
UNITED STATES PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION®



SCM 2011

SUMMARY OF CHANGES



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Effective July 2011

2011 SCM - SUMMARY OF CHANGES

About this document:

The SCM is published once each year in May, incorporating changes made by the Competition Committee at the summer and winter board meetings since the last publication date, including pertinent FAI Section 5 changes and event-specific rule changes made by the IPC at its winter meeting and subsequently adopted by USPA. The changes from the previous year's edition are summarized in part one of this document, serving as a guide for competitors, judges and officials. The summer meeting of the USPA Board of Directors generally produces few if any rules changes, for the reason that competitors need to train with a fixed set of rules. Summer revisions typically address items related to the conduct of the Nationals (e.g. reducing the number of rounds for an event), judging procedures (e.g. reducing the size of the judges' panel), changes to the state or national record program (e.g. adding a new sub-class of record), matters pertinent to the U.S. Parachute Team (e.g. a change in method of distribution funds to WPC team members), as well as correcting those errors that have surfaced and must be corrected (e.g. an error in the IPC VFS dive pool). Changes made at the USPA summer board meeting are listed in part two of this document and will be incorporated in the next year's edition, published in May.

Part One: Changes (from 2010) in the 2011 SCM:

Introduction:

Page 1 – Board of Directors approval no longer required to adopt IPC rule changes

Section 1 - General Rules:

Page 8 – Meet Director given discretionary authority (with concurrence of CJ) regarding use of wind tunnel by a competitor or team once a sequential freefall event begins

Page 9 – Clarification of jump notification: 45 minutes to first call for next competition jump, except for the first jump of day and re-jumps

Page 11 – Clarifies that excessive wind speed during a jump is grounds for a re-jump in both Accuracy Landing and Canopy Piloting events.

Section 2 - Style & Accuracy:

Page 20 – Adopts IPC language regarding wind exceedance and the offer of a re-jump

Page 20 – Adds IPC language to sudden 90° wind shift when winds are over 3 m/s rule

Page 23 – Adopts IPC language describing Deviation and Arrow penalties

Page 24 – Adopts IPC change, slight reduction in D and S penalties

Section 3 - Canopy Piloting:

Page 32 – Visor must be removed if competitor wears full-face helmet

Page 32 – Scale must be available to competitors during practice and competition

Page 33 – Red flag penalty results in striking competitor's name from the results

Page 34 – Adopts IPC language addressing canopy malfunctions/granting re-jump

Page 34 – Adds IPC rule for sudden 90° wind shift when winds are over 3 m/s

Page 34 – Windsock must be capable of responding to winds of 2 m/s or greater

Page 35 – Wind streamer must be capable of responding to winds less than 2 m/s

Page 35 – Speed Event - adopts IPC language for the ranking of results each round
Page 36 – Distance Event - adopts IPC language for the ranking of results each round
Page 38 – General Course Specifications - adopts new IPC course marker standards
Page 39 – Accuracy Course Specifications – adopts IPC grid and zone line marking standards
Page 39 – The calculation of measured results into points as per IPC methodology
Page 40 – Clarification of Distance, Accuracy, & Speed computations to get final scores
Page 40 – Title classifications for the Advanced Class

Section 4 - Canopy Formation:

Page 46 – Failure to clearly show the exit of first team member results in score of zero
Page 47 – Stairstep grip and handhold requirements changed as per IPC
Page 50 – Final Results; eliminates tie-breaking jumps, establishes tie-breaking criteria

Section 5 - Formation Skydiving:

Page 62 – New IPC language allows for contact, but prohibits assisting body contact within subgroups
Page 62 – Subgroups must remain intact with only depicted grips on other jumpers in that subgroup
Page 62 – Total separation is more stringently defined: competitors must show all grips released at one point in time and no part of arms in contact with another body

Section 5 – FS Dive Pool:

Page 69 – Block #1, Snowflake-Snowflake
Page 70 – Block #13, Offset-Spinner

Section 6 - Artistic Events:

