



WORLD KITEBOARDING LEAGUE

WKL Regulations
March 2017

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1. GENERAL RULES

1.1 FUNDAMENTAL RULES

1.1.1. Language

- a. The official language of the WKL is English and in case of dispute over translation the English text shall prevail.
- b. The word "shall" is mandatory and the word "may" is permissive.

1.1.2. Rule Principles

- a. These rules are intended to ensure that the best competitor wins through individual kiteboarding skill, good fortune and quality of equipment alone and not as a result of procedural devices or legalistic argument. All disputes under the rules should be conducted on this principle.
- b. The competitor shall compete in compliance with recognized principles of sportsmanship and fair play. The competitor may be penalized under this rule only if it is clearly established that these principles have been violated.

1.1.3. Safety

- a. Safety and fair play are the most important aspects of competition. Unsafe competitors may be warned, fined or disqualified.
- b. Kiteboarding in a manner that can be considered to be dangerous or a threat to the safety of other competitors will not be tolerated. All disputes under the rules shall be conducted on this principle.
- c. The competitor should give all possible help to any person or kiteboard in danger and assist organizers with any rescue information on the event of a rescue being needed.
- d. The Contest Director and the Head Judge are the highest authorities on safety issues and are responsible of the correct application of all safety regulations. Competitors and Event-Staff must comply with their guidelines and decisions.

e. Competitors shall not land jumps on the beach, and shall stay clear of any natural or artificial obstructions near the competition area. The infringement of any of the above rules may result in a warning, disciplinary action or disqualification at the discretion of the Contest Director or the Head Judge.

1.1.4. Safety systems

- a. Competitors shall have a mandatory safety leash to ensure the kite stays connected to the harness when the main safety release is deployed, there is an equipment failure or when letting go the control bar while ridding unhooked. The safety leash should have a quick release practicable from the competitor itself, which will be used only in case of a dangerous situation. Competitors not wearing the mandatory safety leash while competing will be automatically disqualified from the heat.
- b. The control bar shall have a mandatory main safety release also called "chicken loop" that allows the competitor to release the control bar and depower the kite in case of a dangerous situation.

1.1.5. Responsibility of competitors

- a. It is the sole responsibility of each competitor to decide whether or not to start or to continue in a competition and to provide for her safety.
- b. By participating in an event conducted under these rules, each competitor agrees
- (i) to be governed by the rules;
 - (ii) to accept the penalties imposed and other action taken under the rules, subject to the appeal and review procedures provided in them, as the final determination of any matter arising under the rules; and
 - (iii) with respect to any such determination, not to resort to any court of law tribunal.
- c. Competitors are responsible at all times for the safety of their equipment, checking regularly that all parts are in good condition. In addition they will be responsible for ensuring their equipment stays grounded in case of a sudden wind gust or wind shift.

1.2. EVENT DISCIPLINES, DIVISIONS AND SUITABLE CONDITIONS

1.2.1. Event Disciplines

a. An event can include competition in one or more of the following disciplines:

- Twintip Freestyle
- Big Air

Refer to relevant discipline rules to sections Twintip Freestyle and Big air

b. Scheduled disciplines of an event will be stated in the Notice of Event.

1.2.2. Divisions of competition

a. A WKL event will include 3 different leagues:

- **Juniors** until age 18 in divided groups 8/11 and 12/14 and 15/16 and 17/18.

- **Qualifier league** open age events. At the end of the year the result of this league will establish if a rider will go to the Elite league, only when the rider is older than 14 years.

The top 3 of the women qualifier league at the end of the year will pass over to the elite league and the bottom 3 of the elite league will go to qualifier league. There is 1 injury wildcard if a prequalified rider from the previous year gets injured. If there is no injury wildcard needed than top 4 Qualifier league and bottom 4 Elite League change. The top 8 of the men qualifier league at the end of the year will pass over to the elite league and the bottom 8 of the elite league will go to qualifier league. And there is 1 injury wildcard if a prequalified rider from the previous year get injured. If there is no injury wildcard needed than top 9 and bottom 9 change.

- **Elite league**, only qualified riders, minimum age 14 at the 31st of July of that year. When a rider is not yet 16 but is qualified for the Elite League it is mandatory they have schooling till 16 and will be under the guidance of a parents or adult during the whole tour and during the whole event. All qualified riders of the tour are mandatory to do the whole tour.

If an Elite League rider who is already qualified through his or her ranking of the previous year will not compete in the next year. The rider has to write an email to the WKL stating to not compete at least 4 weeks before the first event of the competition year. So the next inline of the ranking will get the available spot.

Division	Gender	Age
Junior	Girls/Boys	8 – 11
Junior	Girls/Boys	12 – 14
Junior	Girls/Boys	17 - 18
Junior	Girls/Boys	15 -- 16
Qualifier League	Women	Open
Qualifier League	Men	Open
Elite League	Women	>14
Elite League	Men	>14

- b. The competitor must have reached the minimum age limit before 31st of July that concerning year.
- c. Divisions may be created or merged if there are less than five (5) competitors registered per division.
- d. Competitors can only compete in one division per competition.
- e. All scheduled divisions at the events shall be announced in the Notice of Event

1.2.3. Suitable conditions

- a. All disciplines of competition must take place in suitable conditions that do not put in danger the safety of the competitors, taking special considerations to junior divisions.
- b. The decisions on suitable conditions shall be made by the Contest Director in consultation with the WKL representative and the appropriate Head Judge of that discipline
- c. The compatibility of air density, wind speed, wind direction, wave size and currents, weather and temperature will be considered when determining suitable conditions for all disciplines.

1.3. ORGANIZERS AND NATIONAL AUTHORITIES

1.3.1. Event Organizers, National Authorities and Event Committee

- a. Event Organizers: WKL sanctioned or WKL recognized events shall be organized by anybody or person recognized by the WKL, which will henceforth be referred to as Event Organizer. All

competitions shall be organized, conducted and judged under the WKL Event Organizers Manual and the KRU Rulebook.

