

Bid to host the 1<sup>st</sup> FAI World Hike and Fly Championships in Crickhowell, Wales, UK

1. Name of the Championship: 1st FAI World Hike and Fly Championships
2. Location: Crickhowell, Powys, Wales, UK
3. Proposed Dates of the Championship 15 – 22 May 2027
4. Proposed Dates of the Test Event: 9 – 16 May 2026
5. Competitions Allowing the Organiser to Bid: Dragon Hike and Fly 2024 - FAI Cat 2.
6. Local Organiser: Alistair Andrews, School House, Brecon Road, Crickhowell, Powys, NP8 1DG - +447575280508 – alistair.andrews@hotmail.co.uk
7. Sporting Power: Bill Bell, BHPA Competitions Officer, Bill-Bell@bhpa.co.uk
8. Key Officials For all events:
  - Organisation/Event Director: Alistair Andrews – School CFI, 8 x Dragon Hike and Fly Organiser, 6 x Inter Service Champs Meet Director, Bornes to Fly 2016, 2017, X-Pyr 2018
  - Meet Director: Alistair Andrews – As above
  - Safety Director: Matt Tandy – British Club Challenge Director, Implemented Safety Practices into Military Paragliding Community, Long Standing Inter Service Champs Organiser.
  - Sites and Land Access: Steven Macintosh – Local Flying Site Officer, adventure paraglider pilot
  - Meteorologist: Andy Macdonald – Military Helicopter Instructor, Competition Paraglider Pilot
  - Launch Marshall: Daniel Starsmore – Multiple Bornes to Fly, X Lakes and Dragon Hike and Fly (inc 1 x Winner), Former Military Flying Instructor, Easyjet Captain.
  - Sponsorship Coordinator: Andy Shaw – Long standing British Accuracy Team and event organiser, Sponsorship Officer for BHPA Accuracy.
  - Scorer: Brett Janaway – Long standing event organiser and meet director.
  - Live Tracking Manager: Brett Janaway – Expert in live tracking software and hardware.
  - Media and Comms: Henry George – Professional photographer and videographer, works with XC Mag.
9. Detailed Schedule of Championship - event to be a series of one day tasks
  - Free training days: 13<sup>th</sup> May
  - Registration: 14<sup>th</sup> May
  - Mandatory safety briefing: 14<sup>th</sup> May
  - Mandatory training task: 15<sup>th</sup> May
  - Opening ceremony 15<sup>th</sup> May
  - Championship flying days 16<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> May (With a rest day to be taken after 3 tasks)
  - Closing ceremony: 22<sup>nd</sup> May

10. Pilots Entry Specify the maximum number of pilots allowed overall: There will be a maximum of 100 pilots allowed. We have experience of local events running with minimal support with 60 – 90 pilots. i.e. BCC, North South Cup and Dragon Hike and Fly. There are many trail running events in the area that host well over 100 athletes in their events. Most sites likely to have a start gaggle form in the air have shown they can tolerate large numbers of pilots.

11. Restriction of Admission: Pilots must hold IPP15 or equivalent. They must have completed in at least one Cat 2 Hike and Fly in the preceding 12 months.

12. Entry Fees Define the entry fee for the event:

- For pilots – €560
- For team leaders and assistants (Roles to be described in Local Rules) –€225

13. Test Event Pilot qualifications criteria

The test event will run as an extended version of the Dragon Hike and Fly Race, with tasking from 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026.

Define the entry fee for the event:

- For pilots - €350 for all tasks, €100 for the Dragon 2 Day Event contained within.
- For team leaders and assistants - €100

Entry fees include tracking, scoring, prizes, and safety management.

Restriction of Admission: Pilots must hold IPP15 or equivalent. They must have completed in at least one Cat 2 Hike and Fly in the preceding 12 months.

14. Third-party Liability Insurance: Insurance

Third party liability insurance of minimum £1,300,000 (or equivalent currency) is obligatory. This is a requirement, in order for the championship organisers to be granted their own insurance for the event. Personal accident insurance for team members and insurance against damage to aircraft are highly recommended. Documentary proof of insurance as specified on the Entry Form must be presented to the organisers at registration or provided digitally in advance.

£1.3 Million is aligned with the €1.5m cover that competitors may take out through Flyinsure / AXA. Details available here:

<https://www.flyinsure.eu/english/index.html>

Any pilots who do not hold a policy providing at least £1.3 Million third party liability cover for paragliding will be required to take out BHPA day (“introductory”) membership each morning before they undertake competition tasking. Each introductory membership is valid on the day of issue only. The cost per day will be £29.

