



# Competition rules

## 1. PRESENTATION

X-Slovenia is a competition that takes place on the territory of the Republic of Slovenia, and in which you can try to get from the start to the finish of the race as fast as possible, either on foot or by paraglider (through intermediate turnpoints and checkpoints).

Due to the relatively short route (task) and the lower Slovenian mountains, the competition is intended for both experienced hike-and-flyers and pilots who do not have much experience with such competitions but still want to try their hand at this interesting Hike & Fly adventure.

Both women and men can participate in the competition. The word “participant“ is used for all participants, regardless of gender.

## 2. THE COURSE OF THE COMPETITION

The competition will be held for 3 days, from 14th to 16th May 2023, according to the following schedule:

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Day*	Hour	Event
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Wednesday, 13 September 2023	18.00	Information meeting (briefing) MANDATORY FOR ALL COMPETITORS AND SUPPORTERS***
Thursday, 14 September 2023	10.00	Competition start
Thursday, 14 September 2023	10.00–21.00	1st competition day**
Friday, 15 September 2023	06.00–21.00	2nd competition day**
Saturday, 16 September 2023	06.00–17.00	3rd competition day
Saturday, 16 September 2023	20.00	Awards ceremony and closing event

\*In case of bad weather forecast, the organizer can postpone the start of the competition for 24 hours and thus the entire schedule due to safer implementation. More in point 3.3.

\*\*Competition between 21:00 and 6:00 the next day is not allowed.

\*\*\* Each competitor must have his own assistant or supporter, hereinafter referred to as “assistant”. More in point 4.2.

## 3. ORGANIZATION

### 3.1. Organizer

The organizer of the X-Slovenia 2023 competition is DJP Kovk Ajdovščina, which cooperates with local paragliding clubs from checkpoint areas. The organizer is convened or formed by the organizing committee, which is selected or confirmed by the competition director.

### 3.2. Competition Organizing Committee

The competition organizing committee consists of the director and the members. The Organizing Committee decides in case of disagreement between the participants and has the right to punish the participants in case of violation of the competition rules. The Organizing Committee approves the final classification calculations.

### **3.3 Situation in case of postponement or cancelation of the competition**

If the weather conditions prove to be particularly unfavorable, the Organizing Committee reserves the right to postpone the start and thus the entire schedule of the race for 24 hours. It may also suspend or terminate the competition at any time. In this case, the competitors and the supporters will be notified by SMS / CHAT or phone call.

## **4. COMPETITOR AND SUPPORTER**

### **4.1 Competitor**

A competitor can only be a person who:

- is at least 18 years old or 16 years old with the written consent of a parent or legal guardian,
- is a member of the National Paragliding Association and a paragliding pilot,
- has valid liability insurance for paragliding during the competition,
- has a valid paragliding license and an IPPI Level 5 card,
- has an adult supporter.

### **4.2 Assistant**

Each competitor must have an adult supporter. A competitor may not replace his/her supporter during the competition unless he/she has received prior approval from the competition organizing committee. Each supporter can support a maximum of two competitors.

The assistant:

- provides logistical support to his competitor,
- may not carry the competitor's mandatory equipment,
- is the link between the organizer and the competitor,
- must inform the organizer of his competitor's position and condition upon request,

- must always be available via cell phone during the competition (all 24 hours a day).

## **5. REGISTRATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE**

### **5.1 Registration**

The registration is made through the application form on the website <https://airtribune.com/xslovenia-hike-and-fly-2023-national-championship/info>. During the application process, you have to fill in a questionnaire (due to the high interest, it is important to fill in the application form as completely and as soon as possible) and submit your photo, which the organizer will use to show your profile on the X-Slovenia website and social networks. When registering, the competitor provides the organizer with his personal data and those of the supporter, agreeing to the use of personal data for the purpose of safe organization of the competition. The organizer reserves the right to immediately reject the registration of a participant if he/she:

- does not meet the usual security requirements of the competition,
- does not submit all the required documents or
- does not meet the criteria of the Organizer regarding appropriate behavior in the contest.

