



Drone Policy

Document Details			
Policy number	19	Version	2
Approved by board on	20-Jul-2022		

Policy Summary

GVIAS events will be identified as “No Drones” or “Art Drones Allowed”. Art Drones operated for artistic expression purposes may be approved for operation at “Drones Allowed” events subject to the terms of *This Policy*. Art drones must not be capable of recording video or photos.

Context

1. Operation of drones is governed by federal, provincial and municipal laws and This Policy presumes that all operation of drones is done in compliance with applicable laws.
2. Drones can be a part of artistic expression. At the same time, drones must be operated safely, and should not inhibit the participation of others, and some event venues may not be appropriate for drones.
3. GVIAS policy is that photography at GVIAS events requires the consent of those whose images are captured and that participants have a responsibility to respect the consent of others.
4. The recording of images via drones can contribute to community building. GVIAS policy states that photography at GVIAS events requires the consent of those whose images are captured and that participants have a responsibility to respect the consent of others.

Objective

BitF regulates all drones or radio controlled aircraft and requires that they be operated responsibly, and are subject to restricted fly zones and other rules of operation. The goal is to streamline drone registration, have all drone pilots be familiar with flying at our event, and make drone use safer for all BitF participants. Use of drone technology at a GVIAS event requires that the operator provides commitment to abide by the conditions for drone use listed in the GVIAS **Drone Operation Application and Agreement Form**.

Terms and Definitions

Terms and abbreviations used in This Policy are defined in the following table.

Term	Definition
Art Drone	A Drone approved as a form of artistic expression by the Curation Producer and the Safety Producer on the Event Committee, or if no such roles exist the Producer
Drone	Any remote control (RC) aircraft including: fixed wing planes, helicopters, multicopters aka “drones” or unmanned aerial vehicle
Event Committee	The Committee formed by the Producers and Associate Producers responsible for producing a GVIAS event (for example, Burn in the Forest, Dustcovery, etc).
Participants	Any individual who has purchased a ticket and has not or will not otherwise provide contracting or outside services.
<i>This Policy</i>	Shorthand for the <i>GVIAS Drone Policy</i> .

Policy Line Items

1. All drones must be registered as a Mutant Vehicle prior to the event.
2. This Policy applies to all attendees at a GVIAS event, including event Participants and Volunteers.
3. GVIAS events shall be designated as either *No Drones-Allowed* or *Art Drones-Allowed* events.
4. Drones may not be operated at any GVIAS event except as defined within *This Policy*.
5. Notwithstanding if an event is a *No Drones Allowed* or *Art Drones Allowed*, drones may be operated for GVIAS production purposes if explicitly required, including but not limited to perimeter security monitoring. Rangers must be informed if this is the case.
6. Drone operation will be subject to any venue restrictions, and subject to any no fly zones in proximity to airports, helicopter landing areas, or other restricted areas.
7. If an event is deemed an “Art Drone Allowed” event:
 - a. Any person wishing to bring an Art Drone or Art Drones must:
 - i. Complete an application including information on their artistic use, and confirm that the Drones used do not have the capability of recording photographs or video; or sending first person view video to the operator; and
 - ii. Receive prior approval from the Curation Pod Producer of the Event Committee, or the event Producer if no such role exists.
 - iii. Indicate their consent and commitment to abide by the conditions for drone use listed in the GVIAS **Drone Operation Application and Agreement Form** by signing the application and agreement appended to this policy.
 - b. In determining whether or not Art Drones should be approved, the Curation Pod must ensure that it has been demonstrated by the applicant that the Drone(s) is/are for artistic purposes only. For example:

- i. The Drone(s) is/are a unique, motorized creation that shows little or no resemblance to its original form. Examples of this would be for drones to look like bugs, birds or spaceships; or
 - ii. The Drone(s) is/are used as a collective to create composite patterns or images, such as through the use of lights and coordinated flying.
 - iii. Art Drones must not be capable of recording video or photos, as verified by the on-duty Production crew.
- c. If approved, the Event Committee will inform Rangers and the venue of the intended Art Drone usage during the event;
- d. Any person with prior Art Drone approval must:
 - i. Present all Drones brought to the event site upon entry, and at time of launch, for on-site inspection by a member of Event Committee to ensure that they comply with the application and approval and that the Drone(s) do not have the capability to record photographs or video; and
 - ii. Operate the Art Drone(s) within the terms of the approval received. If operation falls outside of those approval terms the Art Drone(s) may be confiscated by event security or by the Safety Pod (or the event Producer if such role does not exist) until the conclusion of the event.

Procedures

1. GVIAS events will be identified as “No Drones Allowed” or “Art Drones Allowed”. This determination will be made by the applicable Event Safety Producer based on factors including whether the operation of drones is safe and appropriate, and the requirements, rules and regulations of the venue at which the event is held.
2. The determination that an event is either “No Drones Allowed” or “Art Drones Allowed” will be communicated to the whole of the Event Committee and to the Communications Committee for publication with event information.
3. One of the following statements will be included in GVIAS event communications:
 - a. “This is a No Drones Allowed event. No drones of any kind are allowed.”
 - b. “This is an Art Drones Allowed event. Individuals who wish to operate art drone(s) at the event must provide a complete and submit an **Art Drone Application** and an **Art Drone Operation Agreement** on or before the Art Placement Deadline for the event. Only approved art drones may be operated at this event for artistic expression purposes only. Art drones must not be capable of recording video or photos. The Art Drone Application can be obtained by emailing the Event Art Placement Team. The **Art Drone Operation Agreement** can be obtained by emailing the Event Safety Team. All other drones are not permitted and will be confiscated. Operation of unauthorized drones may result in eviction from the event, and referral to the Conduct Committee.
4. Requests for the **Art Drone Application** will be received by the Event Curation Producer (or if they so delegate, the Art Placement Lead) who will send the **Art Drone Application** to the requestor, or will delegate this responsibility to one of their associate producers. Annually the Curation Producer, will create a form of Art Drone Application in collaboration with the Event Safety Producer to collect the relevant information for both teams to review. Upon receipt of any completed Art Drone Application, the Curation Pod shall send the application to the Safety Producer for review.
5. Requests for the **Drone Operation Application and Agreement Form** will be received by the Event Safety Producer, who will send the **Drone Operation Application and**

Agreement Form to the requestor, or will delegate this responsibility to one of their associate producers.

6. The Event Safety Producer and the Curation Producer (or their associate producer delegates) will be responsible for reviewing and potentially approving applications for Art Drone operation. These roles are also responsible for replying ahead of the event to individuals applying for drone use.
7. Security, Rangers, and Event Safety Pod members (and if such roles do not exist for an event, the Producer(s)), will have the authority to confirm that any drones being operated at an Art Drones Allowed event have prior approval by asking drone operators for proof of approval.
8. Security, and Event Safety Pod members (and if such roles do not exist for an event, the Producer(s)) will be responsible for confiscating non-approved Drones.
9. Confiscated Drones will be held until the end of the event or when the participant departs the event. **Confiscated Drones with video footage or photographs will not be released back to the Participant at the end of the event.**

Revision History

Version 1.0 : 17-May, 2022

Policy Committee Editing Iteration:23- May, 2022 & 5-July-2022