This can be arranged through the one-day membership form on the BHPA website that can be used by overseas competitors in UK competitions. Membership (and insurance) is only valid for the day on which the pilot applies and pays. Therefore, all pilots who choose to use this option must inform the organisers that they are doing so, and this will be checked, each morning before the pilot is allowed to start any task.

BHPA Day Membership is available through this link:

<https://membership.bhpa.co.uk/overseas.php?cookie=2&formid=205600444>

15. Personal Insurance – Personal Accident Insurance is mandatory for all pilots and assistants.

16. Budget Provide an outline budget – Annex B Attached.

17. Rules: Rules for the event will be as per Section 7L, with some definitions about roles of and requirement for a supporter in different task lengths and formats. possibility of allowing two sets of equipment to be used during the event (to allow for higher wind days to be used), scoring formula is to be decided alongside working group, and other local rules from experience of running Dragon Hike and Fly may be proposed.

#### **Annexe B – Budget**

**Annexe C** – Support Documentation Attach to the bid the following documents:

1. Letter of support from the NAC or delegated entity (federation / association). – To be completed
2. Letter of information from the delegated entity to the NAC (if applicable). – To be completed
3. Letter of support from the local authorities. – To be completed

#### **Annexe D**

##### **Launch Sites**

The town of Crickhowell is an ideal base for this event, as it has close proximity to a range of launch sites, managed by South East Wales Hangliding and Paragliding Club, and by South West Wales Soaring Club. With so many site options, there are opportunities for tasking in all wind directions. Most sites are around 200 – 450m top to bottom. The area is largely unobstructed by controlled airspace, allowing for a wide variety of tasks and a ceiling of over 5500ft, in most of the area. There are military danger areas to the west, but these do not affect task setting.

The area is made up of mainly clear rolling mountain and hill tops, forests are quite few and far between, and the valleys are largely used for sheep farming, allowing for numerous take off and landing areas.

There are numerous safe landing areas in this rural national park, with good road access.

##### **Weather**

May is typically the best month for flying in the area. We can expect temperatures ranging between 15 and 25C. Winds vary, but are typically SW-W and could be of any strength, although winds can be expected from any direction, on any given day, any time of year. The area does not suffer from Foehn. A good Cross-Country day typically has 15 – 25kph wind and 5000ft cloud base.

##### **Meteorology**

There are excellent national weather forecasting tools for the area, both free and paid. We will have an experienced military pilot, and paragliding comp pilot as the Meteorologist.

##### **Transport**

Teams will be expected to provide their own vehicles for transport to start points, and pick up any pilots who don't make it to goal each day. These will easily be rented from airports, or driven across from Europe.

### **Check in/out**

This will be managed by the tracking manager. Typically, this will involve tracker issue at task briefing, and tracker return to HQ in Crickhowell after each task.

### **Safety**

Tasks can be defined locally to accommodate a wide variety of conditions, and avoid rotor and hazardous areas. Suitable tasks can be defined day by day depending on prevailing weather conditions.

If unflyable conditions are forecast, tasks can of course be stopped, or no flying windows implemented at the task briefing.

The Safety Manager and Launch Marshall will be involved to make sure that critical points on any task are managed with marshalling and assistance as required.

### **Rescue/medical services**

There are three local Mountain Rescue Teams, two air ambulances and SAR helicopters located within a 30 minute flight of the area. These aircraft can land easily in most areas and are well supported by experienced MRT, Fire, Ambulance and Police.

### **Transmissions**

Mobile coverage is good outside of the more remote areas, and at ground level. This improves on the hills above 300m and in the air. Local sim cards are readily available.

Tracking will be done using Naviter Omnis, which will enable 4G and FANET, so pilots will be visible even in areas of poor mobile signal, and the units will have a two-way communication function.

### **Liaison with police, military, public services**

There is a strong military paragliding community, and forces based locally. Communication with these parties will be handled by the organiser, who has experience of working with all these parties.

### **Commitment for environment**

- As per CIVL Environmental Policy document - Attached

### **Event headquarters**

Clarence Hall in the centre of the town, with ample accommodation and parking within walking distance. Fast WiFi.

### **Local facilities**

Huge number of accommodation options locally available:

Camping typically £10 – 20 per night

Hotels and BnB - £50 – 200 per night

Car hire readily available from travel hubs like Bristol or Heathrow Airport.

Lots of shops, restaurants, bars etc in town, and within 15 minute drive, three other towns.

Visas, vaccinations: [www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk)

No vaccinations required.

### **Early arrivals**

Early arrivals are very welcome to recce the area and fly in the run up to the event. Contact to be made with local flying clubs. SEWHGPGC and SWWSC for advice.

