



TITLE:

Rules & Regulations

Revision History

Rev	Release Date	Author(s)	Reviewer(s)	Approver(s)	Summary of changes
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1. Introduction

The British Downhill Skateboarding League (BDSL, The BDSL) is a points-based ranking system for downhill skateboarders who attend BDSL sanctioned events in Britain. Points are awarded to every single person who participates at an event. But, more points are awarded to those who compete.

The BDSL is not an event organiser. The BDSL runs a points system that, unifies events in the UK into an annual point based league that concludes each calendar year. Events wishing to partner with BDSL are required to meet a basic standard and comply with the rules laid out in this document.

There are two types of Events, Open Road Events & Closed Road Events, with different implications and points for each. Events can be Races, Time-trials, Slide Jams or Freerides.

2. Event Roles

2.1. Overview


Partnering events are required to provide designated Event Officials, these may be from their own staff or BDSL committee members if agreed upon in advance of the event with the BDSL. These positions have the power and responsibility of rule enforcement and race supervision, as described in the BDSL Rules, during the entirety of an event. Officials must be familiar with all rules.

Event organisers are required to have the following Officials fulfilled at an event:

2.2. Director

The Director shall have complete charge of the riders while on the track and has FINAL decision in all matters of race conduct, rule enforcement and implementation of penalties. The Director has the power to disqualify any competitor who, in their opinion, is in violation of the rules or whose equipment is, or has become, unsafe to operate. The Director is in charge of all other roles and responsibilities pertaining to racing only. Depending on who is in attendance

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at any given event, Directors should be a BDSL Committee Member, should no one be available from the BDSL a member from the Event Organisers can fulfil the role.

2.3. Start Line Official (Starter)

The Starter shall have complete control over the start area. The Starter shall follow instructions from the Director. The Starter's verbal commands are to be obeyed, without exception. Prior to giving the start command the Starter shall visually check all competitor's helmet straps for secure retention. The Starter is responsible for the monitoring of the start area and reporting any violations to the Director. The Starter and/or Director shall give a Rider's Meeting prior to the start of the event to explain the track, safety and expected conduct of riders. It is the rider's responsibility to be familiar with BDSL rules. In the event of a small Event Team, it is possible for one person to be the Director and Starter, as long as they are either an Event Organiser or BDSL Committee Member, and understand the roles they are fulfilling.


2.4. Chief Scorer

Should the event be a race then a Chief Scorer is also required. The Chief Scorer is in charge of the timing, scoring and bracketing. The Chief Scorer is also responsible for accepting any protests that may arise, gathering information from the respective competitors regarding any protests, and reporting this information to the Director. The Chief Scorer shall be located at the Finish Line and be responsible for this area.

2.5. Corner Marshals

Corner Marshals are in charge of the designated area assigned to them. Multiple Corner Marshals shall be strategically located down the course to promote the safety of the riders. Corner Marshals are responsible for reporting any accidents/injuries to the Director and, to the best of their ability, looking out for any poor conduct of the riders. They shall be in control of the *flags* and expected

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to keep the course clear of debris and hazards, notifying the riders with the flags should there be need. Corner Marshals can be Race Organisers, riders or any other volunteers, as long as they know what is expected of them while taking on this duty. Every Corner Marshal has the right and authority to stop all riding at any time for any reason should the marshal deem it in the interest of the riders.

3. Event Safety

3.1. Event Responsibilities

The responsibility for rider safety at an event varies for Open Road and Closed Road events. At an Open Road Event, while every precaution will be taken to ensure the road is free from traffic while riders skate, riders need to observe the rules of the road at all times and assume there may be traffic on the road. At Open Road events the responsibility for rider safety lies solely with the rider. The rider is assumed to know that they are responsible for their own safety and every precaution should be taken to ensure their own safety, be that slowing down, stopping or pointing out some facet that the event organiser has not noticed.


Universal safety requirements for all events are as follows:

The BDSL is in no way responsible for rider safety or event safety. The BDSL reserves the right to remove sanctioning from the event up to and including the day of the event, should the event organiser(s) not be providing an adequate level of safety. This will not stop the event running, merely the BDSL's involvement with the event.

Should an Event Organiser deem leathers and/or full-face helmets mandatory for their event, then the BDSL supports this position fully. The Event Organiser has discretion in this matter. Further to this, for a Closed Road Event, it is required to provide protection on the track in the form of hay bales and padding for the corners and any other hazards along the length of the track.