Page 85 – Freestyle Speed round eliminated (IPC)
Page 85 – Compulsory rounds consist of three or four compulsory sequences
Page 86 – Scoring of compulsory routines: quality, correctness and presentation (IPC)
Page 86 – Judging and recording: eliminated use of chronometer (stopwatch)
Page 89 – Adopt IPC language and tables describing scoring of compulsory routines
Page 90 – Delete Speed judging and clarifies calculations for Intermediate Freestyle
Page 91 – Adopts IPC language & rules for Freelying Compulsory Sequences
Page 91 – First Compulsory Round (round 2) – new sequences
Page 92 – Second Compulsory Round (round 5) – new sequences
Page 92 – First Intermediate Compulsory Round (round 2) – new sequences
Page 93 – Second Intermediate Compulsory Round (round 5) – new sequences
Page 94 – Adopts IPC language/rules for Freestyle Compulsory Sequences
Page 94 – First Compulsory Round (round 2) – new sequences (FR-1, 2, 3 & 4)
Page 95/96 – Second Compulsory Round (round 5) – new sequences (FR-5, 6, 7 & 8)
Page 102 – Artistic Events Difficulty as per IPC
Page 103 – Freelying grading table as per IPC
Page 104 – AE Freestyle grading table as per IPC
Page 105 – Deleted “Freestyle Difficulty Considerations” paragraphs as redundant (IPC)
Page 107 – New Routine Description Form 6-7, same as IPC

Section 7 – Collegiate:

- Page 112 – Event description, 4-way FS: Star no longer automatically first formation
- Page 113 – Accuracy landing rules, adopts IPC language for wind exceedance/re-jump
- Page 113 – Adds IPC language to sudden 90° wind shift when winds are over 3 m/s rule
- Page 114 – Corrects diameter of dead-center target to 2cm (IPC)
- Page 114 – Clarifies that all four scores count in team accuracy
- Page 119 – Weather – eliminates paragraph describing wind limits, redundant to 7-1.8.

Section 8 – Judging: No changes

Section 9 – VFS:

- Page 137 – Open class - each round consists of five or six formations from dive pool
- Page 137 – Advanced class – each round consists of three or four formations
- Page 137 – Competition draw will be public (IPC)
- Page 137 – Advanced draw (max one flier upright) = changed block & random exclusions
- Page 138 – Contact is allowed between subgroups during the inter of a block sequence, but assisting handholds are not permitted (IPC)
- Page 138 – Where subgroups are shown, they must remain intact as a subgroup with only depicted grips on other jumpers in that subgroup (IPC)
- Page 139 – Deleted “equipment” from handholds permitted by jumper within subgroup or scoring formation (IPC)

Section 9 – VFS Dive Pool:

- Page 141-148 – Adopted IPC Dive Pool depictions (our thanks to Philippe Schorno of France!)
- Page 142 – Block #3, HD Accordion-HD Accordion
- Page 142 – Block #5, Mixed Accordion-Mixed Accordion
- Page 144 – Block #10, Boule-Bill
- Page 144 – Block #12, Pinweel-Pinweel (no change, clarified grips)
- Page 145 – Block #15, Bipole-Bolepi
- Page 146 – Block #16, Chimmy-Chimmy
- Page 146 – Block #17, Zin-Zan
- Page 148 – Random M, Dentri & Random N, Double Rebel

Section 10 – Nationals Site Selection:

- Page 151 – Added VFS as championship event
- Page 151 – Eliminated requirement to award bid two years in advance
- Page 151 – If bid not submitted electronically, then 25 copies of Nationals proposal and/or 10 copies of NCPC proposal must be received by HQ prior to deadline

Section 11 – U.S. Parachute Teams, Delegations & Special Teams:

- Page 167 – The method of selection of a U.S. Team and its leadership personnel is now determined by the Competition Committee (no longer the full board)
- Page 170 – Added U.S. VFS Skydiving Team, selected from Open results
- Page 170 – Under Team Advertising (during WPC years) now the TMs of six (including VFS) U.S. Teams are entitled to advertising in *Parachutist*
- Page 171 – Financial Procedures, added VFS team
- Page 172 – Added VFS team for distribution of funds from U.S. Team Trust Fund (WPC year)
- Page 172 – Revised per-capita distribution to reflect a separate VFS team (of 5)