### **Customs and equipment importation**

No issues with local customs at airports with travel luggage and sporting equipment.

### **Medals, etc.**

Medals and diplomas will be provided free by CIVL, but transportation and custom are paid by the organisers. There will be trophies for the male and female champions, but no team prizes.

### **Media and social media coverage, merchandising**

Website to be hosted at [civlcomps.org](http://civlcomps.org)

Local and national news/TV/papers will all be briefed on the event, as will international paragliding magazines.

The event will have a film made about it by a local film maker, who will also act as media and comms liaison during the event.

There is great access for spectators and supporters to almost all of the national park where the event will take place.

### **Any additional information in support of the bid**

The area has a rich history in flying, with the original UK hang gliding scene starting here, when they used to "Hike and Fly", a 3km and 600m carry up with their wings to take off on Pen Cerrig Calch. Subsequently, the area has become the home of the UK paragliding hike and fly scene, with a popular event held here each may, and a wealth of knowledge on local XC flying here provided by a great local club in SEWHGPGC. The club is incredibly supportive and positive about Hike and Fly, with well negotiated access for events to areas outside the scope of the usual club sites.

The area is perfectly suited to one day and sprint task formats, over a variety of routes, making it particularly well suited to this new format of event.

The main area of operation would be within the Brecon Beacons National Park, but we also have areas to the south and north where we can task with permission already in place from the local club. The open access land above the open and expansive "Hill line" within the park and other common land in the area allows hiking off footpaths, and our local sites officer will assist with any specific negotiations for special access for the event. All the regular apps used for hike and fly show all the legal hiking paths below the "Hill line", so we can reduce the need for printing.

### **Annexe E**

As per:

[https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/civl/documents/cat\\_1\\_bids\\_requirements\\_and\\_guidelines\\_20231103.pdf](https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/civl/documents/cat_1_bids_requirements_and_guidelines_20231103.pdf)