The BDSL expects to see a risk assessment for all closed road events.

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3.2. Riders Responsibilities

Riders are required to wear a helmet that is being used as the manufacturer intended. Helmet chinstraps must be securely fastened. Full-face helmets are highly recommended at all times. Slide gloves, equipped with palm pucks, and knee pads are mandatory for all events. Further pads are highly recommended and the use of leathers is considered advisable at any event. A leather suit supersedes the use of knee pads.

At both Open and Closed Road events, riders partake at their own risk and need to descend the track in a responsible manner that does not endanger themselves nor other riders. Any riders deemed reckless by Event Organisers, Directors, Corner Marshals or by the BDSL, can and will be disqualified from an event or banned from future events if required.

4. Equipment Specifications


4.1. Skateboard

Decks should be structurally sound and not possess sharp edges. They must be no longer than 150cm and no wider than 35cm. The total set-up weight must not exceed 7kg. Trucks must be lean-to-steer activated and no more than 305mm wide. The board must use exactly two (2) trucks and exactly four (4) wheels, with a maximum wheel diameter of 125mm.

4.2. Luge

Street luge and classic luge will be a combined class. The set-up must be structurally sound and possess no sharp edges. The total set-up weight must not exceed 25kg, must be no longer than 3 meters and no wider than 61 cm. There is no minimum length. Trucks must be lean-to-steer activated and no more than 305mm wide. The board can use up to 4 (four) trucks and 8 (eight) wheels.

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5. Race Procedures

If an Event is a Race then the following applies.

5.1. Race Practice

Event Organisers must provide a minimum of two (2) practice runs before riders commence qualification or racing.

5.2. Qualifying

Riders qualify to place in a race. Racing bracket sizing will be determined by the event type, attendance number and weather conditions. Not all riders may qualify to race. The following types of qualifying may be used by event organisers at an event:


- **Timed Runs** - at least one timed run seeds riders into the race bracket.
- **Race-to-qualify** - a series of head-to-head races, usually 'round robin' format, are used to seed the riders.
- **Automatic** - the competitor's BDSL ranking is used to seed the riders into the race bracket.
- **Mixed** - a combination of Automatic and one other method from above. For example, the highest 16 ranked BDSL competitors might automatically qualify for the race bracket, the remaining spots being determined by either timed runs or race to qualify.

Event Organisers have discretion to use the format that they think is best for their event.

5.3. Race Formats

Racing is head-to-head in either 2, 4 or 6 person heats, with the top 50% of

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riders advancing and the bottom 50% of riders being eliminated from the race bracket.

5.4. Start Procedure

The Starter, having verified that the course is clear, begins the Start Sequence as follows:

- “Racers Ready” - competitors assume set position with one foot up against the line and everything else behind the line for Skateboards. Luge must keep everything behind the line.
- “Racers Set” - no movement until start command given, be it verbal, snap-line or cap-gun.
 - *Note: Snap-line is the preference as false starts are clear. Snap-lines **should be** elastic **not** bungee cords.*
- Within 1-4 seconds of “Racers Set” the start signal is given.

5.5. False Starts

If any competitor crosses the start line before the start command is given, a False Start will be called. The competitors are reset at the Start Line and the start sequence is started anew when the riders are ready.

Any competitor that False Starts twice in the same heat suffers a 3-meter penalty. The competitor is staggered the 3 meters behind the Start Line but still starts at the same moment as the other racers.


5.6. Push On Course

There is NO LIMIT how far, or when, a competitor can push on the racecourse.

5.7. Protests

All Protests **must** be reported **immediately** after the heat has finished to the Chief Scorer at the Finish Line. This is the **only** time a Protest can be made. Once

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competitors have left the finish area and competition continues, they will have **missed their opportunity** to Protest.

5.8. Flags

The BDSL encourages the event organisers to adopt the international freeride and race standard as outlined below:

- **Green:** Course clear and open.
- **Yellow:** Caution, hold your position. Do not overtake riders; proceed pass yellow flag with caution; there may be an obstruction in the road or other hazards.
- **Red:** STOP IMMEDIATELY. Serious hazard, you may be in danger or placing another rider in danger by not stopping! Competitors can be disqualified for not coming to an immediate stop.