- b. Event Committee: Subject to such direction as the WKL may exercise, all competitions shall be conducted and judged by the Event Committee in conformity with the terms and conditions published in the Notice of Event. The term "Event Committee"
- c. Only the WKL staff and WKL camera crew can enter the judging tower during the competition. In principle judges in the judging tower are protected from interference by anyone unless approved by the Contest Director or Head judge.

1.4. ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION

1.4.1. Entry procedure and Registration

- a. All qualifier competitors planning to enter a WKL qualifier event, shall pre-register online at the WKL website no later than the published closing date for entries for that specific event. The competitor must ensure that the application is completed correctly, submitted in time and paid.
- b. All qualified competitor for the Elite league failing to show at the event without advance notice will be given a disciplinary action. If a competitor is not able to come he/she will inform the WKL 4 weeks before the event. This can only with a written letter to the WKL stating your reason of absence. When a competitor is injured which results in not attending an event he or she needs to hand over a written letter by a registered doctor stating the form of the injury.
- c. All entrants must personally complete and sign the entry forms at the registration of the event at the time and place published in the Notice of Event. Exceptions may only be granted by the WKL Representative.
- d. If circumstances beyond a competitor's control disable the competitor to complete registration of the event at the time and place published in the Notice of Event, that competitor shall contact the WKL Representative and advise of his delay and gain consent to have his registration period extended. The competitor shall supply the WKL Representative with evidence to support that the circumstances were beyond his control. Failing to do the above

will prevent a competitor from entering the event.

1.4.2. Entry restrictions

- a. Any competitor owing money to an Event Organizer or the WKL may not compete in any further WKL recognized or sanctioned events until the debt is paid in full. WKL reserves the right to refuse entry from any rider.

1.5. ADVERTISING

1.5.1. Requirement to carry advertising

- a. If required by the Notice of Event, the Event Instructions or the Contest Director, competitors shall, for the duration of the event including registration day, be compelled when competing, taking part in exhibition or fun events, going out to compete and coming in from competing, warming up in the designated course or warm up area, being interviewed by event media at official press calls or at presentations on event podiums to:
 - (i) Wear a standard WKL specification, Event or Tour advertising lycra over all other clothing, including harness and lifejacket and/or. If this is not done your pictures will not be published or shared on the WKL page or with the individual rider.
 - (ii) Carry Event / Tour advertising stickers on the designated place on the board, kite or lines.
- b. Competitors shall follow any instructions given in the Notice of Event, Event Instructions or by the Contest Director or WKL Representative regarding the proper placement of advertising.
- c. All provided advertising shall be in good taste and well maintained as judged by the Contest Director or WKL Representative. Any branding deemed to not be in good taste by the Contest Director or WKL Representative must be replaced immediately.
- d. It shall be the sole responsibility of each competitor to wear her competition lycra correctly at all times during the event.
- e. Competitors shall make every endeavour to ensure that branding is properly adhered and

arranged on their board, kites and/or lines. However no competitor shall be responsible for loss of advertising stickers during competition due to inadequate adhesion of the sticker.

f. Competitor's failing to comply with any of the above rules will be given a disciplinary action.

1.6. GENERAL ATTITUDE AND RESPONSIBILITY AT EVENTS

1.6.1. Attitude

a. All members must, by their actions and general attitude, during all events and at all times while within the precincts of the site of WKL recognized or sanctioned events, promote the image of the sport, the sponsors of the event, The WKL and themselves in a professional manner.

b. Any failure to do so immediately prior to, during and immediately after a WKL event may result in appropriate fines being levied by the WKL. More severe cases of bringing the sport into disrepute may result in the suspension or expulsion of a competitor from the WKL.

1.6.2. Social media

a. Any post on social media channels made by any member, competitor or Event Official will be considered a public statement. A post considered abusive or detrimental to the best interests of the WKL and the sport in general, or that could be considered to bring the WKL or the sport into disrepute shall be considered as an unsportsmanlike conduct and may be penalized with a disciplinary action (1.7).

b. Any post from a competitor on social media about a sanction imposed under this Rulebook shall be done with the consent of the WKL Representative.

1.6.3. Official attendance

a. Mandatory competitor's meeting

The first day of the event there will be a mandatory meeting for all competitors at least one (1) hour before the start of the first heat. The official time and location for the meeting will be announced to all competitors at registration and on the Official Notice Board.

b. Media conference and interviews

All competitors may be required to attend a post heat media conference immediately after the end of the heat or at any time reasonably possible taking into consideration the commitments of competition, whether he is the winner or the loser. Competitors must wear the event sponsors advertising vest or a suitable substitute supplied by the event organizer or WKL Representative during this conference as required.

c. Official ceremonies or events

Punctual attendance to all scheduled official events or ceremonies announced in the Event Instructions is mandatory for all competitors.

In the event the Event Organizer has provided adequate food and drinks free of charge, competitors are required to stay for up to two hours from the published start time at the discretion of the WKL Representative. If adequate food and drink is not provided then competitors are required to stay for a minimum of one hour from the published start time at the discretion of the WKL Representative. Under circumstances where there are no constraints on time and no possibility of competition on the following day, these times may be extended at the discretion of the WKL Representative. If a competitor is not attending an event a disciplinary rule will be issued.

d. Presence on site

All competitors are compelled to stay within the precincts of the site for the entire duration of the event as published in the Notice of Event. Any competitor seeking exemption from this rule for a particular event must request and obtain permission in writing from the WKL Representative.

e. Competitor's failing to comply with any of the above rules may be penalized with a disciplinary action.

1.7. DISCIPLINARY CODE OF CONDUCT

1.7.1. General codes

- a. The rules set forth under this section apply to the conduct of each competitor, caddies, coaches, Event officials, WKL staff or competitors family relatives while within the precincts of an event site, when specific offences described there in are considered to bring the sport

into disrepute or are directed towards an Event Organizer, sponsor, the WKL or WKL staff. Disciplinary actions will be taken.