### **5.2 Selection**

Competitors will be selected solely at the discretion of the Organizer. The Organizer will select a maximum of 50 competitors. Confirmation that the candidate has been selected will be sent to the candidate's email address, and the notification will include all necessary bank details and documentation. The list of competitors will be published on the website

<https://airtribune.com/xslovenia-hike-and-fly-2023-national-championship/pilots> and on the social networks of the X-Slovenia competition.

### **5.3 Registration fee**

After receiving the e-mail about participation in the competition, each competitor must pay the X-Slovenia 2023 competition registration fee of €100,00 within the established deadline. The transaction costs shall be borne by the competitor. At the same time, the competitor must submit all required documents to the organizer.

The registration fee includes:

- covering the costs of the organization,
- live tracker, hereinafter referred to as “Live Tracker” (for the safety and monitoring of the race),
- closing party and
- guaranteed adventure.

If a participant withdraws from the competition, the organizer is not obliged to return the paid registration fee.

#### **5.4 Permission to use messages, pictures, videos and voice messages**

Competitors allow the Organizer to use their messages, pictures, videos and voice messages for publication on the website and social networks of the X-Slovenia competition, production of video content, reports, articles and all other contributions.

#### **5.5. Doping**

Like all other sports, this competition is subject to international anti-doping laws and regulations.

### **6. COMPETITION**

#### **6.1. Basic competition rules**

- The competitor must carry at all times his mandatory flight equipment as defined in the rest of the rules.
- A competitor may use only one set of the mandatory flight equipment during the competition. In case of damage to the equipment, it can be replaced by another one only with the consent of the organizer of the competition.
- The competitor is responsible for making decisions about when, where, and how much to fly or walk in the competition, depending on weather conditions and his/her flying, physical, and psychophysical abilities. A competitor must fly only in weather conditions appropriate to his experience and knowledge. He must not neglect the fatigue factor, but at the same time he must always observe the rules and limitations set forth in these rules.
- The competitor undertakes not to expose himself to any danger.
- The participant must be accompanied by a supporter.

## 6.2 Rules of transport

The competitors are allowed to move only on foot or by paraglider. Any other kind of movement is forbidden (cycling, swimming, climbing ...). When walking or running, the participant may only use existing roads, paths and trails. The use of secondary roads, dangerous off-road paths along steep mountain ridges and via ferrata is prohibited. The competitor must also not use tunnels connecting different valleys, railroad, road or highway tunnels that are prohibited for pedestrians. Smaller, shorter tunnels or underpasses may be used if not prohibited by road signs.

All competitors are obliged to respect the no-fly zones established by the organizer and take full responsibility for the legal consequences. All competitors are obliged to comply with the VFR regulations (visual flight rules). Any competitor who violates the VFR rules assumes full responsibility for the legal consequences. In case of gross airspace violations, the competitor will be disqualified immediately. Planned and organized team-flying of a competitor with pilots not participating in the race is prohibited. Competitors who violate this rule may be reported to the Organizing Committee by their competitors. Violation of this rule may result in disqualification.

## 6.3 Task

The competition is carried out on foot or by flying with a paraglider through fixed turnpoints and control points in the prescribed order. The competitor must walk through the checkpoint on foot. At each control point there is a signing board where the competitor must sign with his own signature. The competitor must reach the turnpoint on foot or by paraglider. He must ensure that the device detects a point in the prescribed cylinder. The task is published on the website <https://airtribune.com/xslovenia-hike-and-fly-2023-national-championship/info> and on the social networks of the X-Slovenia competition

- The competition start: Lavričev trg, Ajdovščina
- control point Bovec – signing board
- turnpoint Ratitovec (the cylinder size is defined based on the weather condition and is announced on the briefing)
- control point Kobarid – signing board
- turnpoint Cerje (the cylinder size is defined based on the weather condition and is announced on the briefing)

- Goal: Picerija Anja, the official landing Log.

The competitors will receive a waypoint file with the turnpoint and control point coordinates.

## **6.4 The time of the competition, time limit and the time of the prescribed night's rest**

The competition days are specified in the schedule, which can be found in point 2 of these rules. Competitors must be at rest between 21:00 and 6:00 in the morning. The competitor is allowed to move during the rest period. However, the next day he/she must continue the competition within the 100m radius of the previous day's last point. The Live Tracker can be turned off during the rest period. The competitor must turn it back on in time, so it gets the GPS and mobile network reception before the day starts. The competitor who does not reach the control point Bovec by the end of the second competition day (21:00 on 15th September 2023) will be eliminated from the competition.

