Racing Free Enterprise on SpeedRunsLive

We have two weekly races on SpeedRunsLive that currently takes place **Mondays at 9:30 eastern time and Fridays at 7:00 eastern time.** This is a guide for newbies to figure out how to set things up. A lot of this is copied from other places. Namely, the SRL Get Started FAQ and the documentation from LttP Rando community. But beyond that, veteran SRL users will want to check out the tourney specific rules and notes below the intro.

What are SRL races?

SRL Races are currently the most developed facet of SpeedRunsLive. Races let you run in direct competition with others simultaneously. Players set up races, and the RaceBot gives them a countdown. On GO! they start at the same time and both play through the game with the intention of finishing the goal first. Races are livestreamed so others can watch the action.

Every game raced on SRL has a ranking leaderboard. Players may rise to a higher rank when they do well in races. The stronger the opponent, the more you have to gain. The weaker the opponent, the more you have to lose. Most of all, we're all in this to have a good time. While races have potential for really great competition, it's all about fun.

How do I participate in SRL races?

1. Download or procure an IRC client, and set up your account.
There are a multitude of free IRC clients available. Some of the most popular ones include:

mIRC - doicm's mIRC Video Guide
HexChat - doicm's HexChat Video Guide
iceChat

SRL also offers an embedded IRC client on their site. However, the mibbit client lacks many features that other IRC clients have. This post by SakuraTsubasa can walk you through the steps to using SRL's IRC client.

You may also opt to use LiveSplit to join races, which links your SRL profile to LiveSplit. Do note that you can .undone on split reset if the chat window is still open, though -- it's convenient but not always easy to use LiveSplit. I personally use mIRC.

If you're using an IRC client, In the server connection window of your IRC client, you may connect to either of the following servers, based on your location:

New York— irc.speedrunslive.com
Amsterdam— irc2.speedrunslive.com
Channel— #speedrunslive

After doing that, you'll need to set up a nickname and password for yourself, and set your stream with the command .setstream twitch/name.

Here are some other common commands for SRL.

Rules Specific to Streaming Free Enterprise

1) Emulators are allowed. However, SNES9X v. 1.4X and ZSNES are banned because they improperly emulate lag. We recommend using SNES9x v. 1.5X and BizHawk. Emulator-only functions such as disabling layers, save states, game genie/gameshark codes, Lua scripts, or using turbo are banned.
2) Timing for runs: Start the game from the file select screen on "GO!", and you may .done after you see the screen flash on the final hit against Zeromus. If you are playing the Giant% Variant, some bosses will flash in the CPU spot to end the game. Others will explode or otherwise fade away. If the boss doesn't flash in a Giant% Variant race, .done as the last remaining boss sprite begins to fade.
3) .startrace ff4hacks is what you would use to create a FF4FE race on SRL.
4) .ff4flags <flagshere> will use fcoughlin's fcbot to generate a random seed for you with the flags you input. From there, fcbot will create a link for you, and all you need to do is enter the rom on the website at ff4-free-enterprise.com, and you should have the race seed. Confirm the hash and starting character with other racers before starting
5) .setgoal to Free Enterprise Randomizer, and add seed information if you'd like as well.

Restreams

We will try to put on as many community restreams of weekly races, tournaments, etc. as we possibly can. To be restreamed, we ask that you a) have game audio only and b) show a timer for sync purposes. You may also ask not to be restreamed and we will respect that! We will do our best to accommodate restreams, but do keep in mind that this is all through volunteers and we are not able to guarantee that your matches will be restreamed.

Approved restream volunteers will be given access to the restream channel and will be able to claim restreams as well as select commentators. To be approved, you must enter your information here.

Covering Our Collective Asses

It's the section everyone loves! And by everyone, we mean rules lawyers. The guiding spirit of these rules is: Please don't make us make more stringent rules.

1) All Speed Runs Live (SRL) racing rules apply. All participants must use approved emulators/consoles and stream their races. We recommend that you locally save your race-stream file in the event that your stream is disconnected and you are "proofcalled" on your time.

2) While it would normally be fine to have conversations with other players and talk about things if you were all playing a normal ol' game of FF4, randomizers introduce the wonderful concept of "not knowing where things are." As such, during an SRL race, we'd recommend putting up emote-only or mod-only mode on your Twitch chat, and do not allow streamers communicating with each other via voice chat. The last thing any admin or moderator wants to do is spend time dealing with accusations of cheating, or diving into a stream to see who said what and what happened after that. But if accusations are levied, we will have to investigate them and look into disqualifying the player in question. Players that are disqualified will be reported to SRL. If you want to talk to your friends and have fun with FE, by all means, feel free. Just don't use SRL for those casual races.
3) Think very hard about the content of your SRL comments if you're going to make them before everybody is finished. Spoilers are spoilers, and it's good etiquette to not make them even if you forfeit or are otherwise frustrated. We understand a slip-up every now and then, but repeat offenders will be reported. There is a race-spoilers channel in the discord for a reason.

   So please do not share in SRL races, as a .comment or in the IRC chat, seed-specific items, characters, weapons, bosses, item locations, spells you used to get through a tough boss, and so on. General comments e.g. "I played bad." are okay, but even something along the lines of "rando'd" or "rabbit holed" can tip someone off to the lay of the land that a seed is providing.