



British Drone Racing Association

July 4th & 5th 2026 - Shuttleworth Summer Fete

Pilot Pack

Dates & Timings



Saturday 4th July - Qualifying Heats

Pilots Arrival From	08:00
Pilots Check-In	08:30
Pilot Briefing	09:15
Race Heats	09:30
Lunch Break/Pro Spec Demo	12:30
Race Heats	13:30
Race Day End	17:00

Sunday 5th July - Qualifying Heats and Finals

Pilots Arrival From	09:00
Race Heats Start (Qualifying)	09:30
Lunch Break/Pro Spec Demo	12:00
Double Eliminations Finals	13:00
Prize Ceremony	16:00
Track Teardown	16:30

All timings are approximate and weather dependent - We will of course do our best to run heats as fast as possible. It is your responsibility to be ready for each race.

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Event Location:

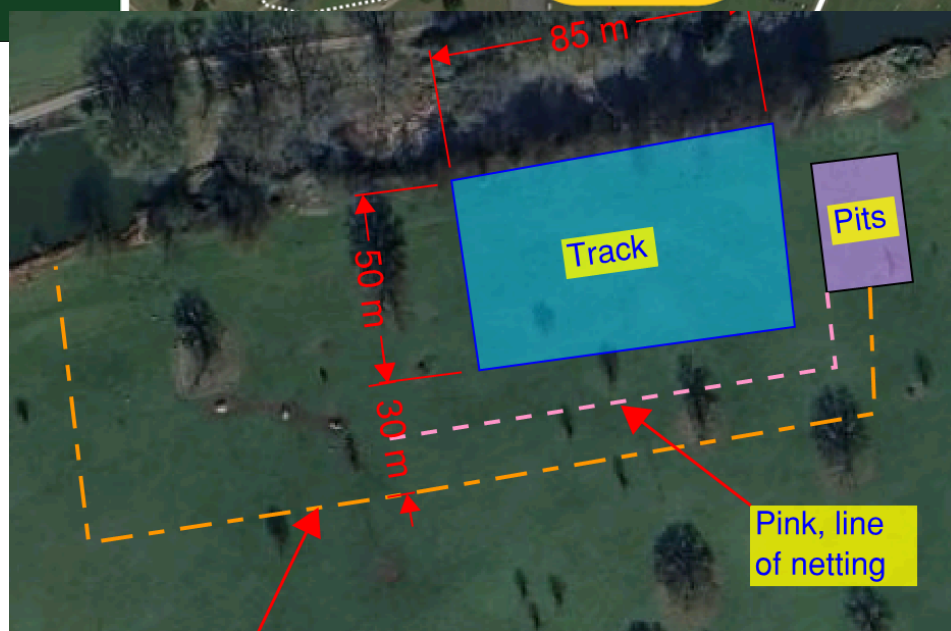
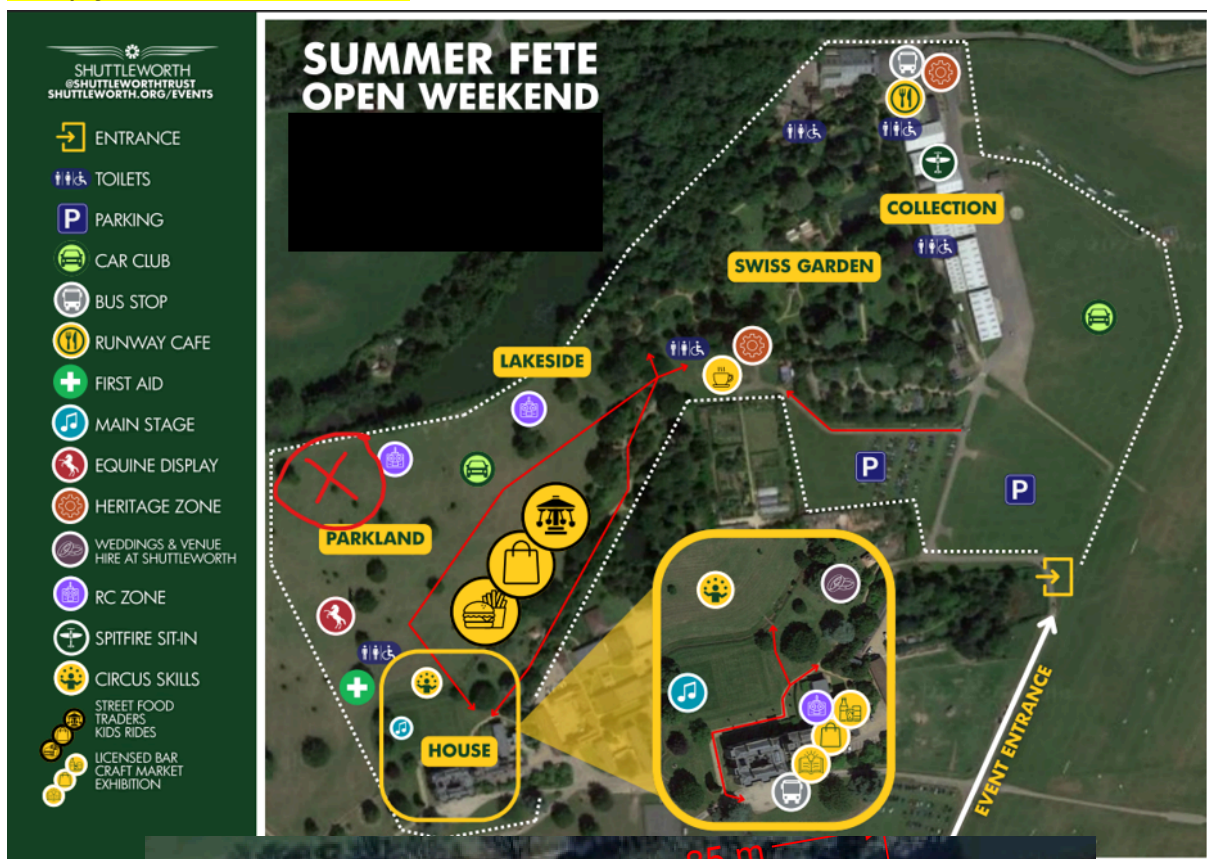
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/ueY1V4h1QD1nx96N6>