## **6.5 Scoring and ranking**

The track of each competitor must have at least one point in each cylinder mark at the turnpoints or check points. In the case of an unconfirmed turnpoint/check point, the course of the competitor's route up to the unconfirmed turnpoint/control point cylinder will be taken into account. A control point is considered to be reached when the competitor's signature is on the signing board.

The ranking of the participants corresponds to the order of arrival of the competitors at the finish. The winner is the one who has covered the distance the fastest. If no one has completed the entire task, the ranking will be based on the remaining distance to the finish. The distance is calculated from the point where the competitor was at the time of the end or interruption of the competition, regardless of whether he was on the ground or in the air.

# **7. EQUIPMENT**

## **7.1. Mandatory equipment**

The competitor must carry or fly with his mandatory equipment at all times during the competition. The mandatory equipment consists of:

- certified paraglider (EN 926-2 and 926/1 or LTF 91/90) with valid test certificate,
- certified seat, including protector (EN 1651 or LTF 91/09),
- certified rescue parachute (EN 1249) with valid test certificate,
- certified helmet (EN 966),
- cell phone with official number and contacts, will be received at the briefing,
- live tracker (provided by the organizer),
- first aid, which includes at least the first bandage, an elastic bandage and a triangular cloth.

All mandatory equipment will be checked by the organizer before the start of the competition. The equipment may also be checked during the competition by authorized persons of the Organizing Committee.

## **7.2 Recommended equipment**

We also recommend the following equipment: gloves, anorak, walking sticks, warm clothes, a knife, sunscreen and a sufficient amount of food and drink. We especially recommend the radio station for contact with the supporter and advise the competitors to always have it with them for safety reasons.

We recommend an additional navigation device (GPS). In case of proof and reference to the data of an additional navigation device, the tracking format must be set to IGC UTM WGS84 and the GPS track will be recorded at a frequency of at least 1 point per minute in the air and 1 point every 200 meters on the ground.

The recommended equipment is not controlled by the organizer. The recommended equipment (with the exception of the additional navigation device) may also be worn by a supporter or other person accompanying the competitor on the ground during the competition.

## **7.3 Tracking of a competitor**

With the help of the live tracking system, the organizer will track the race live.

Live Trackers must be on at all times during the competition.



Live Trackers must be turned off during the prescribed rest period. Starting, stopping and charging the Live Tracker is the responsibility of the competitor and / or the supporter. On the next day of competition, the Live Tracker must be reactivated within a radius of 200 meters from the last point where it was turned off the previous day.

The participant is responsible for the received Live Tracker and its charging cable. In case of damage or loss, the organizer may charge the participant for the costs.

## **8. SECURITY**

### **8.1. Reporting your status**

Each competitor must notify the organizer of his/her location directly or through his/her assistant by SMS or other direct message, no later than 30 minutes after the end of the competition day or at any time during the competition upon request of the organizer.

### **8.2 Withdrawal of a competitor**

If a competitor wishes to withdraw from the competition, he/she must inform the organizer immediately. This will stop his tracking at the point where he was at the time of notification and he will be removed from the list of active competitors.

### **8.3 Help**

After landing, the competitor must put away his paraglider IMMEDIATELY, because a deployed paraglider means: "I NEED HELP". A competitor who is in trouble near another competitor is obliged to help the latter to the best of his knowledge and ability in the current situation. If the competitor is injured and needs help, he/she must immediately call 112 and then inform the organizer. In case of an accident with a paraglider or when throwing a rescue, the organizer must be notified in any case (even if the competitor is not injured). If necessary, he informs 112 or the local mountain rescue service (GRS) so that the rescue operation is not initiated unnecessarily.

## **9. RESPECT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

All competitors and assistants undertake to respect nature and the environment.

## **10. SANCTIONING A COMPETITOR**

The Organizing Committee will decide on possible sanctions against a competitor who violates the relevant competition rules. It reserves the right to adjust the penalties depending on the severity of the violations. A penalty may also be imposed by the Organizing Committee if it considers the pilot's behavior dangerous (flying in strong wind, storm, etc.). The penalty can be imposed during the competition itself or afterwards, after checking the results.