

Subject:	ISC Speed Skydiving Committee Annual Report 2025	Annex No.:	18
Author:	Gernot Rittenschober, Speed Skydiving Committee Chair		
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SPEED SKYDIVING COMMITTEE Annual Report - ISC MEETING 2026



Content:

- **1. Committee members**
- **2. SP FCE and other competitions 2025**
- **3. Proposals for changes to competition rules 2026**
- **4. Future competitions**
- **5. Other topics**

1. Committee members 2025/ 2026:

Chair: RITTENSCHOBBER Gernot
 Deputy Chair: HOHENEGGER Arnold
 Members: COOPER Michael
 DANIEL Niklas
 HAM Bert
 HEPP Marco
 LOVEMORE Michael
 LUNDQVIST Sara
 TURNER Shane (2026 -> O' CONNELL Mervyn)

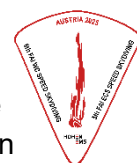
One change for 2026 (Shane stepped down and Mervyn is NAC approved candidate)

With strong representation from competitors across all continents where SP is currently practiced, and with event organisers, technical and judging experts serving on the SP Committee, we're on the right track.

2. 1. FAI FCE Competition – 2025

The 6th SP World Cup and 5th European Championships 2025 was held in Hohenems/ Austria from 25th to 30th August 2025.

In spite of difficult weather conditions with some rain and cloudy conditions, all of the Open and two of three Mixed Team rounds were completed thanks to good cooperation and some rule changes that were jury approved. (e.g. training jump moved forward and early competition start or 45 minutes between two jumps voluntarily waived by some concerned participants).



There was again a significant increase in number of SP participants at a FCE:

Participation 2025 FCE:

(+/- change to 2024)

61 participants (+17)

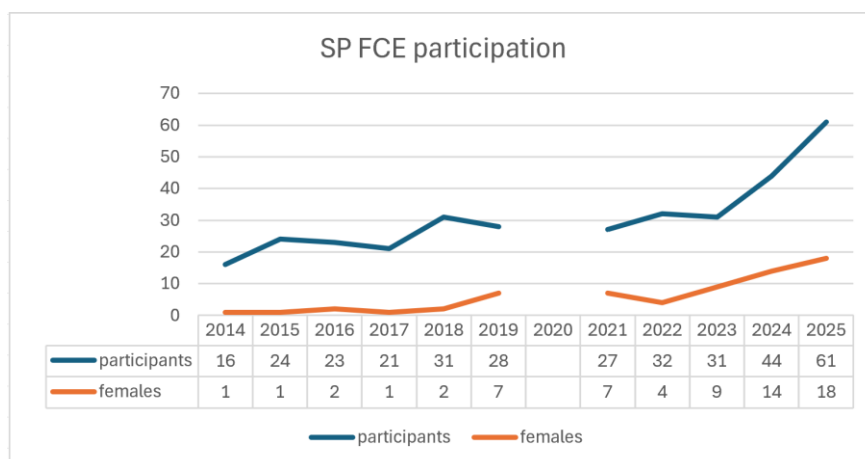
including:

18 female (+4)

9 juniors (+7)

7 national (+/- 0)

16 mixed teams (+4).



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The official reports and the feedback during the competitor's meeting were positive and constructive. Proposals for the Competition rules were discussed and included in this agenda annex (see below 3.)

The 2025 ISC record claim and ratification process worked very well, all new FAI records were ratified within a week. <https://www.wcsp2025.at/it-was-an-event-of-records/>

The main goal of the entire SP Committee (to share knowledge, promote the sport worldwide and to provide best conditions for all SP competitors) has been achieved.