- b. The WKL Representative, Contest Director or Head Judge may discipline and warn competitors. In all cases the Contest Director and/or Head Judge shall consult with the WKL Representative before imposing any warnings or penalties under the code of conduct.
- c. When imposing a warning or penalty the committee involved will consider the seriousness of the offence, the current ranking of the competitor and if the rule violation is a repetition.
- d. Disciplinary actions may be imposed for each individual breach of these rules and where different rules have been breached during a single incident, each individual breach may be penalized.
- e. Competitors will be notified of any warnings or disciplinary actions in writing by the WKL. Any competitor wishing to appeal against a action may submit a written appeal to the WKL. This appeal will be considered by a committee consisting of the Head Judge and Contest Director and WKL Representative and a Board member of KRU.

1.7.2 Disciplinary actions

The actions listed in the following articles will incur similar disciplinary actions such as a warning, event elimination, disciplinary actions or disqualification. Appropriate disciplinary actions will be determined by the WKL competition management team.

- a. Kiting in the Competition Area when not competing
- b. Not wearing your personalized lycra
- c. Failure to attend an event entered such as pre-registered and/or qualified competitor failing to attend the event without personal advance notice and /or has an adequate excuse (as determined by the WKL).
- d. Any competitor failing to show at his heat before the end of the heat without advance notice and non due to any extenuating circumstance including injury.
- e. Members found to be littering or causing any other environmental damage within the precincts of the event site.
- f. Any competitor failing to attend the first day competitor's mandatory meeting.

g. Official ceremonies or events

Any competitor failing to attend an Official ceremony or event as prescribed in Regulation 1.6.3c.

Any competitor finishing in the top 3 positions of each discipline and division failing to attend the awards ceremony on time and not being justified by a force majeure circumstance will incur a fine equal to their earned prize money for the event.

h. Presence on site

Any competitor failing to remain present on site as prescribed in article 1.6.3d.

i. Advertising

All Competitors are required to abide by the advertising rules as laid out in Regulation 1.5.

j. Audible obscenities

Audible obscenities are defined as words in any language commonly known and understood to be profane and uttered clearly and loudly enough to be heard by any officials or camera's in the proximity.

k. Visible obscenities

Visible obscenity is defined as the making of signs or gestures by a competitor using his hands, body, or kiting equipment that commonly have an obscene meaning or import to reasonable people.

l. Verbal abuse

Verbal abuse is defined as a statement directed at an official, opponent, spectator, member of the media or any other person that implies dishonesty, or is derogatory, insulting or otherwise abusive.

m. Abuse of event equipment

Any competitor abusing or damaging event equipment, violently or dangerously or with anger, will incur a disciplinary action plus the costs of repairing or replacing any damaged equipment.

n. Physical abuse

Physical abuse is the unauthorized touching of an official, opponent, spectator, member of

the media or any other person.

o. Unsportsmanlike conduct

Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as any misconduct that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the sport, but does not fall within the prohibition of any specific on site offence contained in these rules. In addition, unsportsmanlike conduct shall include but not be limited to the use of illegal drugs, gambling, bribery, sexual harassment or abuse, giving, making issuing, authorizing or endorsing any public statement having or designed to have an effect prejudicial or detrimental to the best interests of the WKL, the event or the kiteboarding sport in general.

If the Head Judge deems that a competitor is abusing or misusing the Protest system, he may propose that a fine be levied in the category of unsportsmanlike conduct.

p. Coaches, Team Managers and family relatives

Competitors not taking responsibility for the presence of their coaches, managers, representatives, family relatives and any personal staff and the violation of any of WKL Code of Conduct rules.

1.8. EVENT DISCIPLINES SCORING

1.8.1 Principles of scoring

- a. All eliminations are scored evenly.
- b. The positions in the individual disciplines shall be established by means of the total score earned over the valid heat held in each discipline.

1.8.2. Discards

- a. Dependent upon the number of discards permitted, the highest, second highest, third highest are discarded. The lowest total score, with discards, if any, taken into account, wins. The number of discards to be considered in each discipline is specified in the relevant section of this Rulebook.

1.8.3. Ties

- a. When there is a tie in total points of a series-score between two or more competitors of an individual discipline, the tie shall be broken as follows:
 - (i) In favour of the competitor(s) with the best single excluded elimination score(s).
 - (ii) If a tie remains between two or more competitors, each competitor's elimination scores shall be listed in order of best to worst, and at the first point(s) where there is a difference the tie shall be broken in favour of the competitor(s) with the best score(s). These scores shall be used even if some of them are excluded scores.
 - (iii) If a tie still remains between two or more competitors, they shall be ranked in order of their scores in the last elimination. Any remaining ties shall be broken by using the tied competitors' scores in the next-to-last elimination and so on until all ties are broken. These scores shall be used even if some of them are excluded scores.

1.9. PRIZE MONEY

1.9.1 Prize money

- a. Event Organizers and WKL contracts will take precedence when it comes to prize money levels as set by the WKL Management Board.
- b. The total prize money amount at the event for each discipline and division shall be announced in the Notice of Event or entry form.
- c. The full amount of the advertised prize money in each discipline shall be payable when a valid result stands as per the rules in the relevant discipline subsections of this Rulebook.
- d. The prize money distribution per discipline and division are specified in the relevant discipline subsections of this Rulebook and may be modified in the Notice of Event.
- e. Any competitor who, in the opinion of the Contest Director, causes any unnecessary delay in the smooth running of an event (e.g. not attending the prize giving ceremony on time) or a breach of the WKL Code of Conduct may be excluded from this prize split. The Contest Director's decision may can be appealed, although it requires an appeal from the rider in

writing. This will be discussed by the Event Committee.

f. Incomplete disciplines.

A discipline is considered incomplete when there is no official result and points awarded as specified in the relevant discipline subsections of this Rulebook.

(ii) The 100% allocated to the registered competitors is distributed as follows:

a) If no dingle elimination series has been completed, then the money is split evenly amongst all officially registered competitors.

In case of a dingle elimination series, then the losers of the round shall have 50% divided evenly amongst them and the winners of the first round shall have 50% divided evenly amongst them.

b)

In case of a dingle elimination series, then the losers of the second round shall have 15% divided evenly amongst them, the winners of the second round and winners of the first round shall have 85% divided evenly amongst them.

g. Shared positions

When a number of competitors share a single position, their ranking order not having been determined, the payment for these competitors shall be as follows:

The prize money for the occupied position and the following unoccupied positions (equal in number to the competitors standing on the single position) shall be added together, then divided by the number of the group of competitors being paid in this manner.

h. If tax deductions are applicable on prize money at any event, the Event Organizer shall provide the contestant with a letter detailing the deductions and providing information on refunds.

