



AUSTRALIAN PARACHUTE FEDERATION

Judge Manual



VERSION 10-2023
STATUS: MANDATORY

Warning

Parachuting and flying in parachuting aircraft can be dangerous.

IMPORTANT: Version Control

It is important that members refer to the current version of this Judge Manual. Current Version number is shown on the front cover and in the below table.

Current versions of the Judge Manual and any associated documents can be found on the APF website. Significant changes made from the previous version are shown in Amendments.

CURRENT VERSION	RELEASE DATE
10-2023	20 October 2023

PREVIOUS VERSIONS	REPLACED BY
09-2021	10-2023

AMENDMENTS

VERSION	AMENDMENT DETAILS
10-2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replaces Judging section of previous APF Sporting Code.

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PART 1 - JUDGES

1.1 General

- 1.1.1** APF Judge means any person who holds judging qualifications in the relevant discipline issued by APF or an overseas body and that has been approved by APF to undertake the relevant duties.
- 1.1.2** Judge Rating means a rating issued to an APF member by APF. A Judge Rating issued by APF is valid only for events, championships, and activities sanctioned by APF.
- 1.1.3** For the purposes of FAI training prerequisites, a Judge Rating is taken to also be a National Judge Rating when a candidate for an FAI rating is provided a letter of support by APF.

1.2 Judge's Log

- 1.2.1** APF Judges shall keep a record of competitions judged, the number and type of jumps judged, details of any performance assessments and any other relevant judging activity.

1.3 Judge Rating

- 1.3.1** A Judge Rating is valid for a period of up to two years.
- 1.3.2** A Judge Rating or Endorsement may be issued, only if the person:
 - (a) Is a full member of the APF; and
 - (b) Is at least 18 years of age; and
 - (c) Is a fit and proper person in the view of APF
- 1.3.3** Prior to the issue of a Judge Rating the candidate must:
 - (a) pass a written examination set by APF demonstrating detailed knowledge of the sporting code, competition rules, and other relevant policies; and
 - (b) pass a practical examination set by APF; and
 - (c) meet the competency standards for one or more discipline endorsements.

1.4 Discipline Endorsements

- 1.4.1** A Discipline Endorsement is valid for a period of up to two years.
- 1.4.2** Prior to the issue of a Discipline Endorsement APF Judges must meet the following competency standards:
 - (a) **Accuracy Landing:** be endorsed by at least two APF Judges as a proficient Accuracy Landing Judge.
 - (b) **Formation Skydiving and Canopy Formation:** obtain an acceptable score for 95% of the jumps evaluated while active as a Formation Skydiving and/or Canopy Formation Judge. These scores must meet the following assessment standard:
 - (i) At least 75% of the scoring of formations and transitions must agree with the official score.
 - (ii) At least 75% of the working time evaluations must agree with the official times.
 - (iii) At least 75% of the scoring of infringements must agree with the official score.
(Note: allowance is to be made for "judgement" calls).

- (c) **Artistic Events & Wingsuit Acrobatic:** the Judges under evaluation must score each jump within one point of the definitive results/score in at least 75% of the jumps evaluated.
 - (d) **Canopy Piloting:** be endorsed by at least two APF Judges as a proficient Canopy Piloting Judge.
 - (e) **Wingsuit Performance and Speed Skydiving:** be endorsed by at least two APF Judges as a proficient Wingsuit Performance or Speed Skydiving Judge.
- 1.4.3** Comparative assessment of judging performance shall be valid only when the performance is compared with at least two other APF Judges, or when the assessment is made against official times/scores.

1.5 Revalidation Requirements

- 1.5.1** A Judge Rating or Discipline Endorsement may be revalidated, only if the person:
- (a) Has judged at least one State Championships, National Championships, or other equivalent competition acceptable to APF within the previous 2 years.
 - (b) Has judged at least 60 competition jumps, in competition or from approved video files, in each discipline for which revalidation is required; and
 - (c) Continues to meet the requirements of 1.3.2 and the competency standards for the relevant discipline.

1.6 Chief Judge

- 1.6.1** An APF Judge will be appointed as Chief Judge for each Championships, the Chief Judge should have:
- (a) Excellent organisational capability; and
 - (b) Broader experience with competition management gained as a competitor, FAI-event Team Manager, Meet Director, etc.; and
 - (c) The ability to lead a team; and
 - (d) Substantial knowledge of the relevant policies and procedures; and
 - (e) A level of judging experience acceptable to APF; and
 - (f) Must have been approved by APF to act as Chief Judge for the Championships.
- 1.6.2** The Chief Judge is the administrative head of the Judging Panel(s) and should be thoroughly familiar with all aspects of the conduct and operation of National Championships. The duties of the Chief Judge include:
- (a) Overseeing all matters of judging for the Championships as directed by APF.
 - (b) Assessing the currency and competence of all judges prior to the commencement of the Championships.
 - (c) Assigning Judges to each event and allocating all other judging tasks.
 - (d) Prior to the start of the competition confirming that all necessary equipment is available and functioning, that all preparations have been completed and that sufficient supplies, accessories, technology and technology-support are available.
 - (e) Ensuring prompt publication of results.
 - (f) Supplying a written report to APF on the performance of the Judges. This report is to be presented within 30 days of the conclusion of the competition.

- (g) Supplying a written report to APF, on the efficiency of the judging aspects of the competition and make any recommendations for improvements. This report is to be presented within 30 days of the conclusion of the competition.

1.6.3 The Chief Judge may assess jumps when other tasks permit.

1.7 Judge's Assistant

1.7.1 The Judge's Assistant is the official representative of the Chief Judge and is appointed to give the Chief Judge administrative flexibility. The Chief Judge may delegate all or part of their duties to the Judge's Assistant. In the absence of the Chief Judge, the Judge's Assistant will assume the responsibilities of the Chief Judge.

1.8 Event Judge

1.8.1 The Chief Judge may appoint a member of the judging panel as the Event Judge and delegate some or all authority to that person for matters pertaining to the event.

1.9 Judging of Championships

1.9.1 A Judges' Conference may be held prior to the National Championships. This conference may be conducted virtually.

1.9.2 All Judges shall have a detailed knowledge of the rules, technical conditions and scoring systems relevant to National Championships.

1.9.3 The Judges must not provide any person with result information until that information has been declared official and may not discuss the judging process with anyone other than the other judges on their panel.

1.9.4 Other than for clarification of interpretation, Judges shall not discuss competitors' or teams' performances, nor influence any other Judge directly or indirectly, until either all Judges have completed their assessment of the jump, or the Chief Judge requests it.

1.9.5 The Judges will work as directed by the Chief Judge.

1.10 FAI Judge Ratings

1.10.1 FAI Judge Ratings are administered and issued by FAI. APF members who, after meeting the ISC requirements, wish to nominate for enrolment in an ISC-sanctioned FAI Judge Training Course should seek endorsement from APF as soon as practical prior to the commencement of the course.

1.10.2 APF will assess a candidate's application and may provide a letter of support for their application. An application will usually be supported where the member has:

- (a) Held an APF Judge Rating and relevant Discipline Endorsement for at least two years; and
- (b) Judged at least two APF National Championships or other equivalent competitions to the satisfaction of APF in the previous three years; and
- (c) Satisfied the requirements of the FAI/ISC for issue of an FAI Parachuting Judge rating; and
- (d) Demonstrated exemplary skill and character as a Judge.

1.10.3 APF may contribute towards the cost of members attending FAI training courses where there is an identifiable benefit to APF commensurate with the cost.