

**75<sup>th</sup> FAI/ISC PLENARY MEETING, 1-2 FEBRUARY 2025, ROME. ITALY**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Chief Judge Report – Speed Skydiving World Championships, Beaufort	<b>AGENDA #</b>	17.2
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Arnold Hohenegger, Chief Judge		
<b>DATE:</b>	10 November 2024	<b>PAGES:</b>	Page 1 of 4



## CHIEF JUDGE REPORT

<b>Competition:</b>	5th FAI World Speed Skydiving Championships
<b>Events:/Classifications:</b>	Speed Skydiving Open, Speed Skydiving Female, Speed Skydiving Junior, Speed Skydiving National Team, Speed Skydiving Mixed Team
<b>Location:</b>	Beaufort N.C. USA
<b>Date:</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> Oct – 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2024
<b>Panel of Judges:</b>	Angelika Mittasch AUT Barrie Bremner NZE Bert Ham NED
<b>Scoring Equipment Used:</b>	<p>Intime Scoring / FlySight Intime Operator: Clair King / Dirk Venter Technical Scoring Director: Gary Taylor</p> <p><u>Speed Measurement Devices</u> In Beaufort we were confronted with an unusual high number of re-jumps because of “<i>bad GPS readings</i>”. Since SP switched to GPS measurement, we never faced a situation like this and WS, which is using the same device way longer, neither. In SP the re-jump ratio is somewhere between 0% to maximum 2%. In Beaufort it was 7%.</p> <p>Because of this re-jump situation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the competitors received an additional briefing from the Technical Scoring Director “<i>what is necessary from the competitor side to get best GPS readings possible</i>”</li> <li>- as usual the judges strictly followed the mandatory cold-start and warm-start procedures</li> <li>- the technical scoring director and the manufacturer started immediately an onsite and remote analysis of the bad data to identify the causes of this situation</li> </ul> <p>A first outcome is, that the devices worked perfect at cold-start/warm-start, handout to competitor, in the plane during taxiing and take off. At an altitude of appx. 100 feet the effected devices lost all satellite signals. This is more than unusual. During pre-event training a couple of competitors made the same experience the first time. A big thank you to Gary Taylor who immediately started with the analysis of the data, beside his important duties as TSD. You did a great job Gary.</p> <p>The device was working very reliable since it was used the first time for WS and SP competitions. It is the wrong approach to question or blame an approved device because one situation in years. I have complete confidence that manufacturer, technical scoring director and both committees involved will have further on a sharp eye on this.</p>
<b>Details of the Judges Work:</b> <i>(including judging statistics)</i>	All judges did their work on high standard and worked very well as a team too. This includes:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- attachment of the Speed Measurement Device (SMD)</li> <li>- preparing SMDs every day and before every round (cold starts and warm starts)</li> <li>- uploading and analyzing data</li> <li>- transferring helmets from the charging area in the hanger to the distribution area on the other side of the apron.</li> <li>- random weight checks done by CJ</li> </ul> <p>Big thanks to all volunteers helping my panel, especially to Tamara Koyn who assisted us all event long. Barrie Bremner is eligible and also ready to work as a CJ.</p> <p><u>Statistics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 44 competitors from 10 NACs attended the championships</li> <li>- including 14 female and 2 junior competitors</li> <li>- 7 NACs registered National Teams</li> <li>- 12 teams from 7 NACs were registered for the Mixed Team competition (which was held the first time at an FCE).</li> <li>- Speed Skydiving Open: 352 jumps + 24 re-jumps</li> <li>- Mixed Team Event: 24 jumps + 8 re-jumps</li> <li>- In Total: 408 jumps judged</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recommendations for Organisers:</b></p>	<p><u>Communication</u></p> <p>The notification system (burble) was used not just to publish load information, it was used for “calling” the competitors as well (15- minute and 5-minute calls). In situations where things changed quick the system confused the competitors and caused some verbal complaints.</p> <p>For official announcements an open WhatsApp group was used. There was a lot of communication and discussion other than official competition related information in this channel as well. Competitors, delegation officials and judges struggled often filtering the relevant information.</p> <p>Good internet and/or WiFi connection is important to use burble and WhatsApp. Sometimes this was an issue too (WiFi and/or internet performance). Both tools are helpful. To avoid questions and complaints a loudspeaker system for calls and the official Notice Board for important competition information shall be used.</p>
<p><b>Rule Changes – Proposals:</b></p>	<p><u>Safe Equipment 4.1.4:</u> because of concerns to become responsible in case of an incident, riggers refused doing a gear-check according to our rules. We should make clear in our rules that the competitors themselves are responsible to use and jump a save gear. The mandatory equipment-check prior the competition is mainly a safety awareness building action. In Beaufort a corresponding note was published and afterwards shared with the SP committee. The equipment check was done by the CJ.</p> <p><u>Collation of Score Sheets 6.2.2:</u> collating individual scores it is well described in the rules. For team event scores it is not described very well and this causes misunderstanding by the scoring system provider = just showing team totals, not average. Average is needed for records.</p>

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	<p><u>Mixed Team event, Annex 1:</u> to some NAC it was not clear that more than 1 team per NAC can be registered for this event. That shall be clarified.</p> <p><u>Helmets:</u> it is nothing in the rules that the helmets are staying with the judges as soon as the SMD is attached. Some of the american competitors questioned that. This shall be covered in the CR.</p>
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<b>Personal Remarks:</b>	<p>The organizer did a perfect job in preparing this event:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a hotel with everything we needed just 15 minutes from the DZ</li> <li>- the rental cars we used for the transport to the venue, the local transport and the transport back to the airport, gave us maximum flexibility</li> <li>- the free choice where to have dinner was very nice and gave us the opportunity to get in contact with the locals of Beaufort. And my team and me, we found the people of Beaufort very hospitable and interested in what we are doing in our sport.</li> <li>- this was an experience I had the very first time in a FCE ... thank you for that experience</li> <li>- the provided helmet storage and charging rig is a clever and working solution, it can be proposed to other organisers</li> <li>- the judging area in the hangar had a perfect setup ... maybe the inkjet printers were a little under the overall high standard of the event</li> </ul> <p>The WS CJ and me, we shared our knowledge with the organizer and sometimes gave advice to the organizer as well, way before the competition start. I hope our expert information and advice was welcome and helpful. It was given in the best interest to our sport and our competitors.</p> <p>The joint preparation with the WS CJ prior the competition was very well and paid off on arrival at the DZ and during the event.</p> <p>The WS and SP judge panel was not just close in the hanger, we gave each other a hand whenever it was needed. At the last competition day, when we run out of volunteers, the AE Judges assisted WS und SP too. This was a special and good experience as well and was made possible by the overall setup the organizer arranged.</p> <p>My special thanks are going to Meet Director Melissa Nelson and Assistant to the Chief Judges Marylou Laughlin. I really appreciated their expertise, their professionalism, their support, their cooperation and their ability and willingness to stay calm and looking for solutions when things did not run well. Thank you, Melissa! Thank you, Marylou!</p> <p>Thank you very much ISC, for giving me the opportunity to serve our sport as a Chief Judge. It was an honor. All to our sport and our competitors.</p>
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In accordance with the Sporting code Section 5, 6.7.1(5) this form is to be completed and sent to the Chair of the Judge’s Committee and the ISC Recording Secretary within 30 days of the competition’s completion.

<b>Name:</b>	Arnold Hohenegger
<b>Signature:</b>	

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	<b>Arnold Hohenegger, MBA</b> <b>FAI Judge, Austria F-408</b>
<b>Date:</b>	November 10 <sup>th</sup> 2024