However, one area for improvement was identified:

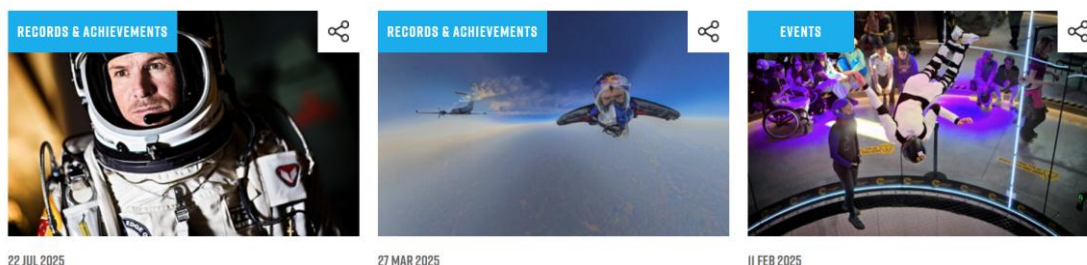
Regarding media coverage it seems that we were lucky because our Jury President Elisabet did feed both the FAI Mini Site <https://www.fai.org/isc-hohenems2025> with daily articles and also put some posts on ISC social media platforms upon her own initiative.

The competition website www.wcsp2025 had also a significant number of hits and the main stories, pictures and videos still can be found at <https://www.wcsp2025.at/blog/>

But it seems that the presence of ISC FCEs at the FAI website and FAI general news is close to zero although all information and links to pictures were shared both with isc-media@fai.org and with communication@fai.org.

A quick search (no thorough media analysis) at fai.org brought following statistics (January to September 2025):

- 114 posts in total
- top posts by commission:
 - 39 Aeromodelling (Drone included), 21 FAI, 18 Ballooning, 10 Gliding = 88 posts
- top posts by sport ... 21 Drones, 18 Aeromodelling, 17 Ballooning, 10 Gliding = 87 posts
- Skydiving: **3 posts in total**, in memoriam(Jul), WS record (Mar), Indoor Para Skydiving (Feb)



Some action/ consideration from the appropriate ISC officers or working group is suggested.

2.2. Other Competitions – 2025

ISSA

There were 8 ISSA World Cup Series events on the 2025 calendar of which two more (Moruya/ AUS and Dunkeswell/ GBR) than before (Bad Saulgau/GER and Fano/ITA) were also registered as FAI Second Category Events (SCE) (i.e. 50% of all ISSA)

<https://www.issa.one/issa-world-cup-series-2025/>

ISSA also maintains an eternal ranking list with the personal best of every Speed Skydiving athlete.

Since last year the list has grown from 292 to 358 names which shows the worldwide potential of Speed Skydiving. <https://www.issa.one/speed-skydiving-eternal-ranking-gps/>



Several SP Nationals and smaller scale competitions were organized worldwide and a general observation is that there are growing numbers of participation at the national level as well.

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3. Changes to SP Competition Rules 2026

3.1. SP CRs There are three different types of changes:

- a) change of wording based on the R&R proposed SC5 definitions and housekeeping/clarifications: 2, 4.1.1, 4.1.12, 5.1.4, 5.4.9, 5.5.3, 6.3.3, 6.4, 9.1
- b) best practice:
 - 4.2 move the training jump out of the competition timeframe (and entry fee)
 - 4.3 change of jump order based on personal best for safety reasons
 - 5.2.2 option for more than 6 per jump run if DZ size allows
 - 6.5 remove instruction to MD and CJ about interruption due to meteo (already in SC5)
 - annex 1 option to start of mixed team before all open rounds are completed
- c) proposals from the competitors (brought forward by participants during the competitor's meeting at the end of the FCE):
 - 3 and 9.3, new master category
 - 5.3.5 all re-jumps included in the entry fee

All proposed changes and clarifications on SP CRs were thoroughly discussed, elaborated and unanimously voted by all SP Committee members.

Full text changes in ISC **red**, **blue**, **green** format are attached.

A 2026 plenary approval of the attached SP Competition Rule changes is requested.

3.2. SC5 change proposals

SC5 4.6.1. a change proposal on the number of judges was submitted to Judge Committee

SC5 4.7 a change on the selection process for the 2nd jury member on site was submitted to R&R. It is proposed that the FAI-Controller will assume this position when the FCE begins and keeps the other tasks (financial and safety) **A 2026 plenary voting on these changes is requested**

4. Future Competitions:

The SP Committee did thoroughly "*solicit bids for future FCE's*"¹ in 2027 and 2028, did send comments to ISC bureau in October and submits following recommendation to the plenary:

FCE 2026

Above mentioned SP CR changes are also proposed with the potential cost reduction for organizers in mind. (no official training jump, possibly less jump runs, free PLDs of newest generation with no GPS related re-jumps in 2025).

