

Kiwi Open 2016

Local Rules

v1.0

1. Competition Rules

The Kiwi Open is being run in accordance with Version 17 of the NZHGPA Paragliding Competition Rules. These Local Rules provide clarification and exceptions to those rules.

2. Roles, Personnel and Committees

2.1. Competition Organiser

The Competition Organiser for the competition is **Mark Hardman** (NZL).

2.2. Launch Director

The Launch Director for the competition is **Melanie Heather** (NZL).

Melanie will be assisted by **Rob Boyle**. Other assistants may be appointed. Launch assistants may be delegated authority to carry out any of the responsibilities held by the Launch Director.

2.3. Technical Delegate

The Technical Delegate for the competition is **Johnny Hopper** (NZL).

2.4. Scorer

The Scorer for the competition is **Johnny Hopper** (NZL).

2.5. Task Committee

Rule 2.3.2 of the NZHGPA Paragliding Competition Rules defines the Task Committee as the Pilots Committee and the Competition Organiser. The Pilots Committee is a two-person committee and must be elected by the competitors. In this instance, the role of the Competition Organiser on the Task Committee will be delegated to a third elected member.

The following pilots have accepted nomination for election to the Task Committee:

- Gareth Carter (AUS)
- Craig Collings (AUS)
- Evan Lamberton (NZL)

Further nominations to the Task Committee will be accepted should it be considered necessary by pilots at the first competition briefing.

2.6. Safety Committee

A three-person Safety Committee will be elected at the first competition briefing. Their responsibility is to assess flying conditions and the task with a particular focus on safety issues, and liaise with the Task Committee and the Competition Organiser as required.

Members of the Safety Committee will be required to fly on the Safety Frequency (5.1).

3. Equipment

3.1. Paragliders

Permitted gliders are discussed in section 3.5 of the NZHGPA Paragliding Competition Rules. Only those Certified Competition Class paragliders as specifically mentioned and certified as compliant by the FAI and listed as per FAI regulations will be accepted.

As the competition is being held outside of New Zealand, paragliders are not required to hold WOF. It is the pilot's responsibility to ensure all equipment is of an airworthy standard.

Other applicable equipment standards are prescribed in section 3.5 of the NZHGPA Paragliding Competition Rules.

4. Launch Procedure

4.1. Ordered Launch

An ordered launch procedure will be followed.

4.2. Launch Slots and Validity

Unless briefed otherwise, for the purpose of Launch Validity, the following number of launch slots will be applied:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------|
| • North East Launch | 6 slots |
| • West Launch | 6 slots |
| • South Launch | 3 slots |
| • South East Launch | 3 slots |
| • East Launch | 3 slots |

More than one launch may be used when conditions permit. In such circumstances, the total number of available slots (for Launch Validity) will be cumulative.

The status of each launch (active or closed) will be announced as part of the task briefing.

In difficult conditions, the number of slots available on launch may be reduced. Details will be recorded and will be incorporated into any Launch Validity calculations.

Where space and conditions allow, additional pilots may be permitted to spread out behind the active slots on launch.

For a task to be valid, the launch must have been open for at least two minutes per competitor divided by the number of launch slots available.

4.3. Launch Order

Launch Order will be determined by a pilot's overall position in the competition. Highest ranked pilots will have first preference in the queue.

Prior to the first scoring task, Launch Order will be determined based on WPRS points (as at 1 Jan 2016). Unranked pilots will follow ranked pilots. Unranked pilots will be ordered randomly.

There will be 15 minutes of Open Launch at the start of each task. Pilots launching in this period will be required to queue on a first come basis.

4.4. Launch Queue and Sign-In

Pilots must queue at the launch they intend to launch from. Each pilot is free to choose which of the active launches they use.

Pilots must queue in their Launch Order (except in the Open Launch period). When they reach the front of a launch queue, they will be Signed In.

Once a pilot is Signed In they can step into the Box. If a pilot does not want to step into the Box, pilots behind them in the queue are entitled to step into the Box.