1.10. ANNUAL RANKING LISTS

1.10.1. Ranking points per discipline

- a. After a valid event result, competitors will be awarded points according to the table below and their finishing position per discipline.

Position	Points	Position	Points
1	1000	33	215
2	900	34	210
3	810	35	205
4	730	36	200
5	680	37	195
6	630	38	190
7	580	39	185
8	540	40	180
9	500	41	175
10	460	42	170
11	430	43	165
12	400	44	160
13	380	45	155
14	370	46	150
15	360	47	145
16	350	48	140
17	340	49	135
18	330	50	130
19	320	51	125
20	310	52	120
21	300	53	115
22	290	54	110
23	280	55	105
24	270	56	100
25	260	57	95
26	250	58	90
27	245	59	85
28	240	60	80
29	235	61	75
30	230	62	70
31	225	63	65
32	220	64	60

b. The minimum number of heats per discipline and event for scoring in the WKL annual ranking list of the respective discipline(s) is one valid elimination as specified in the relevant discipline subsections of this Rulebook.

c. Incomplete elimination series

For any valid event result per discipline and when the elimination series is incomplete, points will be awarded as follows:

- (i) Any round within an elimination series that has been completed, then the losers of the round shall have the points awarded as per their finishing table, even if competitors are tied.
- (ii) Any incomplete round within an elimination series, then the points for the occupied position and the following unoccupied positions (equal in number to the competitors standing on the single position) shall be added together, then divided by the number of the group of competitors.

d. The WKL annual ranking per discipline for the year will be determined by the cumulative adding of the discipline year's event points after discards. The number of discards shall be in accordance with the table below:

Number of events	Number of events discarded
1-3	0
4-6	1
7-9	2
More than 10	3

e. The competitor with the highest total score in each discipline and division at the end of the year is the World Champion in that discipline.

f. Ties in annual ranking lists

When there is a tie in total points of a WKL annual discipline ranking list, the tie shall be broken as follows:

- (i) in favour of the competitor who has beaten the other in more events in the relevant discipline excluding all discarded events scores.
- (ii) If a tie remains between two or more competitors, each competitor's event discipline scores shall be listed in order of best to worst, and at the first point(s)

where there is a difference the tie shall be broken in favour of the competitor(s) with the best score(s) excluding all discarded events scores.

(iii) If a tie still remains between two or more competitors, they shall be ranked in order of their scores in the last event. Any remaining ties shall be broken by using the tied competitors' scores in the next-to-last event results and so on until all ties are broken.

These scores shall be used even if some of them are excluded scores.

g. Prize money distribution

The prize money distribution between gender will be done according to the following table:

Men	Women
Percentage	Percentage
70%	30%

1.11. NOTICE OF COMPETITION

1.11.1 Publication and content of the Notice of Competition

a. The Notice of Event must be published at least thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the event by the WKL. Exceptions to this rule may only be made with the approval of the WKL.

b. Contents of the Notice of Event

The Notice of Event shall include the following information:

1. the title, place and dates of the competition and name of the Event Organizer;
2. that the competition is sanctioned by the WKL and governed by the WKL Rulebook or any other rules that may apply to the event;
3. scheduled discipline(s);
4. maximum number of elimination heats ;
5. entry conditions and numbers of entries, and divisions;
6. place and time of registration, as well as any conditions for advance registration;
7. registration fees payable by participants, if any;
8. advertising obligations, if any;
9. additional compulsory safety obligations, if any;

10. changes to any rules of the WKL Rulebook;
11. total amount of prize money to be awarded, as well as any additional prizes;
12. any tax deductions from prize money that might be applicable;
13. the availability of security for sailors' equipment;
14. average anticipated weather and water conditions for the race venue at that specific time of year;
15. names of the Contest Director, the Head Judge and Judging Panel where applicable;
16. any further information, which is deemed necessary;

1.12. EVENT INSTRUCTIONS AND OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD

1.12.1 Publication and content of the Event Instructions

a. The WKL Rulebook may be supplemented by written Event Instructions, which have the same status as rules. The Event Instructions may alter a rule by specific reference to it, but they shall not alter without prior publication in the Notice of Event. The Event Instructions shall be posted on the Official Notice Board and any extraordinary instructions may be distributed to competitors.

b. Contents of the Event Instructions

The Event Instructions shall include the following information:

1. that the event shall be governed by the WKL Rulebook, the Notice of Event and the Event Instructions;
2. a list of any other documents that will govern the event;
3. location of the Official Notice Board and Elimination Ladder(s). If applicable, the location of the Official Flag Pole/Led screens, the place where starting signals are given and the Judges stand;
4. instructions concerning the application of the advertising stickers or any other advertising support (flags on the lines, board stickers, etc.) if any;
5. changes to the rules according to article 1.10.2a;
6. procedure for giving oral instructions;
7. total amount of prize money to be awarded, as well as any additional prizes;

8. any special safety information;
9. how many and which official ceremonies the Contest Director requires the competitors to attend indicating any specific dress code. Prior confirmation of these ceremonies shall be obtained from the WKL ;
10. the names of the Contest Director, Head Judge, Judging panel, and WKL Representative, where applicable.

c. Changes to the Event Instructions

The Event Committee may change the Event Instructions by posting a notice on the Official Notice Board at least 30 minutes before the start of the heat in which they are to apply.

1.12.2. Official Notice Board (ONB) and Official Flag Pole (OFP)

- a. All official announcements shall be posted in writing on the Official Notice Board. The attention of the competitors shall be drawn to all important announcements, such as changes to Kiteboarding Instructions.
- b. All competitors are responsible to periodically check the information posted on the Official Notice Board.
- c. The schedule of heats, competition area diagram, starting signals, and heat duration shall be posted at the official Notice Board at least 15 minutes before the start of the heat. It shall be sole responsibility of each competitor to know in which heat she will be taking part.
- d. Official Flag Pole (OFP)

All signals shall be made from the place indicated in the Kiteboarding Instructions or in the way indicated in the Kiteboarding Instructions.
- e. The Contest Director shall announce at the daily competitor's meeting the weather forecast for the day, the schedule for the day and any other relevant information.