Page 173 – The Competition Committee may now grant official sanction to individuals or teams (no longer the full board)

Section 12 – State, National and World Record Reporting Procedures:

Page 181 – Added “Speed” IPC sub-class of parachuting record

Page 182 – Deleted “3 cm” description of dead center disc, Form 12-2 (IPC)

Page 183-185 – Added IPC “Speed” record class and harmonized “Altitude” record language to conform to IPC “Speed” language

Page 187 – Added “Speed” classification on Form 12-4

Section 13 – International Parachuting Activities: No Changes

Part Two: Changes to the SCM effective July 2011:

Introduction: No changes

Section 1 - General Rules: No changes

Section 2 - Style & Accuracy: No changes

Section 3 - Canopy Piloting: No changes

General note: 2011 Nationals Chief Judge Judy Celaya made a proposal to the Competition Committee regarding using available technology to make judging faster and more accurate. The committee embraced her proposal and the resulting motion was passed by the full board:

“Move to waive SCM 4-1.14.C, 5-1.11.C and 9.1.11.C at the 2011 Nationals to allow partial playback, slow motion, and multiple views to increase the quality and speed of judging. Chief Judge Judy Celaya will report back to the competition committee the results from Nationals.”

This waiver applies to Sections 4, 5 and 9 for the 2011 U.S. National Skydiving Championships.

Section 4 – Canopy Formation:

Page 46 – Change the number of rounds in CF 8-way and CF Pro-Am to four rounds each.

Page 49 – Waive paragraph 4-1.14.C to allow partial playback, slow motion and multiple views.

Section 5 - Formation Skydiving:

Page 63 – Waive paragraph 5-1.11.C to allow partial playback, slow motion and multiple views.

Section 5 – FS Dive Pool: No changes

Section 6 - Artistic Events: No changes

Section 7 – Collegiates:

Page 119 – Change paragraph 7-1.18.B.1, “Recognition of Winners” to read:

B. Most Competitive Collegiate Competitor

1. The André Istel Memorial Scholarship, managed by the National Aeronautic Association (NAA), will be awarded to the Most Competitive Collegiate Competitor, as determined by the Meet Director, Chief Judge and USPA Controller, considering the number, competitiveness and placement in events.”

Section 8 – Judging:

The committee decided to bring USPA requirements in line with what the FAI requires, as well as eliminating the annual and bi-annual currency requirements for regional and national judges. This resulted in the following changes:

Page 130 – Change paragraph 8-1.5.D.3.d, “Initial Qualification for FAI judge” to read:

3. U.S./FAI
 - a. two years of USPA membership
 - b. meet the FAI requirements
 - c. hold the National Judge rating in that discipline for one year
 - d. judged at least two National Championships or two Second Category FAI Events or one of each in the discipline for which the judge wishes to be rated
 - e. recommendations from three U.S./FAI Judges and the USPA Board of Directors
 - f. approval from the FAI

Page 130 – Change 8-1.6, “Annual Renewal Requirements” to read:

8-1.6: Annual Renewal Requirements

- A. The Chief Judge at the U.S. National Skydiving Championships and the National Collegiate Parachuting Championships will include a list of the judges and the event(s) judged in the after action report for the respective nationals.
- B. The Director of Competition will prepare a roster of U.S. judges depicting activity in their respective disciplines for distribution. There are no specific currency requirements for regional or national judges to maintain their judge rating. FAI judges must:
 1. meet requirements of the FAI Sporting Code
 2. satisfy the evaluation standards set forth in this section
 3. judge at least one National Championship, First Category Event, or Second Category Event in the preceding two calendar years in the discipline in which the rating holder is rated.
- C. A judge’s rating will remain a permanent rating, concurrent with USPA membership.
- D. Proof of currency is the judge’s USPA membership card and judge’s logbook.
- E. To be included in the current USPA Judges List, all judges are required to contact the Director of Competition by November 1 and provide the following information:
 1. name
 2. address

3. day and evening phone numbers
4. e-mail address
5. dates, locations, and disciplines of events judged in the last 12 months

Section 9 – VFS:

Page 139 – Waive paragraph 9-1.11.C to allow partial playback, slow motion and multiple views.