So in the bulletin a **reduced entry fee** is expected for the 6th SP World Championships 2026 compared to the very high bid that got a majority vote during Rome plenary².

FCEs 2027 and beyond

7th SP World Cup and 6th European Championships 2027:

The preference of SP c'tee is to have the 7th SP World Cup in Brazil and the 6th European Championships in Germany.

For 7th SP WSC 2028 the Czech bid is supported.

¹ according to c'tee task in ISC Internal Regulations Annex 5 2. (5)

² It is hard to explain why a SP competition **on the same dropzone with the same number of jumps** and same jump planes can be organized for 170\$ + jump ticket (i.e. **appr. 450\$ total entry fee**) in Dez 2025 or for **597\$ as FAI FCE** in 2022 and then at the next FCE bid for 2026 the entry fee shall be **1050\$** (+ 1xx CHF ISC sanction fee) or as it was in 2024 even **1.260\$** + 115CHF sanction fee (in 2024 including lunch)

Of course there are some FAI overhead costs for FAI officials and ceremonies, medals etc. to be added for FCEs but if this justifies **200% increased entry fee** for a single competitor compared to an ISSA event at the same dropzone, should be discussed with the organizer/ organizing NAC.

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SCEs / ISSA

The ISSA plan for 2026 is to continue with the World Series Events and to have ISSA Events (potential SCEs) also on continents outside Europe (USA, Australia).

5. AoB

A new project initiated by Nik Daniels is to collect all media promotion articles and videos about Speed Skydiving. Any contribution from NACs is welcome.

There are initiatives to reach out and to promote SP competitions to NACs that are currently under-represented on the ISC SP competition map (e.g. China, France,...).

All NAC delegates are invited to contact SP c'tee members with any question that may arise.

The FAI/ ISC special reserves investment of 50 newest generation PLDs to get more stable GPS signals from all different systems have been concluded in time before the 6th SP World Cup and 5th European Championships and all 50 units were used. There **was no re-jump** because of poor GPS signal.

The 50 PLDs are kept under custody of the SP c'tee and it is planned that they be used at future FCEs and SCEs free of charge.

Any organizer (or CJ / TSD/ FAI Controller) who wants to use these FAI owned PLDs shall contact SP c'tee isc-sp@fai.org

My sincere thank-you goes to the SP Committee members for their dedication to our sport. They contribute to Committee decision making and reporting with discussion and polls on Discord and do the grassroots work that keeps Speed Skydiving as a stable and steadily growing ISC competition discipline.

Best Regards,

Gernot Rittenschober
Speed Committee chair

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Attachement 1 to SP c'tee annual report and ISC plenary agenda annex

Revisions

VERSION	AMENDMENTS
Ver. 0.6 2025-10-09 draft	Changes in 2 (only sorted), 3, 4.1.1, 4.1.12, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1.4, 5.2.2, 5.3.5, 5.4.9, 5.5.3, 6.3.3, 6.4, 6.5, 9.1, 9.3, annex 1

2 DEFINITIONS OF WORDS AND PHRASES USED IN THESE RULES

Sorted in alphabetical order

3 THE EVENT DISCIPLINE

3.1. ~~EVENT~~ DISCIPLINE DESCRIPTION

The **Speed Skydiving** discipline will be comprised of the following **event**:

3.1.1. Speed Skydiving Open

3.1.1.1 Within the Speed Skydiving Open **event**, separate classifications will be made for following categories:

- Speed Skydiving Female
- Speed Skydiving Junior
- Speed Skydiving Junior Female
- Speed Skydiving Master
- Speed Skydiving Master Female
- Speed Skydiving National Team

3.1.1.2. Speed Skydiving Junior will include all participants under the age of 25 as defined in **SC5 1.1.2.10**.

3.1.1.3. Speed Skydiving Master will include all participants over the age of 50 as defined in **SC5 1.1.2.XX**

3.1.1.4. The placements in the separate **categories classifications** are determined during the Open **event** rounds using the Open **event** scores, not through separate jumps. The minimum number of participants in **any category** classification to be valid and to award medals is four (4).

numbering of references and wording as per SC5 definitions and SC5 4.10. still subject to the final SC5 Clarification that female juniors are included in the junior result list too, regardless if there are enough (4) for the additional Junior Female podium

Added Master category as requested during the SP competitors' meeting.

