

SPORTS BAGGAGE

Factsheet

(Version 1.0, as at: 1 September 2023)

1 INTRODUCTION

The correct handling of requests for sport equipment is of utmost importance to avoid problems for the passenger at the airport.

This guideline applies for flights operated by Austrian Airlines (OS) and Lufthansa (LH). Due to technical reasons, Brussels Airlines (SN) and SWISS (LX) are currently using different processes (except BIKE + WEAP). Full harmonization within the airlines of the Lufthansa Group will be realized as soon as possible. Any current difference is mentioned in the guideline. In case of questions or uncertainties, please contact your Lufthansa Group Agency Support.

For flights operated by Eurowings (EW), Edelweiss (WK) and Eurowings Discover (4Y), please follow the instructions provided by these airlines or contact your Lufthansa Group Agency Support. For Air Dolomiti (EN) flights, please contact your Air Dolomiti Sales Center.

1.1 Must Know

- Sports baggage for OS and LH must be registered as an SSR element in the booking up to 24 hours before departure. For SN and LX only the registration of BIKE and WEAP is currently mandatory.
- Payment of applicable charges is only possible at the Service counter or Check-in counter at the airport.
- Sport equipment booked as SPEQ (with keywords SHORT BOARD, FISHING, GOLF, HOCKEY, SCUBA, WINTER as well as SSR BIKE and SSR WEAP) can be transported within the regular free baggage allowance (FBA). For input formats see → [2.3 Input formats](#)
- If SPEQ or BIKE or WEAP sports equipment exceeds the free baggage allowance by weight, or number of pieces, it will be charged as per “rates for sports equipment” as price category “NORMAL”.
- Sport equipment booked as BULK (with keywords LONG BOARD, HANG GLIDER, TANDEM) is not accepted free of charge even if it would be within the free baggage allowance. BULK is always charged as price category “BIG”

- For information on charges for sports equipment → [click here](#).
- For sports baggage that is not listed, general excess baggage regulations and charges apply.

1.2 Exceptions

- Sport equipment exceeding the maximum dimensions and/or weight will not be accepted as travel baggage. Travelers may, however, send these items as air freight/cargo.
- SSR FBAG (First Bag when traveling on the Economy Light fare) may not be used for the transportation of sport equipment.
- HON Circle members, Senators and Star Alliance Gold members may transport 1 golf equipment free of charge on all OS/LH/LX operated flights except to/from/via USA/Canada and/or when traveling on an Economy Light fare.
- Transportation of sports equipment on Lufthansa Express Bus and Lufthansa Express Rail is at the passenger's own risk; no reservation is possible.
- Passengers may register sports baggage for their Lufthansa flight no later than 72 hours before departure via → [lufthansa.com](https://www.lufthansa.com). Charges need to be paid by the passenger at the airport.
- Local embargos for the transportation of specific baggage can be implemented anytime and affected baggage SSR elements are rejected. Since 2018 an embargo on BULK for all flights from/to/via LHR is in place.

1.2.1 ITEMS WHICH CANNOT BE TRANSPORTED AS BAGGAGE

- Any equipment exceeding 32 kg/70 lbs will not be accepted.
- Any item exceeding 315 cm, e.g., vaulting poles will not be accepted.

Any sports equipment exceeding the permitted dimensions and/or weight will be refused upon check-in at the airport regardless of a possible "HK" status in the SSR. (see → [Chapter 2.1](#)).

To avoid confusion or mistakes, please **do not request any item exceeding 315 cm and/or 32 kg**. If maximum dimensions are exceeded, shipping as air freight/cargo may be an alternative.

1.2.2 SINGLE EXCEPTIONS FOR SPORTS GROUPS

Single exceptions for BULK with keyword UNDEFINED are possible for group travel to major sporting events organized by official associations and depending on route, type of aircraft, etc. Please do not request any item without a previous contract with the Lufthansa Group airlines.

2 BOOKING PROCESS

Always enter the SSR element as per list, see → [2.3 Input formats](#). Please use the correct SSR type (e.g., BIKE, WEAP, SPEQ, BULK, etc. and the keyword (e.g., WINTER, SHORT BOARD, etc.).

If in doubt, please contact your Lufthansa Group Agency Support.

For Lufthansa (LH) flights, registrations without correct SSR entry (missing or wrong keyword) will be rejected with NO and the remark "PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LHG AGENCY SUPPORT."

2.1 Automated HK process

Depending on the specific use case, automated airline processes may be in place:

- For OS and LH: only the quota for the specific item (if applicable) and a check on a possible embargo on the specific route is done by the system. If the quota is not exceeded and no embargo is in place, the system response is an automated HK plus restriction on maximum dimensions/weight of the item, e.g.

```
SSR SPEQ LH HK1 WINTER.SKI OR SNOWBOARD EQPT MAX LENGTH
200CM UP TO 32KG 70LB/S4
```

- The requested dimensions/weight cannot be checked automatically.
- Note: Immediate HK is an automated answer (not a confirmation) and subject to manual check of the weight and dimension restrictions shown in the SSR element.