Shuttleworth House, Alder Dr, Biggleswade SG18 9DT

Parking:

Your vehicle registration should have been submitted in the

X FOC Camping - 2026.xlsx. Please park in the areas marked as you enter the festival. Proceed to the area marked **(Red Circle with X)** where you will be able to setup your Gazebo/Pit Area.



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Joining Instructions

Please **bring your own gazebo (or form of cover), tables and chairs**. A pilot marquee will sadly NOT be available at this event - only cover for the main flightline is provided.

NOTE: You should ensure that any valuable equipment is not left unattended within the pit area. The BDRA will not take responsibility for any losses.

There will be no mains power available - so please bring your own field charging equipment or generators to see you through a race day as a backup. Generators are to be put in a designated area (designated during pilot briefing) - a good distance away from the pit area and extension leads ran to required location.

PLEASE SHARE GENERATORS WHEREVER POSSIBLE

Our power draw for charging is very low, and likely one generator could provide enough power for at least 6 pilots charging.

As soon as you arrive please go and check in your equipment at Race Control. Please make sure the following is completed before coming to check in:

1. Your **VTxs are set to 25mW** and to the correct channel as indicated on the **heats list**
2. Ensure the **props are off your quad(s)** to complete the failsafe check
3. That any 2.4GHz or 868MHZ control systems are set at **no more than 100mw of output power**
4. Make sure that each quad you are checking in has your **CAA Operator ID clearly labelled upon it**
5. Ensure you have your **insurance documents (BMFA only) or have arranged temporary insurance directly with the BMFA ahead of the event**. If you have not uploaded the correct documentation, or cannot prove this at check-in, then you will not be allowed to fly at the event.

Once the pilot briefing is finished - then the first heat of racing will begin - so pilots in Heat 1 and Heat 2 spotters should ensure they are ready.