The BDSL does not consider the lack of flag as a sign of a clear course. This is an indication that the marshal is not present, aware or engaging in the event properly. The BDSL considers a non-present flag the same as a Red flag. Situation is unknown and riders should stop.


5.9. Contact

Some contact in close racing is natural. Riders who purposely make contact in order to impede or compromise another rider's line, unbalance, unsettle or intimidate another rider or use another rider to break or support them by riding a line that is unobtainable without using the other rider's grip, will be penalised. Riders are responsible for their own breaking and must avoid transferring speed to another rider by touching or bumping the back of a rider on the approach to turns. Deliberate, aggressive or repeated contact is not allowed and will not be tolerated.

Cooperative contact is also forbidden, for example, bump-drafting or linking up into a draft-train to gain an advantage over other competitors.

Any contentions should immediately be presented to the Chief Scorer, as outlined in Section 5.7 "Protests". Should any rider(s) engage in physical

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violence, verbal abuse or any other such example of poor conduct, the BDSL reserves the right to **Ban** the individual(s) in question for any amount of time they see fit. Including lifetime bans. Violence towards other competitors will not be tolerated under any circumstances. See Section 6 “Conduct”.

5.10. Finishing

In order to be deemed finished, when they cross the finish line, competitors must finish the race with the skateboard or luge that they started the heat with, be in contact with their ride standing with two feet on the board in stand up and laying down on their luge. The finishing criteria will be front wheel over line for skateboard class and feet over line for luge class.


5.11. Did Not Start (DNS)

Any competitor who does not start a heat will be ranked last of all competitors in that round of racing. If a competitor DNS the race, then every competitor that took part in racing will rank higher regardless of qualifications positions (i.e. if the number one qualifier did not race, for any reason, they would be ranked after all riders that did race). In the event of multiple DNS, then ranking to the nearest qualification position or BDSL ranking is acceptable.

5.12. Did Not Finish (DNF)

A rider, who starts a heat but, for any reason, does not cross the finish line is deemed DNF. Riders that DNF will rank last out of all competitors in that round of racing, including the other brackets or racing in that round.

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6. Race Conduct

6.1. Obscene Behavior

Obscene Behaviour will not be tolerated. Be it directed at Event Organisers, BDSL Members, riders or members of the public. Should any rider engage in physical violence, verbal abuse or any other such example of poor conduct or aggression, the BDSL reserves the right to **Ban** the individual(s) in question for any amount of time they see fit. Including lifetime bans. The BDSL reserves the right to strip a competitor of all points from the event, as well as imposing a ban from any or all-future events on said rider. Acts of violence and hate crimes will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

6.2. Litter

Litter is not acceptable. While Event Organisers should make every effort to provide bags for litter and waste disposal, each individual person attending an event is responsible for their litter. Riders can lose points (from some to all) for littering at Events.

7. Rankings

Points for 2017 Racing remain the same as 2016 for Regionals & Nationals. *Points for attendance have been changed for 2017.*

1000 points for a National Win, down to 661 for 31st Place and below.

650 points for a Regional Win, down to 430 for 31st Place and below.

Attending a National, but not racing awards 300 points.

Attending a Regional, but not racing, awards 150 points.

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Attendance points can be added in retrospect, please contact the BDSL as soon as possible to rectify the situation.

Full points for National:

BDSL NATIONAL RACE RESULTS

SEED	NAME	National Points
1		1000
2		961
3		943
4		926
5		911
6		896
7		883
8		870
9		857
10		846
11		834
12		823
13		813
14		803
15		793
16		783
17		774
18		764
19		755
20		747
21		738
22		730
23		722
24		714
25		706
26		698
27		690
28		683
29		676
30		668
31		661

NOTE:

*If 50 attend but only 30 race.
All people who didn't race will be allocated
the equivalent points at 31st position*

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF:

- FINAL STANDINGS (ALL)
- NAMES OF ALL ATTENDEES
- LAST PLACE RACER
- FREERIDERS ONLY

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Full points for Regional:

BDSL REGIONAL RACE RESULTS

SEED	NAME	Regional Points
1		650
2		625
3		613
4		602
5		592
6		583
7		574
8		565
9		557
10		550
11		542
12		535
13		528
14		522
15		515
16		509
17		503
18		497
19		491
20		485
21		480
22		474
23		469
24		464
25		459
26		454
27		449
28		444
29		439
30		434
31		430

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