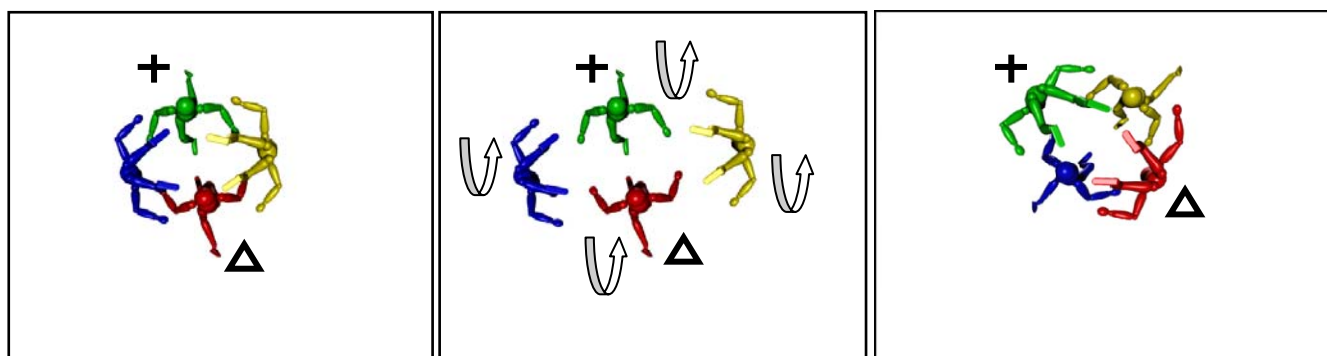
Section 9 – VFS Dive Pool:

Page 142 – Block #4, Chain Gang, correction to the “completion” frame:

CHAIN GANG

INTER

COMPLETION



Section 10 – Nationals Site Selection:

Page 151 – Revise 10-1.1 General to read:

10-1.1.General

- A. No change
- B. No change
- C. No change
- D. Bids are due January 15 of the calendar year preceding the event and will be evaluated at that Winter Board meeting.
- E. No change
- F. Deleted

Page 161 – Section 10-4, USPA National Skydiving Championships Letter of Agreement, change paragraph 10 (addresses the performance bond) to read:

10. At the signing of this Agreement, HOST will deposit with USPA \$2,000/discipline with a maximum of \$5,000. Disciplines are FS, CF, SA, AE, CP and Collegiates.

Section 11 – U.S. Parachute Teams, Delegations & Special Teams:

This section was revised extensively to accomplish the following:

- *Change/clarify and be consistent with the USPA constitution in that all teams sanctioned to represent the United States internationally are part of the U.S. Parachute Team.*
- *Keep the distinction that only the U.S. Teams that have earned the right to represent U.S. at a World Parachuting Championships are eligible for USTTF financial distributions.*

- *Team Manager does not select team; competitors qualify based on SCM criteria.*
- *Eliminate 11-3, Special Teams Section because these are in fact U.S. Teams.*
- *Include a procedure for selecting teams/team members that fall outside the standard guidelines (this is nothing new, just putting into the SCM how we actually do this).*
- *Clarify that USPTTF funds are distributed to U.S. Parachute Team Inc. only in years there is a team attending a WPC, allocated by the per capita basis stated in the SCM and go directly to competitive personnel (not including alternates) attending the WPC.*

Page 167 – Introduction and Selection of Delegation changed to read:

11-1.1: Introduction

- A. No changes
- B. Deleted
- C. Deleted
- D. Deleted

11-1.2: Selection of Delegation

- A. No changes
- B. U.S. Teams selected to represent the U.S. in World Parachuting Championships are also eligible for additional financial support from the U.S. Parachute Team Trust Fund.
- C. The criteria for selection to a U.S. Team is determined at a USPA Board of Directors meeting, normally in the calendar year preceding the competition. The method of selection is determined by a vote of the USPA Competition Committee.
- D. Leadership personnel are determined by vote of the USPA Competition Committee.
 - 1. Leadership personnel selected at this time are the Head of Delegation and Team Manager.
 - 2. One individual may fulfill both positions.
- E. The remaining delegation members are selected at the U.S. National Skydiving Championships unless another method is determined by the USPA Board of Directors.
- F. The tenure of the team (including leadership personnel) begins when they sign the team contract and ends on the last day of the international competition in which the team competes.

