



THE BRITISH
Firework
CHAMPIONSHIPS 2010



Working Together in Partnership

The BRITISH FIREWORK CHAMPIONSHIPS
August 10th & 11th 2010
Plymouth

COMPETITION RULES AND GUIDANCE NOTES

The Management

The Championships are owned by The Event Services Association (TESA) and run by TESA in partnership with Plymouth City Council and with support from TESA's Management Committee.

Judging Panel

The panel will consist of at least five people – a maximum of three of these will be specialists selected from the event industry and a maximum of three will be lay judges, including at least one representative from Plymouth City Council and at least one local media representative. The selection of judges will be made in consultation with Plymouth City Council and all the appointments will be by invitation from the organisers.

The Adjudication Committee

The Committee comprises the Event Organiser, the Adjudicator as well as a representative from the venue and is responsible for all on-site decisions as well as arbitration. The Adjudicator is an expert appointed by The Management Committee to scrutinize competitors' information for compliance with the Rules and to manage all technical aspects of the event. The Adjudicator is not a judge but has a casting vote in the case of a tie by the Judging Panel (see rule 18).

Competitors

For 2010 there will be six competitors. Reaction Fireworks (who won a heat in Scotland have already qualified and there will be a draw to decide which other teams are invited to take part.

All competitors must be current members of the BPA, TESA or the CBI Explosives Industry Group. All competitors must also have been trading in the firework display market for a minimum of two years or must be able to provide sufficient evidence of experience to satisfy the organisers of their knowledge and ability.

Companies who win at Plymouth will not be allowed to re-enter the following year but will automatically qualify for the next Champion of Champions final at Plymouth.

Payment to Competitors

Each competitor will receive a contribution of £7,500+VAT towards the cost of materials and accommodation expenses. Each competitor must invoice PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL six weeks prior to the event. Payments will be made by the Council on the night of the event.

Mr D. Roberts
Marketing and Events Manager
Plymouth City Council
Windsor House
Tavistock Road
PLYMOUTH
PL6 5UF

The BRITISH FIREWORK CHAMPIONSHIPS 2010

COMPETITOR AGREEMENT

Name of Company: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Tel: _____ Mobile _____

Fax Number: _____

Email address: _____

I confirm receipt of the above Rules and confirm that as a competitor in 2010, my company will undertake to abide by them in their entirety.

Name of person signing (must be a director or principal of the business taking part)

Name (please print) Signature

Position: _____

Date: _____

Please return to:

Kevin Minton (Event Organiser)
The Event Services Association
Association House
18C Moor Street
Chepstow
NP16 5DB

Fax: 01291 630402



Rules for the 2010 Competition

General Rules and provision of information by competitors

1. The reputation of the Event, the Organisers and the hosts, Plymouth City Council, will be uppermost. All competitors must act in a safe manner. Any breaches of safety putting operators, fellow competitors, members of the Committee, jury or media, or the general public at unnecessary risk will lead to summary disqualification from the competition.
2. All competitors will be responsible for their own assessment of the site, and for preparation of site plan, firing order and suitable risk assessment. Copies of documents detailed on attached schedule must be sent to TESA, the Adjudicator and Plymouth City Council, on dates shown. Competitors must have all necessary information in on time or they may forfeit their places. Points may be deducted if complete information is not delivered to TESA or the Adjudicator on time. Any changes required by the committee to improve safety will be notified to contestants not less than one month prior to the display.

Note - No permissions are necessary to gain access to the firing site - however, passes will be required on the days of the event and will be issued prior to set-up.

