



**2023/24 NSW State Gliding Championships
Club and Open Classes
LAKE KEEPIT 11-18 NOVEMBER 2023**

LOCAL RULES

VERSION: 5 Nov 2023

MISSION: To promote the NSW State Gliding Championships by delivering a safe, fair and fun competition to the Australian gliding community.

ORGANISER: The organiser of the 2023 NSW State Gliding Championships is the Lake Keepit Soaring Club, on behalf of Gliding Australia.

LOCATION: The Lake Keepit Aerodrome is within the Reflections Holiday Park, off Ruses Creek Road, accessed from the Oxley Highway between Gunnedah and Tamworth.

DATES: The competition period will be from Saturday 11th November to Saturday 18th November 2023 inclusive. Saturday 11th November will be the official practice day and the first competition day is Sunday 12th November.

RULES AND GUIDELINES: The following documents cover this competition. Each document below takes precedence over any documents above:

- Australian National Competition Rules SDP010 Revision 4, 16 Sep 2023
- NSW Gliding Championships Competition Rules, August 2023
- Local Rules (this document)

REGISTRATION: All competing pilots must register using the official entry website and produce all associated documentation before the first scheduled competition day. The registration desk will be located in the Keepit Flight Centre and will be attended on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th November, at times to be advised. Registration will be controlled by the Competition Administrator.

COMMUNICATION: To assist with rapid sharing of information, all pilots will be required to participate in the WhatsApp group set up for the competition. Messages from the organisers sent to this WhatsApp group will be treated as received by all competitors. This system will not be used while pilots are airborne unless in an emergency.

WIFI SERVICE: WiFi Internet access will be provided. However, visiting pilots are advised to have alternative internet access available in case of any outages.

ASADA ANTI DOPING RULES AND PROCEDURES: Pilots who enter State gliding championships are required to comply with the ASADA Anti Doping Rules and Procedures. These rules have been published on the GFA website. Pilots are advised to review the rules and are required to sign an Acknowledgement and Agreement Form as part of their registration procedure.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS: The entrance requirements for this competition are as detailed in the NSW Gliding Championships Competition Rules. An entry fee of \$395.00, which includes the GFA ITC levy and GST is payable upon entry. Additionally, a late payment fee of \$60.00 is payable for entries received after 1st November, 2023.

WITHDRAWAL: Entrants who withdraw before 1st November, 2023 will have their entry fee refunded in full. No other refunds of entry fees will be considered except in exceptional circumstances.

BRIEFINGS: The mandatory safety briefing for all competing pilots, tug pilots and crew will be delivered at 09:00hrs on Sunday 12th November in the Lake Keepit Flight centre. This is a compulsory initial competition briefing. Subsequent competition daily briefings will be delivered at 9:30hrs, unless an alternative location and time is advised. All pilots intending to fly during the competition period must attend the daily briefing. This applies to both competition and non-competition pilots.

ELECTION OF PILOT COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES: Election of pilot representatives to the committees specified in the **current Rules** will be conducted at the official practice day briefing. These positions are:

- Pilot Safety Committee - three pilots to be elected
- Penalties Committee – two pilots to be elected *
- Protest Committee - two pilots to be elected *.

* An elected pilot may not be on both the Penalties and Protest Committees.

MENTORS: The Organisers may invite experienced competition pilots to mentor less experienced competition pilots. A list of mentors and those they are assisting will be published on the competition notice board.

STEWARD: The NCC (National Competitions Committee) will appoint at least one Steward for the competition if deemed necessary.

AIRSPACE AND WAYPOINTS: All competition airspace and waypoint files are provided in downloadable formats, at https://soaringweb.org/TP/Keepit_comp. Flying outside the contest area will incur penalties.

SCORING and TASKS: The competition will use traditional 1000-point scoring. The scoring system will be the same across all classes and for the duration of the competition.

Either Racing Tasks or Assigned Area Tasks may be set. The PEV start system may be used on some or all days. For this competition, the Task Setting Committee will be:

- The Chief Task Setter,
- The Competition Director, and
- One pilot representative (representing all classes)

RADIO FREQUENCIES: The official radio frequencies used during this competition are:

• Keepit CTAF / Start / Finish	132.25
• Safety / Gaggle:	122.025
• Gunnedah	127.4
• Quirindi	127.8
• Narrabri	126.7

RADIO PROCEDURES: The following radio procedures will apply:

- MARSHALLING: When marshalling and returning to tiedown area monitor Keepit CTAF.
- LAUNCHES: Use Keepit CTAF for launch and pre-start, and up to convection height.
- STARTING: The start gate opening for each class will be broadcast on both the CTAF and the safety frequency. Once a pilot has started they should immediately switch to the safety frequency.
- ON TASK: Pilots should remain on the safety frequency unless in the vicinity of an aerodrome and at a height that may interfere with aerodrome traffic, when they must switch to the

aerodrome CTAF frequency and make any necessary calls. Pilots with dual-frequency functionality should continue to monitor the safety frequency.

- **FINISHING:** Pilots should switch to the CTAF frequency about 25km from the Finish Zone and remain on that frequency until landed. Pilots should make a brief inbound call at 10nm (approximately 18 Km) from the airfield reference point; e.g. "Keepit Traffic, glider Hotel Delta Xray, 10 miles to the North West, xxx (height), inbound Keepit". Another brief inbound call should be made at about 10 Km. Include a height and direction if there are other gliders in the vicinity and it will not clog the frequency. Straight-in landings are preferred.