## Annexe B to CIVL First Category 1 Event Bid - UK Bid to Host 1st World Hike and Fly Champs 2027

PROJECTED EXPENDITURE		
Items	Euros	Notes
<b>PREPARATION (over 2 years)</b>		
Administration, post & bank charges, stationery, short film	€ 1,996.50	Includes bank transfer fees, accountant charges, etc. Worst Case Paypal at ~ 2.5%. Inc Short Film for Plenary
Travel expenses for organisers, volunteers	€ 726.00	Expenses for local meetings with interested/engaged parties, and travel to Plenary.
Setting up & maintaining website	€ 465.85	Including logo design, hosting, etc.
<b>COMPETITION</b>		
FAI Sanction Fee Based on 100 Pilots	€ 5,059.51	Sporting Code S7K Point 3 - CHF 6.75/pilot/flying days
FAI Officials Travel Costs	€ 2,662.00	Based on 4 delegates
FAI Officials Accommodation and Meals Allowance	€ 5,962.88	Travel Lodge Abergavenny, 14 nights for 4 single rooms, fully flex
FAI Officials Vehicle Rental	€ 2,683.30	Based on 2 vehicles from Bristol Airport Hertz. Clarence Hall Crickhowell for Registration, Opening Ceremony, use all week for briefings as required and a smaller office space for HQ for the organising team. Deposit of £500 to be paid March 2025 upon bid approval.
Rental of suitable HQ building/rooms/marquee for briefings (140+), meeting rooms, scoring room etc.	€ 2,662.00	All IT equipment needed is either already owned, or will be provided by Clarence Hall. Provision of remote internet, should signal be unreliable.
Rental/buy IT & equipment for HQ, launch, goalfields/target etc	€ 1,331.00	40% discount negotiated - 100 units
Naviter Omni Live Tracking £18 a unit	€ 2,395.80	Design/artwork & print costs, for HQ and Launch. Everything else electronic.
Maps for Tasking	€ 1,064.80	Biodegradable, for local discounts to be negotiated
ID Cards - 100 pilots, 25 Assistants, 25 Team Leaders, 20 organising team	€ 226.27	For pilots, team leaders, assistants staff, volunteers, press, VIPs, sponsors (if any). Made in Slovenia.
T Shirts	€ 3,593.70	FAI medals & diplomas provided by FAI free of charge. Consider trophies, champagne, local souvenirs/produce. Local region may provide some goodies, such as pens. Manufacturers may sponsor prizes. Cost here is for Trophy for Male and Female Winners and bottle of local wine for daily task winners.
Trophies, day prizes, gifts for pilots	€ 1,331.00	Teams will be expected to provide their own vehicle for the event, which will serve as their support vehicle and local transport. This cost is for org team fuel expenses.
Transport	€ 1,317.69	Moutain Rescue Teams and UK medical services are available at no cost and will be engaged throughout the event. As no static launch spot, having medic on site seems superfluous. Volunteer first aiders will be on course line each day. HQ based St. John's paramedic
Medical services (doctor, paramedic, ambulance etc)	€ 3,327.50	Investigated, but cannot find a provider that can be as flexible as we would require. Toilets at HQ and in town, but not possible at all possible task start locations.
Rental & cleaning of portable toilets	€ 0.00	Covered by MD's costs, as they have access to pro services, and other good weather forecasting is free in the area.
Weather forecasting (presentations, daily soundings etc)	€ 0.00	Athletes at this level will provide their own nutrition and these meals are often wasted. This policy also fits with our environmental ethos.
Packed lunches or snack/water for pilots/TLS	€ 0.00	Improvements to launch, equipment purchase/rental, insurance, extra personnel.
Contingency	€ 1,331.00	
<b>PERSONNEL</b>		
Organiser (Alistair Andrews)	€ 1,331.00	For work in lead up to event
Meet Director (Alistair Andrews)	€ 1,331.00	Briefings, leadership during event and most task setting responsibilities
Scorer and Tracker Manager (Brett Janaway)	€ 1,996.50	Includes reasonable travel expenses
Safety Director (Daniel Starsmore)	€ 665.50	Largely to cover expenses
Media and Socials Management (Henry George)	€ 1,331.00	Professional Photo/Video and Marketing expert
Sponsorship Officer (Andy Shaw)	€ 0.00	Andy Shaw offered to work at no cost.
Meteorologist/Airspace/FSC Liasion (Andy Macdonald)	€ 665.50	Largely to cover expenses
Sites Officer	€ 665.50	Club sites officer to liaise with local landowners and interested parties. Cost to cover his expenses
Chief of Staff	€ 665.50	Largely to cover expenses
Food/expenses for organisers, staff, volunteers, helpers 8 days	€ 5,324.00	This is to cover for expenses for 10 x volunteers. (Also get T-shirt).
<b>CEREMONIES &amp; SOCIAL EVENTS</b>		
Opening & Closing Ceremonies	€ 7,586.70	Simple buffet for competitors, Leaders, Assistants, Organising team, VIPs & Press. people, music, flags, decorations. This is a suggested minimum. Food £15pp, band, DJ, decorations, Venue included in HQ cost.
Evening before Rest Day Social Event - Nibbles	€ 2,023.12	Local sponsorship is unlikely. Bring own drinks.
<b>MEDIA &amp; PROMOTION</b>		
PR or Press person/services prior to & during event	€ 0.00	Covered by Media Officer Above
Official blogger, photographer, video cameraman, film maker	€ 0.00	Covered by Media Officer Above
Option: Film of the event for promotion of sport, region etc	€ 0.00	To produce a film for promotional purposes of the event.
Promotional items: stickers, pens, mugs, postcards etc	€ 665.50	According to budget.

Press hospitality, local media coverage, souvenir programme, newsletters, advertising etc € 0.00 According to need. Grants from local authorities often dependent on seeing a 'return', promoting the sport, tourism etc.

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE** € 62,387.62

**PROJECTED INCOME**

Items	Euros	Notes
Pilot fees	€ 56,000.00	€560 entry fee 100 competitors
Team leader and Assistant Fees	€ 11,250.00	€225 fee 25 Team Leaders and 25 Assistants
Grant from local/host town	€ 0.00	To be investigated
Grant from county or region	€ 0.00	To be investigated - Brecon Beacons Tourism have already offered free advertising as organiser is a member through his business.
Grant from government sport department or similar	€ 0.00	To be investigated with local contacts.
Grant from national Federation or NAC	€ 0.00	No subsidy
Sales of promotional items, productising	€ 0.00	Not sure of the value of doing this, could end up in a loss and doesn't fit with environmental ethos.
Sponsorship	€ 0.00	No commitments as at time of bid submission
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>€ 67,250.00</b>	

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Meridian Business Park  
Leicester LE19 1RJ

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The governing body of  
hang gliding and paragliding  
in the United Kingdom



## British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association

28/12/2024

Please find attached our bid for the 2027 CAT1 Hike and Fly on behalf of the BHPA.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Bell

BHPA Director of Competition

British Hang Gliding and Paragliding  
Association Limited  
A company limited by guarantee and  
registered in England no 2618166  
Registered office: 340 Meiton Road,  
Leicester LE4 7SL

The BHPA is a member of the Royal Aero  
Club of the United Kingdom, through which  
it is affiliated to  
the Fédération  
Aéronautique  
Internationale.



The Association is recognised  
by the UK Sports Council.