11-1.3: Leadership Personnel - No changes

Page 169 – Selection of Competitive Personnel changed to read:

11-1.4: Selection of Competitive Personnel

- A. The U.S. Parachute Team status for a given international competition is determined by the medal standings in the open class at the most recent USPA National Skydiving Championships that takes place at least 60 days before the meet.
- B. In unusual circumstances different criteria may be set out or used by the competition committee to select competitive personnel.

C. Process of selecting U.S. Teams

1. Competitors and teams qualify to join the U.S. Team based on the order of standing determined by the official score of the most recently completed U.S. National Championships.
2. The meet from which the results will be used to select the team must be held at least 60 days prior to the competition at which the team will compete.
3. To be considered the same team receiving a ranking from the previously held U.S. National Skydiving Championships ~~(or applicable national competition as determined by the USPA Competition Committee)~~, more than half of the team members must remain on the team for U.S. Team status in the upcoming international competition; for freestyle the performer must remain the same.

D. U.S. Teams are selected as follows:

1. U.S. Freefall Style & Accuracy Landing Team
 - a. ~~Men's team will be formed by taking the top three overall competitors, the next two best style competitors, and the next two best accuracy competitors.~~

The committee discussed changes to the selection criteria for the U.S. Style & Accuracy Team and directed the Director of Competition to poll all known male style and accuracy competitors, giving them an opportunity to vote on the matter. The committee will use the results of the poll to determine the men's team selection criteria. The two choices are:

- a. selection criteria more weighted to accuracy (determining the fourth and fifth slots):

“Men's team, consisting of five members plus an alternate, will be formed by taking the top three overall competitors, and the next two best accuracy competitors.”

Or:

- b. return to the selection criteria in place before 2010 (same as the current women's team selection criteria):

“Men's team, consisting of five members plus an alternate, will be formed by taking the top three overall competitors, the next best style competitor, and the next best accuracy competitor.”

The poll will be completed in time to present to the Chair of the Competition Committee, who will forward the chosen selection criteria to the Executive Committee to vote on as an interim action, preferably 60 days before this year's National Skydiving Championships. This selection criteria will be used to select the 2012 Men's Style & Accuracy Team.

11-1.5: Team Conduct

- A. Competitors who join the U.S. Team agree to abide by the leadership's dictation favoring the team objective and to exert every feasible effort to provide the U.S. with a team which is unified, harmonious, and prepared to represent its country in competition in a manner having the greatest possibility of securing victory and respect from its opponents.
- B. All team personnel, including the Team Manager and Head of Delegation, must sign the Team Member Contract found in this Section as a condition of their membership on the U.S. Team.
- C. No changes
- D. The Team Manager is responsible to inform the individual joining the U.S. Team that each team member is expected to abide by the letter and spirit of this document.

11-1.6: Team Advertising

- A. Each World Parachuting Championships, the USPA Board-appointed Team Manager of each of the six U.S. Teams for these events—Formation Skydiving; Freefall Style and Accuracy Landing; Canopy Formation; Canopy Piloting; Artistic Events; and Vertical Formation Skydiving—is entitled to advertising in *Parachutist* Magazine:

11-2: Financial Procedures-U.S. Parachute Team

Changed to reflect the following motions:

“Move to Change SCM Section 11-2 to reflect that USPTTF monies will be allocated to the U.S. Parachute Team on an annual basis though those monies will only be distributed to the U.S. Parachute Team Inc. in years in which there is a team attending a World Parachuting Championships”

“Move to Change SCM Section 11-2 so that the per capita allocations from the U.S. Parachute Team Trust Fund are distributed directly to the competitive personnel (not including alternates) attending the World Parachuting Championships.”