3. Competitors may display banners or signs advertising themselves provided that these are located in a safe location in relation to their firing position and that they do not interfere with other competitors.
4. All competitors must provide descriptions and registration numbers for all vehicles delivering to and being parked at the site during the competition. This must be provided to TESA at least 7 working days prior to the event.
5. All competitors must provide TESA with up to 200 words describing their company and those putting on the display. This will be used for publicity purposes and must be provided by no later than Friday 11th June.
6. All Health and Safety regulations and guidelines must be met by competitors. All guidelines in force within the industry and pertinent to this event must be followed and each competitor will be responsible for any failure to comply with such regulations. All competitors must also fully comply with any local authority requirements in relation to Public Safety and Health and Safety.
7. The competitor, in accepting the rules of the competition, takes full responsibility for the use and consequences of all their pyrotechnics and equipment.
8. Sub-contracting of displays is strictly prohibited.
9. The firing order will be decided, by draw, at least a month before the event but will be subject to modification by the Adjudication Committee on the day of the display to take into account prevailing wind direction and strength. The decision of the Adjudication Committee whether to fire the display, or to remove items from the display, is final but will only be made having paid due consideration to the views of the competitor.
10. The Adjudication Committee will decide the precise location in which each competitor will be placed on the day of the event, subject to weather, sea and other conditions, which could affect the event. Each competitor will be allocated a 35m firing area - a "clearway" MUST be maintained to allow access for vehicles behind each site.
11. All competitors must provide TESA with the number of sandbags they require, up to a maximum of 300. Any additional sandbags and all other equipment, including firing equipment, must be provided by the competitors.

Contents of the Displays

12. There will be a limit of 500kg Net Explosive Mass (NEM) for the firework content of the display. Where it is not possible to provide the precise NEM of each item, assumed default values can be given, provided these are supported by calculations. These details to be provided to the Adjudicator on the spreadsheet available from the event website or from TESA.
13. The following items are not permitted in the displays
 - No shell over 12"/300mm
 - No shells or rockets that are substantially constructed of plastic (plastic sub-components are permitted)
 - No aquatic shells
 - No rocket or shell parachute products

Note - The use of other parachute items, Items with long duration stars (strobe/kamuro/glitter etc), flying saucers, flight rockets and aquatic items (other than shells) is permitted provided that documented performance criteria are lodged with competitors' display plans. Competitors should also be aware that these items might have to be withdrawn if weather conditions (ie. wind) dictate.

14. The Adjudicator, together with at least one other member of the Adjudication Committee, will carry out random checks on displays during set-up to determine that correct materials are being used in accordance with the Rules and the schedules provided by each competitor.

Note - the Adjudication Committee may deduct points from the competitor's scores for breaches of the rules, or for deviation from the declared firing schemes, or for poor sportsmanship or other breaches on site - see details below.

15. The major part of the display should last exactly 10 minutes. Three maroons must precede each display at approximately 5 second intervals, and close with three maroons. The timing of the display will be from the burst of the third maroon announcing the display (or the start of the main display if earlier) to the burst of the third maroon closing the display (or the end of the main display if later). Penalty points will be given for displays of longer or shorter duration according to the following scale:

5-10 seconds - 1 point

10-15 seconds - 2 points

16-20 seconds - 3 points

21-30 seconds - 5 points

over 30 seconds - 7 points

Note - In the case of misfire caused by, for instance, debris from another competitor, an appeal may be lodged with the Adjudicator no later than 2 minutes before the start of the display. In cases of arbitration by the Adjudication Committee, their decision will be final. In such circumstances, compensation or penalty points may be made to the final score at the discretion of the Committee.

16. The following rules must be observed by all competitors during the firing of displays

All displays must be fired electrically

The firing area must be cleared of personnel no later than 3 minutes prior to the firing of the display

Display crews may not enter the firing area during the display

Note - In case of a major malfunction or explosive incident or injury to personnel on site, the Adjudicator must be informed immediately by mobile telephone/radio.

Judging

17. Judging will be carried out on the following basis:

From the Judging Panel (judges marks are averaged):

Range of Products - 20 points

Rhythm of Firing - 20 points

Originality of Design - 20 points

Overall Effect - 20 points

Crowd Vote or response - 5 points

From the Adjudication Committee

Crew competence - 2 points

Adherence to rules - 3 points

Consistency with firing order supplied - 3 points

Good site layout - 2 points

Compliance with submission deadlines - 3 points

Sportsmanship and behaviour on site - 3 points

The total maximum number of points is 100

18. In case of a tie for positions, the Adjudicator will have a final casting vote of one point.

Prize giving ceremony

19. A member of the management team from each competitor must be present at the presentation ceremony, which will take place at a designated venue at the conclusion of the event on the second night (approximately 10.45pm).