3.1.1.5. The final scores in the open **event competition** are carried across to female, junior, junior female, **master, master female** and national team **category** classifications as soon as all competitors in that classification have completed a round **during the open event**.

3.1.2. Speed Skydiving Mixed Team

3.1.2.1. The Mixed Team competition will be held in accordance with annex 1

3.1.2.2. The team members shall be registered NAC competitors who participated in SP Open. There is no additional entry fee, jumps are paid as on training days.

Clarification (mixed team medals and records were already in SC5 and 9. below, but missing here in 3)

3.2. PROGRAMME ~~OF EVENTS~~

3.2.1. The Open **event Competition** consists of 8 rounds, **the Mixed Team** of 3 rounds.

3.2.2. In each classification the minimum number of rounds **for a valid event** is one.

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~~3.2.3. The final results for the classifications are obtained from the Open event.—~~

Duplication to 3.1.

3.3. OBJECTIVE OF THE ~~EVENT~~ DISCIPLINE

The objective of the ~~event~~ Speed Skydiving discipline is for competitors to achieve the highest average vertical speed over three seconds in freefall within the performance window (see 2.4 and 5.5.1).

Wording as per SC5 definitions

4.1.1. Competitors may not wear additional weight on their body, in ~~any of their equipment~~, or on any of their equipment. Double wording in or on ...

4.1.12. Immediately after the jump, the competitor must return the PLD to the judging staff. The competitor is not allowed to read the data directly from the PLD ~~before it is registered by the judges~~.

Clarification that the competition data is exclusively used by the judges and TSD. Any further sharing of the PLD data under the discretion of the ISC Judge Committee.

4.2.1. All competitors must have the opportunity on the ~~official~~ practice day(s) prior to the start of the event to make ~~at least one official~~ training jumps, ~~weather permitting~~. The timing for training and cost per jump are specified in the bulletin 1. The training jumps are not included in the entry fee and there is no official training jump.

4.2.2. The PLDs in use in the competition, ~~and all competition rules and procedures, will~~ may be used for these jumps and the judges will mount the PLDs latest on the day prior to the start of the event.

4.2.3. The ~~official~~ training jumps ~~shall~~ may be judged by the Official Panel of Judges, or Judges in Training under direct supervision of the Chief of Judge Training, and the scores may be published.

To save competition time and lower the entry fee there is no “official training jump” any more. It is up to every competitor how many training jumps he wants before the start of the competition.

4.3. ORDER OF JUMPING

~~4.3.1.~~

The order of jumping ~~in the first round will be determined by reverse order of placing during the last World Championship~~ will be determined by the Meet Director. Each jump run will have a mix of fast, medium and slow competitors, with each competitor's speed determined by their personal best.

~~4.3.2. Individuals not covered by this procedure will jump at the beginning or end of the first round, with order determined at the discretion of the Meet Director and Chief Judge.~~

~~4.3.3. Time permitting, and at the discretion of the Meet Director, reverse order of ranking may be used for all other rounds~~

CRs 4.3 text (reverse order of last World Championships in round one and then reverse ranking) was copied from other Skydiving disciplines (AL) back in 2014 and remained unchanged since then. If current rules would be applied, the 6 fastest would always have to jump together in one (i.e. from 2nd round the last) jump run and 6 (slow and maybe unstable) newcomers would be together in one jump run as well.

This rule was not applied as written at several championships in the past because it makes more sense that a mixture of very fast, medium and slow Speed Skydivers are jumping together in one jump run to get vertical separation in addition to the 5.1.3. horizontal separation procedure. Also to mix the jump runs with new people after every round contradicts the safety aspect as described in 5.1. and 5.2.

The procedure was tested successfully at 6th WC&5th EC.

5.1.4. Any violation of the described exit order and exit procedure rule is a safety violation as described in SC5 1.3.2. Clarification only

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5.2.2. There will be a maximum of six competitors per exit pass, but this may be ~~reduced~~ **modified** by the Meet Director **with consent of the FAI Controller** taking into consideration the aircraft size and the dropzone area.

