

Orlando Helicopter Blowout 3D Contest Guidelines

Freestyle – Guide

- All pilots need to be present on Friday 12-11-09 at 1:00 pm for a pilots meeting
- Pilot will perform one, 3-minute freestyle routine of his/her choosing.
- The routine may be performed with any helicopter with any power system or fuel
- The routine may be accompanied by music
- If the main or tail rotor blades touch the ground during the routine, the pilot will be instructed to land by the official and that flight will be considered ended.
- All pilots will be observed by the same five judges
- An official will indicate to the pilot and judges when 3 minutes has elapsed

How the winner will be chosen:

Each pilot's flight will be judged as follows:

- There are five categories of flight characteristics that the judges will focus on.
- For each category a judge will assign a score from 1-10 (whole numbers only).
- The preliminary competition will take place on Friday at 2:00 pm, the top 5 scores will move on to Saturday finals. The final competition will be at 12:00 pm Saturday.
- The pilot with the highest overall score on Saturday will be the winner. The second highest score will be second place and the third highest score will be third place.
- In the event of a tie, the pilot with the highest scores in the execution and overall categories will break the tie. If a tie remains, the tie will be broken by audience response.

The judged categories are as follows:

Maneuver Difficulty 20%

Judges will observe the types of maneuvers attempted by a pilot. Scores will be based on the difficulty of maneuvers and the mix of difficult maneuvers attempted. More of both will result in a higher score

Maneuver Execution 20%

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Judges will observe the execution of the maneuvers attempted by a pilot. Scores will be based on how well the maneuvers are flown in the judges opinion. Less difficult maneuvers flown perfectly could result in an execution score that would be higher than if difficult maneuvers were flown poorly.

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Program Flow 20%

Judges will observe how the pilot has strung the flown maneuvers together into a program. Better flow between maneuvers will result in a higher score.

Choreography 10%

Judges will observe how well the pilots flight is timed and matched to a musical selection provided by the pilot. Maneuvers that match musical timing and crescendo will result in higher scores. If the pilot provides no music for the routine, the pilot will receive a score of 0 in this category.

Overall Presentation 30%

Judges will score the pilots overall flight presentation and assign a score based on their impression of the flight. If a pilots routine lasts more or less than 15 seconds of 3 minutes, this score will be reduced.

Score Leveling

Scores will be calculated as relative to all observed pilots. So when all pilots have flown, the judges CAN adjust individual scores to reflect their impressions of how any pilot performed in a particular category against all other pilots who participated.

This reduces any advantage/disadvantage associated with being the first or last pilot to perform.

Protests

Any issues should be brought to the attention of the event CD but as this event is not regulated by the AMA, no protests can be filed against the results and the CD shall have the final word in all matters.