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Race Format

- The race will be run in accordance with the current BDRA ruleset which can be found here: <https://bdra.uk/current-rules/>. Please familiarise yourself with these ahead of the event.
- To maximise throughput and simplicity, you will remain in the same qualifying heats and use the same video frequencies throughout the event.
- Heat lists will be published before the event on iFPV and will be available on dhes.livefpv.com throughout the weekend.
- Seeding will be completed using the 50/50 ELO method - using a Pilots current ELO rating on iFPV to ensure that the fastest 50% of Pilots are not placed in heats with the slowest 50% of Pilots.
- Qualifying heats will consist of a maximum of **6 pilots** and will be labeled numerically (1, 2, 3, etc. **This is based on the pilot order, NOT VIDEO FREQUENCY**) - please remember and listen for your **heat number** so that you are ready in plenty of time for your races.
- During qualifying you will have **3 minutes** to set your **fastest 3 consecutive lap time**. Once your 3 laps are completed all pilots must land in the designated landing area.
- Once the lap count/timer has elapsed the timing system will announce '**<Pilot Name> Done**' - it is the pilot, and their spotters, responsibility to then get the quad landed in the specified landing area whilst other pilots finish their heat.
- After each round, all pilots will be sorted by their **current fastest 3 consecutive lap time**. If a pilot has not managed to complete 3 consecutive laps then they will be **ordered by max number of laps (up to 2) completed vs time taken to complete these laps**.
- We aim to be running **at least 10 heats of qualifying** over the 2 race days - this may change depending on how fast things run (you being organised gets more flying time!).
- Your **best single 3 consecutive lap heat** will be counted as your qualifying time to enter the finals process.
- Finals will run using the **Double Elimination bracket (with Chase the Ace - No Ironman)** format. Each race within the brackets will be to **3 laps**.
- All Pilots get a **minimum of 2 final rounds**. To progress in either the 'Winners' or 'Losers' bracket after the 2 guaranteed final rounds **you must come in 1st or 2nd place**.
- The final race takes the **top 2 pilots from each of the 'Winners' and 'Losers' brackets**. This format means that the last race continues to be run until **a pilot wins twice**.
- Other positions are determined by points total across the multiple final races. Tie breaker is determined by the last point awarded.

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Infringements

- If you are unable to attend the race, contact the BDRA Secretary (Matt Neale) as soon as possible.
- Competitors who miss a gate must make an attempt to retry that gate in a safe manner, giving priority to any other competitor on the track whilst doing so.
- Competitors who gain advantage through a shortcut or jumped start must forfeit that advantage immediately by waiting off the racing line and rejoining at their appropriate position (and only when it is safe to do so).
- **Standing up after crashing out, or finishing your laps, during a race could result in a deduction of your best qualifying round. This is unfair on the other pilots, causing loud noise and moving past them is extremely off-putting, this will be taken seriously and failure to listen to this rule further could result in disqualification.**
- If a competitor is flying in a dangerous manner then they will be subject to a forfeit, this decision is up to the Race Director. For example: Not disarming after a crash which leads to a further collision.
- Repeated violations will result in a score of zero for that round and possible disqualification from the event.
- Failure to comply with safety rules or announcements will result in instant disqualification from the event.

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Construction Rules

Frame dimensions	280mm maximum diameter (across motor shaft centres)
Props	No maximum - (plastic only)
AUW	No limits (max or minimum)
Battery Limits	6S Limit , High Voltage is allowed (all batteries must be charged safely and within manufacturers' guidelines)
FPV Cameras	Both PAL / NTSC cameras are allowed for this event.
Turtle Mode	The use of turtle mode is allowed , please be sensible and do not cause damage through excessive usage - this can be called by the Race Director when applicable.
Control Systems	Any control systems in use <u>must be set to a maximum of 100mw of output power</u>
VTX's	Analogue and HDZero video systems are supported at this event. 25mW maximum output with support for ALL 8 Race & FS/IMRC frequencies (see appendix for the channels being used). Race Control will have a Frequency Monitor in place which can test VTX's if there is an issue. NOTE: In line with current BDRA guidance we <u>will not be accepting any other digital video systems</u> (DJI/Walksnail) at this event.
Failsafes	All competitors must set up failsafes to cut motors COMPLETELY in the event of signal loss. If your flight controller has a condition for receiver connection loss then that should also be set to cut motors.
Lap Timing	We will be using a Livetime/ImmersionRC LapRF VTX timing system at this event - so no transponders will be required. All results will be posted on dhes.livefpv.com , which you can check via your phones, <u>please do not harass race control for times unless it is necessary.</u>