Once a pilot is in the Box, pilots on that particular launch will be given two minutes to launch or vacate their slot. A reasonable time will be allowed for pilots to spread their gliders and this time will not be included in their two minutes.

If a pilot vacates launch without launching or does not proceed onto launch having been in the Box, they have two options:

- Re-join the launch queue on the same launch at the back of the queue, or
- Join the queue for an alternative active launch. They must queue in the following positions:
 - In Launch Order position if they have not been in the Box on the launch they are queueing for, or
 - At the back of the queue if they have been in the Box on the launch they are queueing for.

4.5. Launch Suspension

Once the launch window has opened, launching from one or more of the active launches may be suspended. This can be carried out by the Competition Organiser, Launch Director (or one of their assistants), or by a simple majority of the Safety Committee for safety reasons.

The duration of any closure(s) will be recorded for the purpose of ensuring Launch Validity.

5. Radios

5.1. Safety Frequency

All pilots are required to monitor the Safety Frequency either directly or indirectly.

Where pilots choose to fly on a Team Channel, at least one team member must monitor the Safety Frequency and must relay safety messages on their Team Channel.

It is each pilot's responsibility to ensure they are able to receive safety messages. Where a pilot suspects they are not receiving safety messages, they must begin monitoring the Safety Frequency personally.

5.2. Team Channels

Team Channels must be notified to either the Competition Organiser or Launch Director at an acceptable time.

6. Scoring and Tasks

6.1. Scoring Parameters

- Nominal Time 1.5 hours
- Nominal Distance 35 km
- Minimum Distance 5 km

6.2. Task Validation Criteria

Unless briefed otherwise, Task Validation Criteria will be:

18 pilots, 10km

6.3. Stopped Tasks

The Competition Organiser or Safety Committee may stop a task for safety reasons.

A member of the competition organisational team (including the Safety Committee) may make reference to a task being cancelled. Should this term be used to describe a task that is currently underway, it will take on the meaning of a stopped task.

For the Safety Committee to stop a task, a simple majority is required.

The Competition Organiser can stop a task without the support of the Safety Committee, but cannot override a Safety Committee decision to stop a task.

A stopped task will subsequently be cancelled should any of the following not be met:

- Task Validation Criteria
- Launch Validity

- 50% of pilots must have launched

In a stopped task, each pilot's score will be determined from their GPS track log position ten minutes prior to the task being stopped (measured to the nearest minute).

A height above goal bonus will be applied based on 4:1 glide at the time of scoring.

6.4. Re-flights

Unless briefed otherwise, re-flights will be permitted. Pilots re-flying must join the launch queue for their second flight and do so behind all pilots queueing for their first flight. Pilots queue on a first come basis when re-flying.

6.5. Re-flight Zone

To be eligible for a re-flight, pilots must land within 5km of the launch (coordinates).

6.6. Jump the Gun

Unless briefed otherwise for a particular task, jumping the gun will be permitted with the penalties defined in section 2.5.7.2 of the New Zealand Paragliding Competition Rules.

6.7. Airspace (Including CTAFs)

Competition pilots are not permitted to fly through any controlled airspace, CTAF or any other airspace requiring the use of a VHF radio. Flying in such airspace will trigger the airspace infringement penalty. This applies to any competition flight, including before the start or following completion of a task.

6.8. Airspace Tolerance

GPS altitude will be used for altitude verification. A zero tolerance will be applied to any vertical infringement.

A zero tolerance will be applied to any horizontal airspace infringement.

6.9. Penalties

Penalties are discussed in section 2.9 of the NZHGPA Paragliding Competition Rules. Exceptions and additions are as follows:

- Airspace infringement – 500 points or zero for task, whichever is more severe.
- Intentions improper use of Safety Frequency – 200 points or zero for the task, whichever is more severe.
- Failure to upload tracklog by deadline without acceptable reason – 200 points or zero for the task, whichever is more severe.
- Failure to sign out by deadline without acceptable reason – 200 points or zero for the task, whichever is more severe.

- Launching from a closed launch (without signing out prior) – 200 points or zero for the task, whichever is more severe.