There may be dropzone and jump plane sizes, where the strict application of six (6) is not feasible. With the proposed change 6 per pass is still standard but if there are more in a pass, it is not breaking the rules. And with the added consent of the FAI Controller (who has the responsibility for safety, a Meet Director cannot drop the whole plane in one pass and still also can go lower than 6 (e.g. if there is a smaller dropzone) Flexibility for the MD with consent of the FAI-C is key.
An additional aspect to be considered for safety is the time at drop altitude if there are less jump runs. (e.g. with a plane that has 13-14 or 19-20 seats)

5.3.5. All re-jumps in Speed Skydiving FCEs are to be covered financially by the organizer. There is no reason for a re-jump to be paid by participants.

Clarification only. In recent years some FCE bids have different ways to charge competitors for their re-jump or set a limit of one jump per person... .

5.4.9. All PLD data (GPS tracks) used for scoring or decision making (e.g. re-jump) have to be stored for competition evidence.

Clarification that also invalid and unused (re-jump) data needs to be stored.

5.5.3. In the case of a standard exit altitude of between 13,000 ft. (3,962 metres) and 14,000 ft. (4,267 metres) the performance window is the maximum of 7,400 ft. (2,256 metres). The ~~competition~~ **performance** window ends 7,400 ft. (2,256 metres) below exit altitude.

Correct wording

6.3.3. In case the round is incomplete in **the open event-competition**, but complete in any of **the separate classifications categories**, this round will be accepted as a complete round for these separate classifications. **Wording as per new SC5 definitions**

6.4.2. In ~~the event~~ **case** of a tie in **any of** the first three places, the following rules apply:

Where....

6.4.3. In ~~the event~~ **case** of a tie in **any of** the first three places in any of the **category** classifications, paragraph 6.4.2. will be applied. **Avoid ambiguous use of "event"**

~~6.5 OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES~~

~~The Meet Director and Chief Judge may decide to interrupt the event if they consider that the meteorological conditions are not safe for the conduct of the event. This decision is not grounds for a protest.~~

Delete

It is in SC5 5.2.9. what a MD and CJ have to do about meteorological conditions.

And the add on text of SP CRs that no protests can be made against an interruption is quite superfluous or even contradicting SC5 5.2.3.1. *"The MD, in close co-operation with the CJ, must take maximum advantage of favourable meteorological conditions."* if some crazy CJ or MD would stop in blue sky low wind conditions...

9.1. INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION

The title of World Champion is awarded to the first placed competitor in the Open ~~event~~ **competition**, and in each classification.

9.3 MEDALS AND AWARDS

Individual Medals – Open:

Champion, 2nd place, 3rd place

Individual Medals – Female:

Champion, 2nd place, 3rd place

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Individual Medals – Junior:	Champion, 2nd place, 3rd place
Individual Medals – Junior Female:	Champion, 2nd place, 3rd place
Individual Medals – Master:	Champion, 2nd place, 3rd place
Individual Medals – Master Female:	Champion, 2nd place, 3rd place
National Team Medals (3):	Champion, 2nd place, 3rd place
Mixed Team Medals (2):	Champion, 2nd place, 3rd place (as in addendum annex 1 below)

The minimum participation to award medals in each category and ranking list is 4 (see 3.1.1.1)

Master medals added (only if the minimum participation is reached as defined in 3.1.)

That World Cups always have “Winner” title is described in SC5

ANNEX 1 SPEED SKYDIVING MIXED TEAM

...

Competition Objective:

~~To create an additional event at Speed Skydiving competitions if time and weather permits.~~

Awarding gold, silver, and bronze medals and records to the fastest 2 person Mixed Teams.

Already in 3.1

...

Execution:

The Mixed Team competition starts ~~after the completion of the regular individual competition~~ earliest after the regular individual competition has reached the minimum (3.2.2) and is validated.

In line with 3.1, it should be possible to do a mixed team round to achieve a valid result and award medals even if the 8 rounds are not yet completed. “if time and weather permits” is already stated above and SC5 5.2.3.2. says “The MD decides the order of events at any given time...”

There is no additional entry fee, jumps are paid as on training days.