1.12.3. Oral Instructions

- a. Oral instructions may be given only if the procedure is stated in the Event instructions.

1.13 PENALTIES AND REDRESS

1.13.1 Penalties

- a. A competitor may be disqualified from the heat, discipline or event by the Event Committee even without a hearing for hindering another competitor whilst competing.
- b. A competitor may be disqualified from the heat, discipline or event by the Competition Committee for infringing the WKL Rulebook, Event Instructions or any governing document as described in the Event Instructions.

1.14. DEFINITIONS

1.14.1 Definitions

Caddy A nominated person by the competitor to provide any extra equipment directly to a competitor during competition and who must act in accordance with the WKL Rulebook.

Competitor A rider that has entered the event and is entitled to compete in it. The term competitor will be used when referring to a competitor that is not competing in the water, See Kiteboard.

Event Any Event licensed by WKL. This includes an Event in any of the WKL Tours or a Specialty Event or Qualifiers that are conducted to determine any number of surfers that will compete in the main event.

Judge An individual who has been approved by WKL as someone qualified to sit on a judging panel at an WKL Event.

Jumping A kiteboard is jumping when the board its appendages and the competitor are clear of the water.

Kiteboard The board used by a competitor to compete. The term kiteboard is also used when referring to a competitor that is competing in the water during his heat.

WKL Event Organizer The organizing authority designated by WKL to organize any WKL sanctioned or licensed event.

WKL Representative Any individual with a power authorized under this Rulebook and designated on the Notice of Event or Event Instructions.

Performing a trick A kiteboard shall be considered as performing a trick from the point she alters course in preparation for the manoeuvre or trick, during the jump and to the point she settled on to normal course on a tack.

Postpone A postponed heat is delayed before its scheduled start but may be started or abandoned later.

Riders Representative A nominated individual by the competitors at the Event. This representative is to be nominated amicably between the competitors present or available at the Event. If this decision cannot be made, the highest- ranking competitor per discipline will make a unilateral decision on the Representative provided the competitor accepts the decision.

Rule

- (a) The rules in this Rulebook, including the Definitions, Competition Signals, Introduction or announcements posted in the Official Notice Board together with any update as published in the WKL Website;
- (b) the class rules;
- (c) the Notice of Event;
- (d) the Event Instructions; and
- (e) any other documents that govern the event.

Tangle Two or more kiteboards shall be considered as tangled when

- (a) the lines of one kite are wrapped around the lines of another kite without one kite going through the lines of the other kite;
- (b) one kite goes through the lines of the other kite;
- (c) kites have been flown together with strong force and high speeds or when one or more of the kites is looping; It is not considered a tangle any kind of contact between kites that which does not qualify under the definition of tangle above. This includes "bumping" of kites, catching the lines of another kite with the kite tip etc. Even if both kites capsize (kites in the water) as a result of the contact, this is not a tangle (unless tangled as a result of above action).

If both kites remain in the air and are quickly separated, this is not considered a tangle even if there is a slight wrap-around.

2. TWINTIP FREESTYLE

2.1. ENTRY ALLOCATION, SEEDING AND INJURY WILDCARD

2.1.1. Entry allocation

- a. The maximum number of competitors entering the WKL Freestyle event is 24 men and 12 women
- b. Entries into WKL Freestyle events will be allocated as follows for the 1st Event of 2017.

Entry Category	24 Men	12 Women
Current WKL freestyle ranking before WQF	1-14	1-7
Local Event Organizer Wildcards	15	8

After the 1st Event in 2017 and all other events entries will be

Entry Category	24 Men	12 Women
Current WKL freestyle ranking	1 - 23	1- 11
Local Event Organizer Wildcards	24	12

- c. There is no maximum number of competitors entering an event in the Qualifier League. Only when there are more than 32 male and 20 female riders or 52 in total. We will have restrictions. Restrictions will be in Appendix E.
- d. Local Event Organizer wildcards shall be approved by the WKL one week before the event. Kiteboarding merits as well as video footage from the wildcard candidates may be requested to the Event Organizer.
- e. In case a pre-qualified rider will not compete in an event and the WKL knows in advance. It will give this open space in the ladder to the next in line from the Qualifier League Tour.
- f. In case a pre-qualified competitor doesn't show up to an event without advance notice a disciplinary action will be taken. Their entry will be given to the highest ranked competitor from the Qualifier League when a Qualifier League event takes place together with an Elite League event.

2.1.2. Seeding

- a. Top 15 men and top 8 women will be seeded in the WKL Freestyle ladder according to the following:
1. For the first WKL Freestyle event, the previous year WKL Freestyle annual ranking shall be used.
 2. After one (1) valid WKL Freestyle event, seeding for the second event will be based as follows:
 - (i) The first current year WKL Freestyle event results as 50% of their score
 - (ii) The previous year WKL Freestyle annual ranking results as 50% of their score
 3. After two (2) valid WKL Freestyle events, seeding for the third event will be based as follows:
 - (i) The current year WKL Freestyle event results after two (2) events as 66.6% of their score.
 - (ii) The previous year WKL Freestyle annual ranking results counting as one event results contributing to 33.3% of their score.
 4. After three (3) valid WKL Freestyle events, seeding for the next events will be based in the current year WKL Freestyle ranking.
- b. The remaining qualified competitors will be distributed in the WKL Freestyle ladder according to the name drawing that shall be done by the Contest Director at the first day mandatory meeting for all competitors before the competition starts.
- c. "Byes" if any, shall be positioned so that they are allocated to the most highly ranked competitors.

