



June 15, 2025

## WORLD GAMES 2025 - JUDGES GUIDE

The present guide is based on the 2025 World Games Drone Racing Sporting Rules document edition 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025.

### 1- Contest organisation

Three stages: qualification, elimination and final.

Each round for the qualification and elimination stages will be organised with 4 competitors per race.

All races will be limited to 3 minutes flight time with 3 consecutive laps to complete. As soon as a competitor has completed 3 laps or when the 3 minutes flight time is over, he/she must land the model.

#### **Qualification stage**

The qualifying stage is planned with 5 qualifying rounds with a different draw for each qualifying round.

**Note:** Races with less than 4 competitors, for example in case of withdrawal of a competitor, will be put at the end of the draw of the round, in order to allow a complete competitors race with competitor(s) that have been granted a reflight in that qualifying round. If necessary, the last groups of each qualifying round will be rearranged by the Competition Manager and the Supervisor Judge in order to achieve as much as possible a minimum of 3 competitors per group.

The results of each competitor will be:

- in a qualification round, the registered times for each valid lap completed (with a maximum of 3),
- and for the qualification stage, the average of the 3 fastest times registered to perform a valid lap taking in all the qualifying rounds.

#### **Elimination stage**

All 32 competitors will be selected for the elimination stage.

The elimination stage will be run by applying the scenario B and the double elimination sequence.

The placing for each race is determined by considering the registered time to complete 3 laps.

Those who do not finish their flight will be placed in the race considering the number of laps they did complete and the registered time in which those laps were completed. Disqualified competitor(s) will be placed at the end after the competitors getting a registered time or having not finished their first lap.

The two best placed in each race will be directly selected for the next round. In case of a tie for the second place, the placing in the ranking established at the end of the qualifying stage will be considered to define who is selected for the next round.

#### **Final stage**

The final stage will be run with successive final races.

The placing for each final race is determined by considering the registered time to complete 3 laps. Those who do not finish their flight will be placed in the race considering the number of laps they did complete and the registered time in which those laps were completed. Disqualified competitor(s) will be placed at the end after the competitors getting a registered time or having not finished their first lap.

The final is over as soon as a finalist competitor has won two final races. This competitor is the winner of the competition.

For the final ranking for 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> places, points will be allocated as follows in each final race: 1 point for the first placed, 2 points for the second, 3 points for the third and 4 points for the fourth.

The ranking of the finalists concerned will be done taking into account their sum of points in all the final races, the finalist with the lower sum of points being placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, and so on.

In case of a tie, the placing in the last final race will be considered to split the tie for the concerned finalists.

## **2- Flight occurrences**

### **Obstacle damaged or destroyed during the race**

When an obstacle is accidentally damaged or destroyed during a race, the competitors will be informed by the Starter as soon as possible of the incident and how to proceed.

In the case where it concerns an obstacle to be crossed (air gate, tunnel,...), the decision may be to continue to cross the obstacle, or to give permission to bypass it, or to stop the race. When bypassing of the concerned obstacle is authorised, competitors must do their best not to take advantage of the situation.

In case it concerns an obstacle to be avoided, the race will continue except if it is decided differently considering for example that safety is impacted. When race continues, competitors must do their best to follow the track and not to take advantage of the situation.

### **Faults and penalties**

In the case a competitor does not fly on the expected way (does not cross an obstacle, misses a pylon or flag, does a circuit cut ...) the corresponding circuit lap will not be validated. The competitor may try to execute immediately and in a safe manner a manoeuvre to correct the mistake.

If the competitor corrects its mistake, the lap will be validated.

If during this manoeuvre the competitor has a collision with another model, the competitor will be disqualified for the race.

### **Crash**

If a model cannot go on after a crash, it must stay on the ground with motors cut off until the end of the race.

The competitor concerned must immediately activate the pit mode on their model to avoid causing video interference for the other competitors still flying in the race.

The competitor must clearly indicate that he/she stopped the race by removing his/her headset google.

The competitor and the helper must then stay quiet in their position until the race is finished.

### **Safety issue**

A competitor can be requested to stop to fly if it is considered the model no longer meets acceptable safety standards. It could be for example the case when a model is damaged after a collision or after a crash, or when the battery is dangling.

In case of a serious safety issue, the Starter may decide to stop the race and disqualify the competitor(s) eventually responsible of the safety issue. A restart of the race will be done for the competitors who had not been disqualified and were still in the air when the safety issue occurred.

## **3- Reflights**

Possibility of an individual reflight will only be considered for the qualification stage in situations where an incident outside of the competitor's control prevents them from completing their flight.

Granting of a reflight is decided by the Supervisor Judge in cooperation with the Pilot Judge concerned and, where necessary, with the Starter.

The reflights will be organised at the end of the qualifying round concerned, or as part of any race with less than 4 competitors.

