KITEMAKERS' COMPETITIONS

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RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMPETITORS

Competitors are responsible for knowing and following the rules and procedures in this rulebook. They are responsible for their own safety and the safety of those around them. They are responsible for their own kites and equipment, and are to conduct themselves at all times in a sportsmanlike and courteous manner. Competitors who do not follow these procedures may be disqualified from the competition.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPETITION

Competitors are responsible for reading and understanding these rules and procedures, and for obtaining further information on any unclear items. Competitors are responsible for making themselves aware of the location of and schedule for the competitions.

Competitors are responsible for determining the correct kite category in which their kites should be entered. Competitors who attempt to enter a category with a kite that does not qualify in that category will not be allowed to compete in that category. In case of questions about appropriate categories for individual kites, the decision of the Head Judge is final.

SAFETY

Safety for participants and spectators should be the foremost consideration of all fliers. Flying in an unsafe manner, in a manner to intentionally damage other kites, or with any kite deemed to be unsafe by the Safety Monitor or Head Judge, will be grounds for disqualification.

The Safety Crew will monitor the competition. It is their job to insure that spectators do not stray into flying areas. They are also charged with informing errant fliers of unsafe flying practices. The safety crew can advise the Head Judge that an unsafe flier should be disqualified if the flier does not cease and desist their unsafe activities.

KITES AND EQUIPMENT

Kitemakers and fliers will be expected to know the line and wind requirements for the type of kite they enter into competition. Contestants may use any type of line to fly their kites as long as it is safe and does not endanger other kites, kitefliers, or spectators.

If a contestant experiences equipment failure during the competition due to factors such as unforeseen weather conditions or accidents beyond a contestant's control, the judging panel may allow repairs by the flier if this is possible before the flight judging time is over. Contestants may not add new structural elements (such as spars or tails) or new decorative elements after the first flight attempt.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Contestants should always conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. Disruption of the activities by actions unbecoming to a kiteflier can result in the disqualification and expulsion from the event by any one of the event officials.

WIND SPEED AND RELATION TO KITE CATEGORY

Fliers are expected to know the wind requirements for the particular kite they are entering. The judges will consider the wind speed and variations in the winds during judging. Most kite types have a traditionally rated wind speed necessary for flight. Examples of possible wind speed ratings include:

Box Kites	8-25 mph
Centipedes	7-20 mph
Conynes	5-15 mph
Deltas	3-18 mph
Eddys	4-20 mph
Fighter kites	2-12 mph
Parafoils	8-30 mph
Scott Sleds	3-20 mph
Stunt or sport kites	3-25 mph
Tetrahedrals	6-15 mph
Thai Cobras, Dragons	5-20 mph.

These wind ranges are only suggestions. Innovative or technologically advanced kites will perform at wider wind ranges than those shown above, and may therefore have a competitive advantage in the eyes of the judges. Generally speaking, kites of a certain type should demonstrate particular launch, climb, flight angle, and flight characteristics in the rated wind. If the kite does not do so, it may suggest that the kite is too heavy for its type or for the available lifting surface.

DISQUALIFICATION

Competitors will be subject to disqualification by conducting themselves in an unsportsmanlike manner, disrupting the proceedings, flying or acting in an unsafe manner, or by exhibiting any form of rudeness to the judging staff or field crew. Reporting late to either the staging area or competition arenas may also result in disqualification.

PROTESTS

Fliers who believe for any reason that they have been improperly or unfairly treated may file a formal protest. Protests must be filed in written form with the Head Judge promptly following the incident. Protests shall be as specific as possible and must be filed in a manner that is not disruptive to any competition in progress. If a protest involves questions about an upcoming event, the protest should be made before the event in question begins.

The Head Judge will review the protest, gather relevant information, make a final decision, and communicate the decision to the person or persons filing the protest within a reasonable period of time.