LAUNCHES: Launching will be to 2000 ft AGL by aerotow or self launch. Tug tickets will not be issued. Self launching capable gliders may elect to take an aerotow launch. Launching will be under the direction of the Launch Marshall.

Self launching gliders may be allocated a position to the side of the main grid, where they may launch according to the instructions of the launch marshall.

Self launching gliders must climb to the daily self launching "drop zone" before reaching 2000 ft AGL and securing their engine.

STARTING: Start line will be a line of length 10km (5km radius). Pilots must start from their allocated Start Line as designated at briefing.

FINISH ZONE AND FINISH HEIGHT: The finish zone is a circle centred on the airfield reference point. Radius will be 3km and finish height will be 300ft above the height of the take-off roll, unless varied at briefing. Pilots should finish from the direction of the last waypoint. Recommended finishing and circuit procedures will be advised at each daily briefing. Unless otherwise advised a straight-in approach with a long landing on the active runway is preferred. Taxying off the active runway is permitted provided the glider lands close to the edge of the runway.

THERMALLING: Once on task, gliders may thermal in either direction but maintain accordance with accepted GFA conventions.

VEHICLES: All vehicles must depart the grid when instructed, and before the commencement of the launch process. Crew vehicles must carry their glider's registration on a window. A vehicle may, while towing a glider, use the runway and should wherever possible monitor the CTAF frequency. Unless otherwise advised, vehicles not towing gliders must use the perimeter road to move about the airfield.

HANDICAPS AND REFERENCE WEIGHTS: The aircraft handicaps and reference weights for this competition are those published by GFA on the GFA official website. **No routine weighing is to be carried out and pilots are expected to honour the rules for observing correct weights. Pilots in Club Class will be required to specify their takeoff weight as part of registration. The contest director may request an on-the-line weighing of any aircraft prior to launch.**

FLIGHT RECORDERS AND LOGGERS: Flight Data Recorders, as specified in the current Rules, are mandatory for this competition. **If required, all competitors must additionally carry a tracker provided by the contest organisers.**

SCORING: Pilots must transfer their flight files to the Scorer within one hour of completing the task or returning to Keepit. Penalties for late traces will apply. Competitors must download their own loggers and transfer their flight files to the scorer via the Upload Trace menu on the competition website or as advised by the organisers. Pilots of gliders which have functioning motors are reminded that an approved means of detecting engine runs must also be provided.

OXYGEN: The Competition Organisers strongly encourage the carriage and use of a supplemental oxygen system and remind pilots of the competitive advantage that can be gained using supplemental oxygen even at altitudes below 10,000ft QNH. **MOSP Part 2 requires oxygen to be used above 10,000ft despite the legal limit being 12,500ft (CASR Part 91). If a functioning Oxygen system is not fitted, detected flight above 10,000ft QNH may be dealt with**

as a breach of MOSP Part 2 and may be penalised as unsafe flying.

Oxygen refills may be available. A small refilling fee may be charged by Keepit Glider Tech but the oxygen itself will be provided free by Gliding NSW.

FLARM: FLARM and its use at this competition is mandatory.

OUTLANDING NOTICE: Pilots are to inform the Organisers as soon as practicable after any outlanding. The methods available to inform the Organisers will be detailed at the initial briefing.

RETRIEVES: Crews must notify the Organisers of any road retrieves before leaving. Aerotow retrieves must be authorised by the Organisers. Aerotow retrieves will be charged on tacho time at the applicable rate. Costs for tugs directed to paddocks which prove unsuitable for aerotow or where the property owner's permission has been refused will be charged against the glider pilot concerned. All outlanding retrieves will be coordinated by the CD or nominated designate.

TIEDOWN AND WATER POINTS: Tiedown area is between runway 32 and the perimeter track. All tiedown points have a water supply. Any damage to a water point must be paid for by the responsible pilot. Pilots must provide their own tiedown stakes, and these must be left flush with the ground to prevent damage to tyres of vehicles or gliders. The Organisers suggest pilots bring water hoses and containers should they intend to use water ballast.

TRAILERS: Trailers are to be parked and tied down in the trailer parking area on the uphill side of the perimeter track leading to runway 32.

MARSHALLING: Marshalling will be controlled by the Chief Marshal.

SAFETY: Safety will be the paramount consideration for all activities at all times. The Safety Officer has overriding authority on all aspects of airfield safety. Any accusations of unsafe flying will be referred to the Safety Committee and the Safety Officer, who will jointly decide whether the flying was unsafe. If unsafe, the Safety Officer will confer with the Penalties committee on what penalty should be applied.

PERSONNEL: Keepit Soaring Club members and other volunteers have offered to assist in the conduct of this competition. There may be occasions when pilots and/or those accompanying them could be requested to help. Please assist wherever possible.

MEALS: Evening catering will be supplied. To assist the caterer, pilots will be requested to pre-commit to the following evening's meal at each morning's briefing. For example, orders for Tuesday night's meal will be taken on the Monday morning briefing. The main kitchen will not be available while caterers are present.

PRESENTATION DINNER: The Championship presentation dinner will be held on the evening of Saturday 18 November, 2023. The venue will be advised during the competition period.

END OF DOCUMENT