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Event Protocol

- **The track is strictly off-limits** unless **Race Control** explicitly declares it safe to enter.
- The pilot briefing will be held once **all pilots** are checked-in and failsafes have been checked - please ensure your props have been removed prior to attending failsafe checking.
- You will not be permitted to fly until after you have attended the pilot briefing - please don't be late as this will reduce the flying time of the day (see timings on page 1).
- A race **will only be stopped by the Race Director with the air horn** (not via a microphone announcement) as demonstrated in the pilot briefing. If anyone other than the race director says to stop flying, **ignore them until the race director has made a decision.**
- Familiarise yourself with setting your VTX to the **8 Raceband & FS/IMRC frequencies** and expect to be asked to change if necessary.
- **Do NOT power up any video transmitters** unless you are racing, this could result in **immediate disqualification.**
- Please be ready for your race before the previous one ends. You will be **spotting** for the race **before** your own! If you cannot see the feed of the Pilot you are spotting
- If you have a technical difficulty during setup that cannot be fixed before the 10s countdown then you must leave the track with your aircraft powered off and forfeit the round, we will make some exceptions if deemed fair.
- After your race is over, please land your aircraft as quickly as possible **in the landing area (it will be marked)** so that we can prepare for the next race, so **no freestyle or showboating** please.
- There will be a **"Arming Safety Zone"** surrounding the start grid (it will be marked), this is in place to keep pilots safe whilst putting their quads on the starting blocks, there is to be **NO ARMING (Quads with propellers spinning)** if anyone is within this zone. Failure to comply with this could result in losing a round or disqualification - this is for pilots safety.
- Make sure you fulfil the role of **'spotter'** for the race immediately before your own. Competitors in the first race in each round should spot for the last race. Your job, as a minimum, is to **count laps** and **inform pilots of any missed gates and track elements.**
- Some competitors may choose to have a certain individual as their spotter, please be respectful of this.
- Please **do not fly anywhere outside of the dedicated track area** without express permission from the Race Director (which will only be granted in exceptional circumstances) this includes Tiny Whoops!
- During a heat if you crash and are unable to recover and continue flying, no matter how frustrated you may be, **sit in your chair and wait until the round finishes, any shouting or distracting other pilots will result in the penalties stated before.**

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- Please keep race control and the pilot stations clear of distractions so that the Race Director can see and hear everything that is happening, and can communicate with the spotters when necessary.
- We would ask that, if possible, pilots help with the 'teardown' process of the event; track equipment as well as the pits and race control area. This would be greatly appreciated!
- **We ask that you smoke respectfully and refrain from smoking in the flight line area and near the race control/livestream areas.**

Spectators and Commentary

- Coloured props, LEDs and coloured turtle mode fins will help spectators and commentators to identify your quads as they fly around the track, however they are not required.
- We will be using a HDZero EventVRX system to tune into your race frequencies so that online spectators can see the view from your goggles. It would be great if you set a callsign (e.g "M4TTFPV") on your FPV camera to help us identify you from your feed, again not required.

Appendix: Frequency Management

We will be using the following frequencies for this event:

- Raceband 1 - 5658
- Raceband 2 - 5695
- Raceband 3 - 5732
- Raceband 4 - 5769
- Raceband 5 - 5806
- Raceband 6 - 5843
- *Raceband 7 - 5880 (Spare)*
- *Raceband 8 - 5917 (Spare)*

Please be familiar with setting each of these frequencies in your video transmission equipment, as you may be asked to change between them during the event. We will be running a spectrum analyser throughout the event and we will use it to monitor the 5.8 frequency band before and during each race.

It is **your responsibility** to ensure that your video transmitter is **below the 25mW limit**. We also have the ability to check the output power of any suspected quad with our own ImmersionRC power checker, if video issues are apparent, and constantly throughout the day with a RF Explorer.

We will try to allow time for solving video issues, however ongoing problems will be left with the pilot to deal with.

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Any competitor found causing another competitor to lose video through negligence or willful sabotage (including use of the wrong frequency or exceeding power output levels) could be disqualified from the competition.

Absolutely no illegal substances to be used during this event

Anyone breaking this rule will be asked to leave immediately and their attendance at future events may be at risk.

Most importantly - have fun!

Any queries before the event, or on the event day, please contact the BDRA through our Facebook page, Discord or email to info@bdra.uk.

Camping

Camping is included in the cost of the event and is available Friday night to Sunday morning. Tents, Campers and Caravans are all permitted.