Example Input:

```
SR SPEQ NN1 - VAULTING POLE 5.20METERS 20KG
```

Immediate Output:

```
SSR SPEQ LH HK1 VAULTING POLE 5.20METERS WEIGHT 25KG.EXCESS
BAGGAGE FEE APPLIES MAX LENGTH 315CM UP TO 32KG 70LB/S3
```

This means:

- The requested dimensions/weight (vaulting pole 5.20 meters and 25 kg) is not checked by the system – a manual check is required.
- Travel agents must inform the passenger that the requested item cannot be transported on the flight since the condition stated in the SSR "MAX LENGTH 315CM" is not fulfilled.
- The vaulting pole is too long – it cannot be transported as travel baggage and would be refused at the airport.
- If an embargo is in place, e.g., for WEAP to/from the United Kingdom, the SSR is automatically set to NO.

For SN and LX: A chargeable SSR is currently generated automatically for airline-internal handling.

2.2 Step-by-step table

Follow the steps in the table below to register/book sport equipment for OS or LH:

STEP	ACTION	
1	Request the sport equipment as SPEQ + Keyword or BULK + Keyword or SSR BIKE or SSR WEAP	
2	Check what happens:	
	If...	Then...
	...the request is immediately shown as HK and the SSR element shows limitations of dimensions/ weight/other restrictions.	...item can only be transported if the limitations of the SSR are met. <i>Proceed to step 3</i>
	...the request shows an NN/HN status.	...the confirmation or rejection of the request will be done manually. <i>Proceed to step 5</i>
	...the request immediately shows NO.	...quota is exceeded, or embargo is in place. <i>Proceed to step 4</i>
3	Check if the item is with the limit or exceeds dimensions and/or weight:	
	If...	Then...
	...SSR restrictions are not fulfilled (item too long and/or too heavy).	...the item cannot be transported. <i>Proceed to step 4</i>
4	Inform the passenger that the item cannot be transported on the flight.	
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once the item is confirmed with KK/HK, inform the passenger that payment must be done at the airport. Once the item is rejected with UC/NO, inform the passenger that the item cannot be transported on the flight. 	

2.3 Input formats

OS and LH: SSRs and keywords to be used for registration of sports equipment.

- **Max. no.:** Number of bags allowed
- **Max. dims.:** Maximum dimensions allowed
- **SSR entry:** The examples given refer to Amadeus (1A) SSR entries. The entry formats may vary depending on the reservation system used. If needed, use segment/passenger association.

SSR	Keyword	Item description	Max. no.	Max. dims.	SSR entry
SPEQ	WINTER	Winter Sports Equipment (Ski or Snowboard): 1 bag containing one pair of skis or one snowboard 1 bag containing one pair of ski poles and one pair of ski (or snowboard) shoes 1 helmet	2	200 cm**	SR SPEQ- WINTER TTL23KG1PC DIM000X00X00CM
SPEQ	GOLF	Golf Equipment: 1 golf bag containing one set of golf clubs, golf balls and tees 1 pair of golf shoes	1	220 cm*	SR SPEQ- GOLF TTL23KG1PC DIM000X00X00CM
SPEQ	SCUBA	Scuba Diving Equipment: 1 bag containing the weapon 1 bag containing the ammunition	2	200 cm*	SR SPEQ- SCUBA TTL23KG1PC DIM000X00X00CM
SPEQ	FISHING	Fishing Equipment: 1 bag containing fishing rods, 1 bag containing fishing accessories	2	200 cm*	SR SPEQ- FISHING TTL23KG1PC DIM000X00X00CM
SPEQ	HOCKEY	(Ice) Hockey Equipment: 1 hockey bag 1 hockey stick 1 pair of skates 1 set of body protection 1 helmet	2	200 cm*	SR SPEQ- HOCKEY TTL23KG1PC DIM000X00X00CM

SSR	Keyword	Item description	Max. no.	Max. dims.	SSR entry
SPEQ	SHORT BOARD	Boards Small (length up to 2 meters)	1	200 cm**	SR SPEQ- SHORT BOARD TTL23KG1PC DIM000X00X00CM
BULK	LONG BOARD	Boards Long (length from 2 meters to 3.15 meters)	1	315 cm**	SR BULK- LONG BOARD TTL23KG1PC DIM000X00X00CM
BULK	TANDEM	Tandem Bike 1 tandem with max. two seats	1	350 cm* 315 cm*	SR BULK- TANDEM TTL23KG1PC DIM000X00X00CM
BULK	HANG GLIDER	Hang Gliding Equipment 1 set of hang-gliding equipment in one bag	1	350 cm* 315 cm**	SR BULK- HANG GLIDER TTL23KG1PC DIM000X00X00CM

OS, SN, LH and LX: SSRs (no keyword needed) to be used for registration of BIKE and WEAP

SSR	Item description	Max. no.	Max. dims.	SSR entry
BIKE	Bicycle: 1 regular bicycle (no engine-powered bikes/ no e-bikes) or 1 special children's trolley to use with a bike or 1 unicycle (one-wheel bike)	1	280 cm*	SR BIKE -TTL23KG1PC DIM000X00X00CM
WEAP	Sporting Firearms Ammunition to be requested via SSR AMMO (OS/LH/LX) and via a second/separate SSR WEAP for SN	2	158 cm*	SR WEAP -TTL23KG1PC DIM000X00X00CM

* The maximum dimensions refer to the circumference (Width+Height+Depth) of the baggage item

** The maximum dimensions refer to the length of the baggage item