2.2. ELIMINATION LADDERS, SCORING AND PRIZE MONEY.

2.2.1. Elimination ladders and scoring

- a. The WKL Freestyle elimination ladder shall be dingle elimination In the Elite League. And depending on the number or entries in the Qualifier League a single or dingle elimination.
- b. There will be no more than one (1) dingle elimination per division at each event.

c. Competitors shall compete one against another, or in groups up to six (6) determined by the elimination ladder.

d. In a dingle elimination the top 2 of the first round heats advance immediately to the third round, whilst the third, fourth, fifth and sixth ranked competitors are re-seeded into the second round.

e. WKL Freestyle Men 24 dingle elimination and women 12 dingle elimination

See Addendum 1: Dingle elimination ladder Freestyle

f.

When wind conditions are not sufficient to finish the dingle elimination ladder, the Contest Director, Head Judge and WKL representative are allowed to change the amount of attempts from 7 to 6 or 5 per heat. Or reduce to a single elimination ladder. See Appendix 1. This can only be done before the dingle elimination starts or after the first round of the dingle elimination.

Ranking and event points:

Heat result	Position	Points
Winner Heat 16	1	1000
Looser Heat 16	2	900
Looser Heat 16	3	810
Looser Heat 16	4	730
Winner Heat 15	1	680
Looser Heat 15	2	630
Looser Heat 15	3	580

g. WKL Freestyle Women 12 dingle elimination

Ranking and event points:

Heat result	Position	Points
Winner Heat 9	1	1000
Looser Heat 9	2	900
Looser Heat 9	3	810
Looser Heat 9	4	730
Losers Heats 7	3	680
Losers Heats 8	3	680

h. The minimum number of elimination series to constitute a valid Freestyle scoring at an event and to distribute the prize money is one (1) WKL Freestyle dingle elimination ladder where the fleet has been eliminated to the top 12 men and/or 6 women.

i. Scoring of incomplete elimination series

When the minimum number of heats for a valid WKL Freestyle elimination series has been completed but not all places determined, competitors qualified for heats which have not been run shall be awarded points according to article 1.10c .

j. Event ranking

After a valid event WKL Freestyle result, competitors will be awarded points according to their finishing position as specified in Regulation 1.10 .

2.2.2. Prize money

a. WKL Freestyle prize money distribution

The prize money distribution for a valid and completed WKL Freestyle event will be done according to the following table:

Men		Women	
Position	Percent	Position	Percent
1	24.00	1	30.00
2	18.00	2	24.00
3	15.00	3	20.00
4	12.00	4	12.00
5	8.00	5	8.00
6	6.00	6	6.00
7	4.00		
8	3.00		
9	2.50		
9			
9			
9			

2.3. COMPETITION FORMAT AND PROCEDURES

2.3.1. Competition format

a. Identification of competitors

Each competitor should wear his or her personalized lycra. The lycra will be given to each competitor at registration.

Each competitor shall wear the lycra as stated in article 1.5.1f. Competitors not wearing the lycra or not wearing it correctly during their heats will not be scored and may be penalized with a disciplinary action.

- b. A competitor failing to show at his heat to compete without prior notification to the Contest Director may be penalized with a disciplinary action. The Contest Director will determine if the competitor provided adequate notice in relation to their whereabouts. No-show for extenuating circumstances including injury will be considered.
- c. When a competitor does not show at his heat, the competitor(s) must compete the heat alone(s) in case the opponent turns up late. Only if the Contest Director is informed and confident that the competitor will not be competing in their scheduled heat, the daily schedule can be adjusted to reduce the event's running time.
- d. Competition area:
 - 1. The competition area shall be defined in the Event Instructions or in the way indicated or in the Official Notice Board at least fifteen (15) minutes before the start of the heat. A diagram is recommended.
 - 2. A competitor shall be scored while being in the designated competition area. Whether a competitor is in or out of the competition area, will be at the discretion of the Head Judge and/or the senior judge on the relevant judging panel.
 - 3. A competitor shall not kite in the competition area while competition is going on, other than during her own heat. A competitor infringing this rule may be penalized with a disciplinary action.
 - 4. Only one competitor can perform a trick at a time inside the competition area.
 - 5. At certain spots and during the first round from the dingle elimination with 3 competitors offset marks may be used. Any of the offset marks have to be rounded or passed before any trick attempt inside the competition area.
- e. Interferences

A kiteboard shall not interfere with another kiteboard with right-of-way.

Interference may be called if:

 - 1. A kiteboard changes course to obstruct another kiteboard.
 - 2. A kiteboard enters the competition area when another kiteboard is already inside.

3. A kiteboard that has crossed or jumped inside the competition area changes direction and enters the competition area again when another kiteboard is approaching the competition area.
4. There is deliberate unsportsmanlike action with the competitors in the heat.

f. Interference penalty:

1. The head Judge shall call an interference penalty only if the majority of the judges will call the interference.
2. An interference penalty will be called using a coloured flag together with a black flag corresponding to the competitor's competition vest colours in the water when possible. The flag colour code used to display the interference penalty flags corresponding to each competitor will be posted in the Official Notice Board.
3. If an interference penalty is called on a competitor, then the competitor's final score will be penalized with a loss of 50% of his best scoring trick.
4. If a Competitor incurs a second interference penalty during the heat, he must immediately leave the competition area and won't be scored from this point losing 100% of her best scoring trick.

g. Outside assistance

Each competitor's efforts on the water shall be individual with only the following means of outside assistance being permissible:

1. Competitors that during their heat end up downwind of the competition area, will be allowed to make their way back to the competition area by walking upwind on the beach by themselves. If a competitor gets assistance of another competitor while walking upwind on the beach or bringing the board, the competitor competing in the heat will not be scored from this point.
2. While competing, a competitor could get assistance to re-launch his kite inside of the competition area/course only from a competitor competing in his heat/race. A competitor could get assistance to re-launch his kite only when the downed kite is out of the competition area (e.g. when the kite drifts to the shore brake).
3. Competitors who during their heat get assistance inside the competition area from the rescue boat, press boat, Jet ski, or any other craft, will be disqualified from that heat. The Contest Director can make changes to this rule if necessary.

4. In the event if a competitor loses his kite from equipment failure, the competitor will be allowed to replace his kite during the heat only outside from the competition area. The competitor has to get out from the competition area by his own means. If the competitor is not wearing a leash, he will not be scored from the point he loses his kite.