Page 171-172 – Accordingly, the following paragraphs in Section 11-2 are changed to read:

11-2.1: Scope

- A. The purpose of this section is to establish procedures for receiving and disbursing money for U.S. Parachute Teams participating in World Parachuting Championships.
- B. The U.S. Parachute Team, Inc. (USPT) is separate from both USPA, Inc. and the U.S. Parachute Team Trust Fund Inc. (USPTTF). Funds distributed from USPTTF to USPT are intended for the purpose of funding USPA-sanctioned U.S. Parachute Teams competing in the World Parachuting Championships.
- C. No changes

11-2.5: Procedure for Distribution

A - C To be revised by USPA Treasurer Lee Schlichtemeier according to new non-profit law and adopted at the winter 2012 meeting of the USPTTF Trustees.

D. No changes

E. The net income will be allocated on a per capita basis to each member of the U.S. Parachute Team (not including alternates or leadership personnel) that will attend a World Parachuting Championships that calendar year.

11-2.6: Per Capita Distributions

A. No changes

B. The allocated money as computed above is released to the Team Managers by the date each requests it and then distributed to the team competitors designated in 11-2.5.E.

C - G No changes

11-3: Special Teams and Competitions – Delete entire section

11-4: Team Member Contract – Page 175 – Must be signed by all competitors and countersigned by the Team Manager. The Team Manager and Head of Delegation must sign the contract. The Team Manager shall send copies of all signed contracts to the Director of Competition.

Section 12 – State, National and World Record Reporting Procedures:

The board approved the following motion:

“Move to Change SCM Section 12-3 to reflect the following changes: For National performance records more than half the participants must be a US Citizens or Permanent Residents, as must someone receiving an individual record. National Performance Records must be judged by at least two nationally rated and one regionally rated judge in that discipline. National Competition records must follow all the pertinent rules of the SCM including those for citizenship/residency. State records may vary rules that don’t affect outcome (i.e. no pond for CP) if approved by headquarters. Add record category for most absolute jumps. Add record category for Competition Accuracy. Keep the 2-way Free-Fly record category even though it is no longer an IPC or Nationals event. Make sure that the old rules are available to members wishing to attempt these records.”

Page 183 – Change general records requirements to read as follows:

12-3.2: General

A. All pertinent rules in the Skydiver’s Competition Manual must be observed during national record jumps, including the citizenship/residency requirements listed in Section One. For state competition records, all SCM rules must be observed and USPA membership or foreign equivalent is required. For state performance records, a variance with those rules not affecting the performance outcome (e.g., no pond for CP) is allowed if approved by headquarters.

- B. Individuals setting a national record and at least 51% of the participants in a group national record must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents and hold valid USPA membership; the remainder must either be USPA members or hold the foreign equivalent. For state records, individual setting a record and at least 51% of group record participants must be USPA members; the remainder must be either be USPA members or hold the foreign equivalent.

Page 184 – For individual accuracy landing, add new sub-class (competition) record: the best final score after a completed competition of 10 rounds.

Page 185 – Add new sub-class record, most absolute (lifetime) jumps.

Page 185 – Change judging requirements for record-setting as follows:

12-3.3: Procedures

A. No change

- B. Each state record must be certified by at least one regional (or higher) judge, rated in the discipline concerned, who need not be present during the jump. For altitude and most number of jumps in 24 hour records, an FAA-rated pilot may be used in place of a judge. For a wingsuit record, the judge can be from any discipline. A second official selected from the following list must also certify the record (all those certifying a state record may be participants):

1. S&TA
2. USPA board member
3. USPA staff member
4. Regional (or higher) judge

- C. National competition records must be judged in accordance with the SCM standards for competition. National performance records must be certified by at least two national judges and one regional judge rated in the applicable discipline. Judges may not take part in national records and must be physically present to witness the attempt.

D. Wingsuit formation claims – no change

- E. Initial notification of a national record must be sent to USPA by e-mail (competition@uspa.org) or fax (540) 604-9741 within 72 hours. There is no initial notification requirement for a state record.

Section 13 – International Parachuting Activities: No changes