



British Skydiving
5 Wharf Way, Glen Parva
Leicester, LE2 9TF
0116 278 5271
info@britishskydiving.org
britishskydiving.org

British Skydiving's Support for Elite Athletes

The Competitions Landscape

British Skydiving has been delegated responsibility for selecting and coordinating the British Team for First Category international skydiving competitions by the Royal Aero Club (the National Aero Sport Club (NAC) in the UK).

In turn, British Skydiving delegates the task of determining the selection, coordination, and support of elite athletes to its Elite Performance Committee (EPC).

Note: in this document, the term 'elite athlete' refers to competitors eligible to represent British Skydiving at First Category Events (FCEs), both as individual athletes and as teams.

British Skydiving's EPC supports the following disciplines based on their inclusion in FCEs:

- Artistic (Freefly and Freestyle)
- Canopy Formation (4-way Sequential, 4-way Rotations, 2-way Sequential)
- Canopy Piloting and Canopy Piloting Freestyle
- Classic Freefall Style and Accuracy Landings (Team, Male, Female)
- Formation Skydiving (4-way Open, 4-way Female, 8-way)
- Speed Skydiving (Open, Female, Male)
- Vertical Formation Skydiving (4-way)
- Wingsuit (Acrobatics and Performance)

The Competitions Budget

British Skydiving allocates a budget to EPC each year for use in supporting and developing a wide range of competitions-related activities. For example, this currently includes:

- Supporting and strengthening British Skydiving's Judging Team
- Sustaining and enhancing British Skydiving's competitions
- Retaining and improving competition equipment
- Supporting delegation attendance at FCEs
- Making best use of developing technologies, such as the InTime scoring system
- Highlighting key role models within British Skydiving

Supporting Elite Athletes

EPC's support for British Skydiving's elite athletes focuses on attendance at FCEs as part of the British Team. This document provides information regarding that support.

Form 230a (FCE Competitor Contract and Terms and Conditions) provides relevant information regarding the terms and conditions of EPC's support for elite athletes representing British Skydiving at FCEs.

To access this support, each individual athlete / team member is required to agree to, and comply with, the contractual commitments set out in Form 230a.

Objectives of Supporting FCE Attendance

EPC supports elite athletes in representing British Skydiving at FCEs in order to:

- Encourage our top competitors to excel in their discipline and support them in competing alongside other top-level athletes.
- Inspire up-and-coming elite athletes to take the next step in developing their skills by giving them opportunity to experience FCE level competitions and strengthen their international networks.
- Encourage our Technical Excellence Advisors (TEAs) to look at ways to expand or improve the participation in their discipline.
- Strengthen British Skydiving's presence on the stage of world sports.
- Return top-level skills and coaching to the membership through a range of events and resources, including British Skydiving competitions.

Support Provided for Elite Athletes Attending FCEs

When sending a delegation to an FCE, EPC appoints a Head of Delegation (HoD) / Team Manager (TM) to ensure, as far as is practicable, that the athletes can compete safely and can focus on competing to the best of their ability. A HoD / TM is also tasked with enabling all members of the delegation to represent the UK in a professional, organised and inspiring manner that aligns with British Skydiving's values.

The Events Team is responsible for preliminary and final stage registrations for FCEs. They provide administrative support, which includes liaising with FCE organisers, athletes and other relevant parties as appropriate before, during and after the event. Their responsibilities include confirming competitors' eligibility to enter the event, registering the delegation, circulating event bulletins and information, ordering uniform, collecting relevant information required for HoD/TM packs and organiser registration.

British Skydiving pays the FCE entry fee for each member of the delegation (with the exception of accompanying persons).

Each member of an FCE delegation is provided with British Skydiving branded uniform (this does not include accompanying persons).

British Skydiving's insurance agreement includes provision of a personal accident and travel policy for members of the delegation (which extends to accompanying persons but does not cover them skydiving). Please note it is the sole responsibility of each

competitor to ensure that they have appropriate insurance cover for all other aspects of their attendance at the event.