For any competitor being granted a reflight, the original flight for which the competitor has been granted the reflight is then definitively cancelled.

For the rest of the event, individual reflights will not be awarded.

#### **4- Restarts**

A full race restart will be considered for the elimination stage, final stage and, where appropriate, additional rounds sequence, in the following situations:

- Mid-air collision occurring before the first gate. Only one restart will be allowed per race.
- Critical safety incident (such as a fire, or unauthorised person on the track) requiring the Starter to stop the race.
- External incident preventing one or more competitors from competing fairly.
- Deliberate incident by a competitor taking part in the race that is identified to have given them an unfair advantage over the other competitors in that race.

Will be excluded from restarts any competitor:

- who caused the safety incident,
- who had already signalled they were out of the race (by removing their goggles) at the time of such an incident,
- found to have given themselves unfair advantage through contravening the rules.

Competitors will be given the opportunity to swap a fresh battery pack before the restart.

#### **5- Disqualification from the race**

A competitor may be disqualified from a race in the following circumstances:

- Start before the start signal.
- Collision with another model when executing a manoeuvre to correct a mistake.
- Circuit exit (crossing of the safety line).
- Flying after having removed even temporarily his/her headset goggle.
- Celebratory manoeuvre, especially after the competitor finishes.
- Hazardous piloting or safety issue.

The disqualification is decided by the Starter or, where applicable, by the Pilot Judge assigned to the concerned competitor.

When a competitor is disqualified, he/she must land as soon as he/she has been informed. In any case, the result of the competitor for the race will not be validated.

Competitor(s) disqualified will be placed for the race after the other competitors. In case more than one competitor is disqualified from the race, the competitors concerned will be placed taking into account the qualification stage ranking.

If a competitor disqualified from a race is considered not being sufficiently cooperative to land, the concerned competitor may be disqualified from the event.

#### **6- Pilot Judge role and responsibilities**

Each competitor will be accompanied in the race by a judge standing behind the competitor and the helper.

Except under an exceptional circumstance, the judge's panel will not change for a complete round of flights.

#### **a) Judge equipment**

It is recommended that each judge prepares his/her own document with the racing circuit pattern in order to better memorize the track with position of air gates, obstacles and turns.

An electronic timing system will be used; so, the judges will not be required to do manual timekeeping.

Each judge will have a specially configured iPad tablet for monitoring race progress, and DVR review of the race if necessary.

#### **b) Judge potential conflict of interest**

In order to simplify organisation and improve the understanding of the races by the public, a colour will be assigned according to the draw order in each group of competitors.

For every round of flights, each judge will be allocated a colour. In that situation, the judge will stay at the same place for the different races of a round.

***A judge will not judge a competitor of his own country to avoid any complaint justified by a potential conflict of interest. Where a competitor has been assigned a seat that coincides with the nationality of the judge allocated to that colour, the judge will swap with another judge for the concerned race. Such situations will be managed on behalf the Supervisor Judge.***

#### **c) Role of the judge for the race**

Before the start of the race, the judge must carefully check that the competitor corresponds to the good colour.

During the race, the judge will monitor that the competitor follows the circuit and crosses every gate and obstacle correctly.

***A competitor removing his/her headset google during the race will be considered as having definitively stopped to fly.***

Limited communication must occur during the race between the judge and the competitor or helper. The judge will normally communicate with the competitor and the helper only to inform the competitor finished its race or is disqualified. The other notifications will be addressed when the race is finished.

***Note: In case of a disqualification, the number of circuit laps completed when the competitor is disqualified will be recorded and communicated to the concerned competitor.***

### **7- Supervisor Judge role and responsibilities**

A Supervisor Judge is appointed in addition to the Pilot Judges.

Before any race, the Supervisor Judge will check that there is no situation of potential conflict of interest between each judge and his/her assigned competitor.

When the race is finished, the Supervisor Judge will:

- support as necessary a judge in case of doubt for a reflight, or to pronounce a disqualification from the race;
- take care that each iPad tablet is signed by the judge and then by the team-manager or the competitor concerned;
- manage the complaints from team managers/competitors.

### **8- Use of the iPads tablets**

Before the beginning of each race, each Pilot Judge will be asked to confirm a good view of the video transmitted from the model concerned.

At beginning of each race, judges will focus carefully on their iPad tablet to follow the race of their competitor.

When/if it looks that the competitor don't fly on the expected way (don't cross an obstacle, misses a pylon or flag, does a circuit cut ...), the judge will tap on the iPad tablet screen to mark that moment in time while letting the race continue. This allows to review rapidly the case when the race is finished.

Once the race is finished, the timing system generates protocols or results. Protocols must be signed by judges either using specially configured iPad or paper hardcopies. Once all protocols signed, final flight results are calculated and flight is closed allowing next flight to be started.