Any non-permitted outside assistance where a competitor gains significant advantage in the heat shall be penalized by a warning or disqualification if in the opinion of the Head Judge or Contest Director, such assistance materially prejudiced the result.

2.3.2. Signals for starting and finishing a heat

a. Starting signals

1. The starting signals

Warning signal	Red Flag
Preparatory signal	Yellow flag
Starting signal	Green flag

2. Each visual signal may be accompanied by a sound signal, but times shall be taken from the visual signals and mistiming or failure of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

b. Heat duration

The heat duration shall be from 21 up to 42 minutes. The intervals between the starting signals shall be posted on the Official Notice Board.

2.3.3. Postponing and abandoning a heat

a. The Event Committee may:

1. Before the starting signal postpone or abandon a heat for any reason,
2. After the starting signal abandon a race / heat because of insufficient wind, or foul weather, or an error in the starting procedure, or because a mark is missing, for other reasons directly affecting the fairness of competition. The time limit for such abandonment shall be five (5) minutes after the finish of the heat.

3. Postpone or abandon a heat at any time for safety reasons.

a. Postponement:

A postponement shall be signalled by the raising of the "Answering Pendant", accompanied by two (2) sound signals. After a postponement the ordinary starting signals shall be used according to article 2.3.2.a. The postponement signal shall be lowered, accompanied by a sound signal, one minute before the first warning signal is made.

b. Abandonment:

The raising of code flag "N", accompanied by three (3) sound signals, shall signal that the present heat is abandoned.

2.4. FREESTYLE EQUIPMENT.

2.4.1. Freestyle equipment

There are no restrictions on Freestyle equipment.

2.4. RIGHT OF WAY RULES

2.4.1. Right of way rules

- a. A windward kiteboard shall not jump or perform a manoeuvre or trick when a leeward kiteboard is close to her. A kiteboard jumping or performing a manoeuvre or trick shall keep clear of a kiteboard that is not.
- b. Kiteboards shall not change course to obstruct another kiteboard (blocking).
- c. Kiteboards shall stay clear of the competition area when not competing.
- d. Kiteboards shall not land jumps on the beach, and shall stay clear of any natural obstructions near the competition area.
- e. A kiteboard that is capsized or aground shall not interfere with another kiteboard.
- f. In the case the affected competitor, during a tangle or collision, is not competing against the

competitor at fault and the action penalizes the competitor's performance limiting his chances of winning the heat, the affected competitor's heat may be re-run.

- g. From the warning signal to the starting signal, a kiteboard returning to the shore after competing has to keep clear of a kiteboard entering the competition area to compete. This rule does not apply to the wave discipline.
- h. If reasonably possible, a kiteboard not competing shall not interfere with a kiteboard that is competing.
- i. In case of a deliberate unsportsmanlike action with the competitors in the heat, dangerous action, tangle or collision, as a result of the infringement of any of the above rules will result in a warning or disqualification from the heat at the discretion of the Contest Director or Head Judge.

2.5. JUDGING

2.5.1. Judging procedure

a. Selection of judges

An attempt shall be made to ensure that no judge has a vested interest. So no family relation to a competitor and no personal relationship with a competitor. Only the WKL has the power to make appointments and substitutions for an event.

b. One panel of judges, no less than three (3) in number, shall score each heat. The scores of the respective competitors will be tabulated together to get their results from the heat.

1. Each judge shall award each competitor's trick attempts points on a scale from 1 to 10 in the corresponding scoring category to be scored in increments of 1/10th of a point.
2. The scores of the respective competitors shall be tabulated together to determine the winner: highest points wins.
3. Competitors are not allowed to stay in the judge's tower. If a competitor wants to check his judging scores, he shall ask for consent from the Head Judge to enter the judge's tower.
4. The scores and the decisions of the judges can not be appealed.

c. Re-running of heats

The Head Judge has the power to re-run a heat, only when he has strong evidence that there is a major discrepancy in the judging scores from each individual judge. The decision to re-run heats shall be made max 5 min after the heat concerning has finished.

d. Appeals against judges

If competitors feel to be disadvantaged by certain judges they shall report this in writing to the WKL Representative or Head Judge at the end of the competition day.

At times, errors of a special nature occur with respect to judging. The WKL Head Judge, along with the Contest Director and the WKL Representative, will rule on these special circumstances, case by case.

2.5.2. Scoring

a. The maximum number of trick attempts per competitor during a heat will be 7 and only the best 4 tricks with the highest individual scores and from different trick categories will count towards the final score.

b. Crashes will be scored 0.0 points and will be counted as an attempt but never as a counting trick score. A trick will be scored as a crash only if the majority of the judges score it as a crash. If only two judges score a trick as a crash, those crashes scores will be withdrawn and the judges will re-score the trick or score it as a missed trick.

c. If a judge misses a trick, or part of the trick, he should place an "M" and that score will be given points equal to the average to the nearest tenth of a point (0.05 to be rounded upward) of the other judges' scores from the same scoring category for that trick.

If all judge's from the same scoring category or categories miss a trick, the scores for this scoring category or categories will be the weighted average of the other scoring categories scores for that trick.

e. If all judges miss a trick and the Head judge finds out there is strong evidence that the trick was missed by all the judges and the missed trick had a scoring potential that may change the final result, the Head Judge may re-run the heat according to article 2.5.1d.

- f. A Pop or failed trick attempt without crashing will be scored.
- g. Judges may not change their scores. In the Event that a mistake has been made the judge should have the Head Judge make the correction for them.
- h. Tied competitors' heat scores shall be listed in order of best to worst individual trick scores and at the first point where there is a difference the tie shall be broken in favour of the competitor with the best individual trick score.

2.5.3. Freestyle trick categories

- a. The Freestyle tricks repertoire has been broken up into the following tricks categories. The list of tricks included by category is not extensive, and not limited to the described tricks below but gives an indication about how different tricks are being categorized by the judges. The Head Judge has the final say when categorizing a new trick.
- b. WKL Freestyle trick category list: See Addendum 2.
- c. None of the above trick categories are mandatory, but in order to bring the variety criteria into effect, only the highest score per trick category will count towards the final heat score from each competitor.

