USA Response to Critique of OmniSkore-CP’s performance at the 11TH FAI WORLD CUP OF CANOPY PILOTING in the CJ report

USA respectfully submits this response in order to provide context and balance to the criticisms levied against OmniSkore by the Chief Judge of the competition. We have no wish to promote vitriol but rather to seek constructive resolution of issues and promote improvements in how all competitions are run for the benefit of the competitors.

Full disclosure - the USA Delegate also served as one of the four assistants to the Chief Judge per CPCR-7.1.3.1, and mainly was responsible to assist the scoring system operator and to help with verification of score data capture and verification.

Why is the USA Delegate defending a private entity? To USA Skydiving, OmniSkore & the Wagner brothers are as much a source of pride as any of our hosting drop zones. OmniSkore has been a major innovator and supporter of competitions such as our Nationals & Collegiates, and has made their system freely available for use by local organizers, judge trainers and individuals who wish to practice their judging skills.

We freely admit that no system is beyond the need for improvements, and OmniSkore’s CP product is still relatively young having been used now at only two First Category Events, one USPA National Championships, and a handful local meets. Many constructive suggestions have been provided to us for ways to improve the utility of the system and we appreciate them.

After reading the report, however, a reasonable person might infer that the system was entirely dysfunctional and had to be scrapped in favor of a competing vendor’s system. However, the results posted to the official results website and printed and signed by the Chief Judge and certified by the Jury - in all events - were generated by OmniSkore. This was all accomplished more than 24 hours prior to the medal ceremony.

From the report, “Judges must be supplied with approved scoresheets during competition. I also expected to receive detail scores for checking before signing and publishing. Instead, the only way to verify and locate errors in the results, was to have judges manually calculate all scores, by hand or by means of other software and compare. This way we were able to pick up all errors of wrong calculations.”

There is no truth to the suggestion that OmniSkore could not provide detailed score data in printed form for verification. Such data was provided in all events, including Freestyle, and because it was, we were given corrections to incorrectly entered individual score components, such as gate assessments, presentation & technical values, and other measurements.

At no time during or after the completion of jumping was it reported or suggested that the system was calculating scores incorrectly from captured data. We have yet to see proof of calculations that do not conform to the rules. All the scores and details are still posted to both
the official results site as well as Omniskore.com, so the ability to confirm correct calculations in this competition will exist indefinitely.

That all being said, any reasonable Chief Judge certainly should spot-check some scores for conformance with the rules, and if this Chief Judge choose to enter all data into an alternative system for verification, that’s her prerogative. However, there is no cause to claim that lacking functionality in OmniSkore made is necessary to go to such lengths.

In the end, we are grateful for constructive feedback on improvements to the system and we look forward to working further with the Judges’ & CP Committees. OmniSkore has been, and strives to continue to be at the forefront of innovation in scoring methods and enhancements.

Jim Rees  
ISC Delegate from USA