EPC supports competitors by ensuring that British Skydiving has a close connection with the International Skydiving Commission (ISC). This includes sending a Delegate / Alternate Delegate to ISC's annual meetings and supporting volunteers to become members of the ISC's various Committees.

EPC also supports our nationally qualified Judges to achieve their international ratings. This makes it possible for elite athletes to have access to FAI-rated Judges for advice and assistance, for example, during national competitions.

British Skydiving Team Selection

EPC uses British Skydiving's National Championships to select individuals and teams to represent British Skydiving FCEs. To be selected, an individual or team must have competed in the preceding National Championship for their chosen discipline and in a category equivalent to those included in an international FCE. *The individual or team** must have won Gold, Silver or Bronze in a senior category. ***

In exceptional circumstances, such as an incomplete National Championship, EPC will look to the results of a previous National Championship to select the individuals / teams to represent British Skydiving in the discipline or category affected. If that is not possible or is not appropriate, EPC will determine another suitable approach.

- * In the case of FCE categories that are not in play at British Skydiving's National Championships, such as FS 4-way Female, Accuracy Landings Female and Classic Style, the individual / team must indicate their intention to enter this category when completing the entry form for the National Championships. An individual / team is only eligible to enter a category that is not run at British Skydiving's Nationals if the following conditions are met:
 - o It is a category within the discipline that they have qualified to compete in
 - o They have qualified for selection in the Senior category of the selection event
 - o They have the correct level of experienceAny such registration must be agreed by EPC and then confirmed by the individual / team when responding to the initial invitation (see British Skydiving Team Invitation and Important Information Regarding Timelines below). Any requests for registration for additional or alternative categories received after the deadline given by the Events Team will not be considered.
- ** A qualifying team must ensure that any line-up changes to the team between the National Championships and the FCE are in accordance with the allowable changes detailed on Form 299 (Team Composition and Allowable Line-up Changes) and must inform the Events Team of any changes as soon as possible.
- *** FCE entry requires registration of five team members for the Accuracy Landing event, so individuals placing outside of Gold, Silver and Bronze will also be considered in this case. In the case of CP, where the number of allowable delegates exceeds that covered by the number of senior medalists, the decision regarding sending additional competitors will be made by EPC, if possible, in consultation with the relevant TEA(s).

British Skydiving Team Invitation

On completion of the British Skydiving National Championships for the calendar year, invitations to attend the relevant FCE will be sent to all eligible individuals / teams in each discipline. The invitation will ask individuals / teams whether they would like to compete at the FCE as a member of the British Team. There is no contractual obligation in responding to the initial invitation.

To represent British Skydiving at an FCE, each individual athlete / team member must hold a full British Skydiving membership, as well as holding a current UK Sporting License at the time of the FCE (see Form 110).

Individuals / teams must respond to the initial invitation in writing to the Events Team by the given deadline as stated in the invitation email. Responses received after the deadline will not be considered. Should an individual / team reject the FCE invitation at this point, they will then be ineligible to compete at the event as part of the British Team.

British Skydiving Team Confirmation and Competitor Contract

After the deadline for responses to the invitation has passed, the Events Team will send Form 230a and any other relevant documents to all individual athletes / members of teams who accepted.

Individuals who wish to attend must return requested information and documents by the given date(s).

If an individual athlete / team member does not agree to comply with the required obligations by set out in Form 230a, then they forfeit entry to the nominated FCE. Form 230a forms a binding contract between each individual competitor and British Skydiving.

Important Information Regarding Timelines

For EPC to comply with its own procedures and for the Events Team to provide the support detailed above, elite athletes must provide all information according to the deadlines communicated by the Events Team in relation to the nominated FCE.

It is important to recognise that the Events Team works to deadlines set by external bodies, and EPC members are volunteers who meet at set times throughout the year to conduct committee business. These constraints mean that any requests received after a deadline given by the Events Team may not be feasible.

The deadline for payment of entry fees in full is set by the FCE organisers. Therefore, any individual / team withdrawing from the nominated FCE after that deadline may be liable to repay some or all of their entry fee. Please refer to Form 230a.