2.5.4. Freestyle judging criteria's and scoring categories

- a. WKL Freestyle judging criteria are applied to score individual tricks.
- b. The WKL Freestyle discipline will be judged based on the quality of the execution of each individual trick. Judges analyse the following key criteria's when scoring a trick:

Technical Difficulty: The technical difficulty of a trick completed during the heat.

Power: The power during the execution of the tricks.

Power will be considered as a combination of:

- Speed into the trick to pop, not using the kite to get the initial pop.
- Height and amplitude of the trick.
- Speed out during landing
- Kite position

Height: Height of the trick completed during the heat. This aspect will exponentially come into consideration as the wind conditions increase, but only when the height is achieved along risk factor and technical difficulty.

Risk factor: Is directly linked to the Power involved in the execution of the tricks, but also to the commitment of the competitor, technical and physical challenge during the execution, duration of the critical moment, amount and quality (lines direction) of the air in the trick, and energy on the execution.

2.5.5. Scoring categories

- a. The judging criteria are broken down and weighted into the following three (3) main scoring categories, each one being judged by one or two judges from the judging panel.

Technical (40%): technical difficulty and execution - Reflects the technical difficulty of the executed trick.

Intensity (40%): power and height - Reflects how big and powerful the trick is performed.

Performance (20%): smoothness, innovation and risk factor - Reflects the performance in terms of fluidity, originality and energy for each trick.

2.5.6. Other judging aspects

- a. A crash will be considered when:

- i. a competitor is sinking, losing control of the board or bar when landing a trick.
- ii. a competitor grabs the safety leash to regain control of the bar.
- iii. a competitor lands a trick but did not control the kite throughout the execution of the trick resulting in the release of the bar and/or the crashing of the kite into water after landing the trick.
- iv. a competitor sinks and is completely stopped when landing a trick.
- v. a competitor lands on her back and the board is completely out of the water.

- b Judges may give credit to a landed trick that is not a crash when:

- i. a competitor butt-checks when landing the trick but keeps riding and control the kite.
- ii. a competitor grabs the "chicken loop" to regain control of the bar.
- iii. A competitor keeping a momentum whatever the landing

- c. The credit given to a butt checked trick is directly related to the risk factor involved in the execution of the trick in combination with the conditions.



Addendum 1:

Dingle elimination ladder Freestyle men

round 1	round 2	round 3	round 4	final
Heat 1	Heat 5	Heat 9		
22	6th H3	2nd H8		
18	5th H4	1st H7		
14	4th H2	2nd H4		
10	3rd H1	1st H1		
6				
3				
Heat 2	Heat 6	Heat 10	heat 13	Final
23	6th H4	2nd H7	2nd H9	2nd H14
19	5th H3	1st H8	2nd H10	2nd H13
15	4th H1	2nd H3	1st H9	1st H13
11	3rd H2	1st H2	1st H10	1st H14
7				
2				
Heat 3	Heat 7	Heat 11	heat 14	
21	6th H1	2nd H6	2nd H11	
17	5th H2	1st H5	2nd H12	
13	4th H4	2nd H2	1st H11	
9	3rd H3	1st H3	1st H12	
5				
4	Heat 8	Heat 12	small final	
Heat 4	6th H2	2nd H5	4th H14	
24	5th H1	1st H6	4th H13	
20	4th H3	2nd H1	3rd H14	
16	3rd H4	1st H4	3rd H13	
12				
8				
1				

Women

Round 1

heat 1

10
6
3

heat 2

11
7
2

heat 3

9
5
4

heat 4

12
8
1

heat 5

2nd h1
3rd h1
2nd h2
3rd h2

heat 7

2nd h5
1st h5
1st h1
1st h2

final

2nd h8
2nd h7
1st h7
1st h8

heat 6

2nd h3
3rd h3
2nd h4
3rd h4

heat 8

2nd h6
1st h6
1st h3
1st h4

Reduced ladder men single elimination

round 1

round 2

round 3

final

heat 1

- 22
- 18
- 14
- 10
- 6
- 3

heat 2

- 23
- 19
- 15
- 11
- 7
- 2

heat 3

- 21
- 17
- 13
- 9
- 5
- 4

heat 4

- 24
- 20
- 16
- 12
- 8
- 1

heat 7

- 2nd H5
- 1st H6
- 2nd H4
- 2nd H3
- 1st H1
- 1st H2

heat 5

- 4th H4
- 4th H2
- 3rd H1
- 3rd H3

heat 8

- 2nd H6
- 1st H5
- 2nd H2
- 2nd H1
- 1st H3
- 1st H4

heat 6

- 4th H3
- 4th H1
- 3rd H4
- 3rd H2

- 3rd H8
- 3rd H7
- 2nd H8
- 2nd H7
- 1st H7
- 1st H8

Women

round 1

round 2

final

heat 1

10
6
3

heat 2

11
7
2

heat 3

9
5
4

heat 4

12
8
1

heat 6

2nd H5
1st H5
1st H3
1st H1
1st H2
1st H4

heat 5

2nd H4
2nd H2
2nd H1
2nd H3

Addendum 2

WKL Freestyle trick category list



Addendum 3

Overview prize money

Freestyle Prize money			€ 40,000.00					
men			women					
place		percentage			place	percentage		
1		24	€ 6,720.00		1	30		36
2		18	€ 5,040.00		2	24		28
3		15	€ 4,200.00		3	20		24
4		12	€ 3,360.00		4	12		14
5		8	€ 2,240.00		5	8		9
6		6	€ 1,680.00		6	6		7
7		4	€ 1,120.00					
8		3.5	€ 980.00					
9		3	€ 840.00					
10		2.5	€ 700.00					
11		2	€ 560.00					
11		2	€ 560.00					
28000		100	28000		12000	100		120
Big air Prize money			€ 10,000.00					
men			women					
place	percentage				place	percentage		
1	22		1540		1	35		10
2	18		1260		2	27		8
3	16		1120		3	22		6
4	12		840		4	16		4
5	8		560					
5	8		560					
5	8		560					
5	8		560					
7000	100		7000		3000	100		30