

HOT AIR 2008

RULE BOOK

General rules

Safety

1. Competitor shall give all possible help to any other competitor in danger.
2. Competitor is individually responsible for wearing protective gear adequate for the conditions.
3. Competitor must have signed the organizer's waiver if required.
4. Any kite used in Hot Air event must have an under tension quick release system in order to be allowed to compete .
5. All bars used in the competition must have a system permitting. depowering and retaining the kite without endangering anybody once the bar has been released. This system must be attached to the rider
6. In case of strong wind or obstacles downwind race director / head judge can decide that every competitor must wear a helmet during their heat and training time.
7. All competitors under 18 must wear a helmet and life jacket during their heat and training time. Except with parental authorisation signed before the event or delivered at the event registration (this exemption will not be possible during the KPWT events held in France and in the french territories).
8. No compliance will result in a penalty of the rider.

Fair competing

1. A competitor shall compete in compliance with recognized principles of sportmanship and fair play.
2. A competitor may be penalized under this rule only if it is clearly established that this rule has been violated.

Acceptance of rules

1. By participating in an event conducted under rules of Hot Air rulebook, each competitor agrees :
2. to be governed by these rules.
3. to accept the penalties imposed and other actions taken under these rules, subject to appeal and review procedures provided in them, as the final determination of any matter arising under the rules.

Decision to race

1. A competitor is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to start or continue competing.
2. The competitor must respect the decisions of the race director team. All riders and Officials must follow the decisions of the race director.

Conduct of a race / event of Hot Air

1. Duration of heats and transition period shall be specified by Race director before the start of the competition. If needed he will modify them at any time.
2. Duration of heats and transition period shall be determined depending on present wind conditions by the Race director.

3. Each competitor is individually responsible to know when his / her heat will start.
4. Under no circumstances shall anyone from the organization be held responsible if a competitor misses his / her heat.
5. The timing of heats and transition periods shall be details by the race director at the skippers meeting
6. Under no circumstances shall there be any time extensions once a heat has started.
7. Heat cancelation can be decided only by the Race director.
8. Once a heat result has been announced it can't be cancelled, unless a justified and accepted (by the committee) protest allows it.

Visual signals :

1. Regulation of heats and transitions during event shall be made using 3 different flags.
2. Colors of flags will be specified by Head judge and Race director.
3. Flag signals shall be:
 - yellow flag displayed 5 minutes before the start of heat and during transition period as brief by the race director. Yellow flag comes down one minute before the start of the heat.
 - blue flag displayed during heat period. Blue flag comes down one minute before the start of the heat.
 - red flag displayed when heat is canceled and riders **MUST** return to beach for briefing.

Sound signals

1. Regulation of heats, transitions during event shall be made using horn.
2. Sound signals shall be:
 - one (1) horn stroke for end of transition period and start of heat
 - one (1) horn stroke for end of heat and start of transition period
 - three (3) horn strokes for cancelation of heat
3. These sound signals shall be used if not decided otherwise by Race director.

Competitors and heat regulation

1. All competitors must report to the beach marshal at least five (5) minutes before the start of each of their heat to identify themselves and if necessary pick up their colored jersey.
2. If colored vests are used the competitor is obliged to return them as soon as he is done with his heat.
3. Colored vests are distributed and collected by the beach marshal.
4. If asked, competitor must report to the beach marshal kite brand and color that will use during particular heat.
5. It is solely the responsibility of the competitor to report to the beach marshal.

Weather conditions

1. Safety rules must be applied when deciding to conduct an event (wind and wave conditions).
2. The Race director of the Hot Air can decide to cancel the heat due to dangerous wind or wave conditions.
3. Minimum wind speed to conduct the international freestyle, and wave event is an average of eight (10) knots in calm water. According to current, waves and other weather and site factors the race director will fix another suitable minimum wind average speed.

Breakdown and outside help

1. If a competitor breaks or loses any part of his/her equipment during a heat he/she is allowed to ask for security boat. If security boat is asked, judges will stop scoring points for that particular competitor in that particular heat. The competitor's result will be based on his/her

performance before the interference of a rescue boat and he/she will not be excluded from the competition.

2. Outside help is allowed by a single caddy out of the judging zone. The caddy has to be registered with the Beach Marshall before the start of the heats.
3. The caddy can ONLY be used outside the judging zone to assist in launch and recovery of kites and changing gear during a heat.
4. During heats the competitors are allowed to go up wind on the beach but without the help of their caddy.
5. Competitors are allowed to change any part of equipment during heats.

