**UK Hot Air Balloon National Championships 2022**

**General briefing at 17.00 on Monday, 15 August 2022**

1. **GENERAL INFORMATION**

1.1 **REFUELLING**

Pilots are reminded to bring spare tanks as there will not be any evening refueling.

Refuelling is at the following two locations (see schedule issued by Rupert) for access to:-

(a) Holbrook Garage

(b) Exclusive Ballooning (completion of refueling form required

1.2 **Safety phone number**:

Director: Event Director Zoltan Palhegyii +36 70 310 4567

Deputy Director Ally Odell +44 7711 181812

1.3 **Radio Communication: safety**

**SAFETY : Rule II.25 (10.1)**

All pilots are required to carry a serviceable airband radio with which they can broadcast and receive radio transmissions on 122.480. Whilst this frequency may be used by pilots and crews for communication, the primary purpose within the competition is to avoid midair collisions by pilots’ communication between themselves and asking whether they are clear to climb.

1.4 **Vehicle parking at Minchinhampton Rugby club**

Crew vehicles must be parked to the LEFT (on entry) to the Rugby Club

Officials vehicles must be parked to the RIGHT (on entry) to the Rugby Club.

**2. REMINDERS ABOUT RULES**

## 2.1 LOCATION OF OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD RULE II.13 (5.10)

## An on-line Official Notice Board (ONB) will be used, it will be at Watchmefly.net.

## Electronic notifications of postings to the ONB may be made using messaging system such as

## SMS or WhatsApp.

## 2.2 RECALL PROCEDURE RULE II.10 (10.15)

## Sending short messages (SMS or WhatsApp) to the competitors’ mobile phones will be used as

## recall procedure. The number and phone may be tested at registration.

## The competitor’s phone must be switched on at all times.

## Minor task changes may be sent out by SMS or WhatsApp, before the launch period, in case of

## unexpected problems with goals or other safety matters.

## The SMS or WhatsApp message service will be backed-up by broadcast by the event director on

## 122.480 MHz if balloons are already flying.

2.3 **HANDLING/USE of BLS Rule II.17**

This is set out at length in the Section I & II Rules issued to competitors on 7 August 2022.

If any pilot has any further queries, please raise during General Briefing.

## 2.4 CONTEST AREA (7.1)

The competition map will be:

1. for paper maps, the version of the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Landranger map used by the competitor.
2. For electronic maps, the electronic equivalent of the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Landranger map used by the competitor.

The contest area is the area contained within the following points:

SO 730 280

SP 160 280

SP 160 100

SP 090 080

SU 090 880

ST 730 880

## 2.5 OUT OF BOUNDS Rule II.2 (7.2)

All red and blue PZs are out of bounds. Ground contact and other penalties will be applied.

Highgrove House ST 87597 91506, radius 2.8km, height up to 2000’ AMSL

Slimbridge Wetlands centre north and west of the Severn Way within the PZ shown on the Competition Map

## 2.6 PZ LIST Rule II.3 (7.3)

All BBAC PZs as published. Actual ground level will be used.

***PLEASE NOTE***: additional PZ at ST 90160 99160 500m radius, 1000ft height

Very expensive horse at Aston Farm, Cherrington

Blue PZ: South of line SO 7300 0187 SU 0900 9517 6,000 feet

All other areas: 10,000’

## 2.7 COMMON LAUNCH AREA(S) Rule II.4 (9.1.1)

Any field as specified by the director per flight

## COMMON LAUNCH POINT(S) Rule II.5 (9.1.2)

SO 88520 00190 and any other point as specified by the director per flight

3. **OTHER MATTERS**

3.1 **Launch masters**

There will be no Launch masters; pilots requiring official assistance, that would be given by a Launch Master, may ask for an official at the Flagpole.

3.2 **Flag signals**

The purple flag will signal that a WhatsApp message altering task data or flight details has been issued. Flag signals will be accompanied by the bell. The purple flag will remain up for one or two minutes and then taken down. It may be followed by further messages and so the same process will repeat.

3.3 **Flight Report Form**

Flight Report Forms must be completed on Watchmefly.net as quick as possible and maximum NINETY (90) minutes after the landing of that specific flight. When there are problems during your retrieve, please contact the competition director and ask for an ‘extension of time’.

If the Flight Report Form is received too late without an extension of time you may be penalized up to 1000 points!

3.4 **Selection of a Jury**

When a Protest has been received by the event director and there has not been an International Jury appointed or approved by the CIA, the director shall invoke this clause to call together a Jury.

The jury shall be made up of 3 people selected as follows.

3 pilots selected at random from All competing pilots who are eligible excluding any pilots bringing the protest or any earlier related complaint.

To be eligible the pilot must have attended at least 2 previous British nationals and at least 1 Category One CIA event and not be advantaged or disadvantaged significantly by the result of any decision. If a jury cannot be formed, then the earlier decision of the director will be final.

The Jury shall amongst itself select a President. The responsibility of the selected Jury is to deal with this single protest.

Following the discharging of their duties under rule 5.5.4 the jury shall be disbanded.

If a jury cannot be formed then the protest will be referred to the BBAC Competitions Club Chairman at the earliest opportunity after the event or, in the event that the Chairman is directly affected by the outcome, a UK CIA appointed Jury member. This individual will use their judgement to either form a jury using eligible Competitions Club pilots who may or may not have been at the event, or refer the matter to the BBAC Competitions Club Committee. The ruling of any appointed jury will be final.

3.5 **Drought and high temperatures**

Pilots and crews are asked to be aware at all times of the potential of fire risk, both on inflation and

landing.

During inflation, ensure the scoop is attached in the position for flight in order to limit the risk of setting fire to  grass anywhere near the burner flame when the basket is still lying on the ground.

On landing, extinguish pilot lights as soon as possible, even before touching the ground where possible.

It is also advisable to have additional fire extinguisher(s) in one’s vehicle in case of need because tinder-dry conditions in many fields/launchsites are prevalent as now.

3.6 **Sunrise/sunset** 06.00 and 20.20

**Briefing times** 05.30 and 17.30