the competition and being asked to leave the host DZ premises. Subject to the nature of the incident the team comprising the implicated individual may be removed from the competition and all fees forfeited.

15. COMPETITION RULES

The full competition rules can be found in the accompanying document.