Safety

1. Whenever a competitor is facing a difficulty on the water that makes it hard or impossible to come back to shore, the competitor must wave his arm to call the security boat.
2. Wearing security equipment is compulsory.
3. In dangerous situations the competitor is obliged to ask for help.
4. Competitor is under no circumstances allowed to land any jump or trick on the shore during the entire event.
5. If any competitor violates any safety rule given by this rulebook or Race committee he will be penalized.
6. Competitor can under no circumstances endanger it's own safety, safety of other competitors, spectators and officials. The offending rider will be excluded from that particular competition.

Competition area

1. Size and position of a competition area will be decided by the Race director in accordance with the safety rules.
2. No heat shall be cancelled due to mark movement.

Duty toward sponsors

1. Each competitor has the obligation to wear his jersey (colored or not) when competing or free sailing in the event area.
2. All riders must be present at the opening and closing ceremonies.
3. All jerseys and other promotional materials (stickers,..) must be in accordance with safety rules.

Interference rules

General rules

1. All competitors have to behave in a fair way and shall not obstruct or endanger any other competitor.
2. Competitors are not allowed to ride in the competition area indicated on the course diagram/description while heats are taking place other than during its own heat.
3. A competitor has the right of way when another competitor is required to keep clear of him/her.
4. If reasonably possible, the competitor shall avoid contact with another competitor. However, the competitor with the right-of-way :
 - need not to act to avoid contact until it is clear that the other competitor is not keeping clear or giving room.
 - shall not be penalized under this rule unless there is contact that causes damage.
 - In case of obstruction with the result of damaged equipment that put one of the competing riders out for more than 3 minutes, the heat will be repeated without the offender.

Freestyle competitions

1. Competitor on starboard tack has the right-of-way over the competitor on port tack.
2. When passing or crossing another competitor the competitor who is positioned upwind has to take his kite up (angle between sea and kite lines shall be more than 45 degrees), and competitor who is positioned downwind has to take his kite down (angle between sea and kite lines shall be less than 45 degrees).
3. Overtaking competitor shall keep clear of the overtaken competitor.
4. Before jumping a competitor needs to make all assumptions necessary about his jump length, duration and direction to avoid contact with other competitors.
5. Riders crashing into or endangering other competitors officials or spectators will be automatically disqualified from the heat.
6. During transition period competitor entering the competition area to compete has a right-of-way over the competitor returning to shore. Therefore the right-of-way rules are not applied in this situation.

Wave competitions

1. When two (2) or more competitors are looking for a wave, the right of way is for the first competitor on the wave, or when they catch it at the same time, for the most upwind competitor.
2. All freestyle right-of-way rules are applied in wave competitions except when they interfere with wave right-of-way rules. In that case freestyle rules of right-of-way shall be excluded.

Judging

Judges

1. Head Judge is responsible for ruling on interference situations.
2. Judges are allowed to help each other to call tricks, to ensure no judge misses any tricks.

Judges tower/area

1. All judges, Head judge, Race director and announcer must have an unrestricted view of the full width of competition area at all times.
2. Judges tower/area must be facing the competition area.
3. No one except judges, Head judge, Race director, beach marshall, time keepers, flag marshall are allowed into judges tower/area unless the race director accepts someone else.

Judging criteria

Freestyle events

1. Competitors shall be judged upon 3 criterias:
2. Technical difficulty (considering height and power)
3. Variety (demonstrate ability to perform on both tacks, rotations in either direction, off-axis, power and high moves)
4. Overall impression (considering style, quality vs quantity, innovation and "wow" factor)

Best trick

All landed moves are scored but the single most impressive move wins

Competitors shall be judged upon 2 criteria:

- Technical difficulty (considering height and power)
- Overall impression (considering style, quality vs quantity, innovation and "wow" factor)

Discipline Policy

General rules

1. Under no circumstances of any kind a competitor is allowed to assault judges, officials, event staff, other competitors, media or public.
2. Under no circumstances of any kind a competitor is allowed to make rude gestures to judges, officials, event staff, other competitors, media or public.
3. A competitor may not abuse it's own equipment during event in the contest area.
4. Under no circumstances of any kind a competitor is allowed to throw his/her equipment over spectators or let go on purpose his/her kite or board flying over the competing site.

The Organizing Committee
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