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Competition Rules General



Produced as an KTA short version of the full IKA /ISAF
2009 – 2012 Experimental Kiteboarding Competition Rules

The KTA competition rules are directly based on the full rules and guidelines of the

2009 -2012 IKA Experimental Kiteboard Competition Rules (EKCR) These rules maybe updated at anytime in accordance with IKA /ISAF requirements. The current IKA Genral Rules appendix is attached.

The Asian Tour and other one-off Open Events shall run under the direction of the KTA

Each Tour round of the KTA will be hosted in a different country by the KTA along with the local tour stop organiser and title sponsor of that country.

The KTA is sanctioned to operate the Asian continental tour, international and national events under the kiteboard class world governing body the International Kiteboarding Association (IKA).

The IKA is recognised as the official class governing body under the International Sailing Federation (ISAF).

Titles

In the Asian Tour both male and female competition the KTA shall result in the following titles within the sanctioned disciplines -

Tour Stop Winner

**KTA Tour
Champion**

Asia Champion



General Rules

These rules are designed to explain the basic ISAF competition rules so that riders who are starting to compete can do so by using only these few rules and without the need to learn the many details of the ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the Experimental Kiteboarding Competition Rules (EKCR).

However, the RRS and EKCR apply whenever racing and can be found for information in their latest versions on the ISAF and IKA websites

All rules are intended to ensure that the best competitor wins through individual skills, good fortune and quality of equipment, and not as a result of procedural devices or legalistic argument. All disputes under the rules shall be conducted on this principle.

§ 1 *Helping those in danger*

You must give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger

§ 2 *Sportsmanship, fair sailing and misconduct*

A fundamental principle of sportsmanship under these rules is that when you break a rule you will promptly take a penalty. This might be by requesting a scoring correction, or in more severe cases, in retiring. If you do not play fair, or bring the sport into disrepute, you may be penalized severely.

§ 3 *Decision to race*

The decision whether it is safe for you to start or to continue competing is yours alone, not for the people running the race.

§ 4 *Starting eligibility*

Every rider wishing to take part in an IKA sanctioned event must be a member of his/her national kiteboarding class association (which is in membership of the IKA), or one of its affiliated organisations i.e. the KTA. No other membership is required.

For nations without national class associations in membership to the IKA, individual membership of the rider is possible.

§ 5 *Equipment*

There are no restrictions on equipment other than those defined in the IKA class rules. The IKA reserves the right to impose further restrictions on equipment in the interest of safety or fair competition.

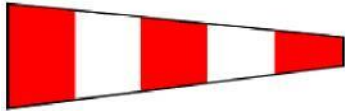
§ 6 *Advertising*

Every competitor may display advertising on board, kite and clothing except in the areas reserved for his/her personal identification number. The Notice of Race may require competitors to wear an event lycra whenever competing or training, and to place event and class stickers on the board.

§ 7 Prize Money

Prize money and prize money splits shall be published on the official KTA website for each event.

§ 8 Important Flag Signals



AP Races not started are *postponed*. The warning signal will be made 1 minute after removal unless at that time the race is *postponed* again or *abandoned*.



N All races that have started are *abandoned*. Return to the starting area. The warning signal will be made 1 minute after removal unless at that time the race is *abandoned* again or *postponed*.



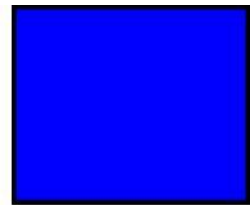
Ashore: A notice to competitors has been posted.
Afloat: Come within hail or follow this boat.



M The object displaying this signal replaces a missing *mark*.



Y Wear a personal flotation device.



(no sound)

Blue flag or shape. This race committee boat is in position at the finishing line.

Core Rules

1. Language

- The official language of the KTA is English, but where appropriate and useful translation to other languages may be used by agreement with the KTA.

2. Principle of KTA rules

- The rules are intended to ensure that the best competitor wins through kiteboarding skill alone and not as a result of procedural devices or legal argument. All disputes under the rules shall be conducted under this principle and the notion of good sportsmanship.

3. Event Disciplines

- Each Asian tour stop on the KTA will undertake to run the following competition disciplines in agreement with the IKA tour sanction.
 - Freestyle
 - Course racing
- Other sub-disciplines may be run at any of the KTA tour stops if time and conditions allow, but the sanctioned disciplines will always hold priority.
- KTA Open and promotional events may run with or without sanctioned disciplines in the programme.

4. Safety

- All competitors shall give all possible help to any other competitor in danger, if in a position to do so.
- Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing protective equipment adequate for the conditions.
- Each competitor must have signed the organizer's waiver if required.
- All equipment used in KTA event must have fully functioning safety systems in good operation condition and competitors must ride with a kite leash at all times.
- No board leashes will be permitted in KTA competitions.
- All competitors under 18 must wear a helmet and float jacket when competing except when parental authorisation is signed before the event to not do so.
 - It is the individual riders right to decide not to compete within any of the tour stop events.



5. Asian Tour Stop Duration

- KTA tour stops are based on a standard five-day package, with the first day being warm-up free ride and registration day, with the following four days being for competition. Any alteration to this will be agreed in advance where possible, but in all circumstances no sanctioned discipline event will take place before the close of the officially published registration time for that event.

6. Format and Conditions

- There is no pre-set event programme and an information meeting will take place every day to inform riders of the programme. The local organiser, head judge and judging team will make the decision as to suitability of the weather and conditions as to whether the competition commences or continues. The head judge and judging team have the final decision as to which events may take place.

7. Judging Team - Each tour stop judging team will consist of a minimum of the following

members –

- KTA Head Judge
- Three Judges
 - One Race Director
 - One Safety Office (which maybe combined with the race office)
- Flag and timing control
- Each round of competition will be judged by a team of at least three people.

8. Support Team

- Each tour stop shall have a minimum of the following support staff present during all competition events –
 - Local on water rescue crew
 - Minimum of two beach assistants
 - Results administrator
 - First aid provision



Rider General Rules

1. Rider Responsibility

- There are no restrictions as to the type of sponsorship promotion on a rider's equipment, even if this is competition with the event sponsor. However, all riders must wear/display if required promotion for the event sponsor and must not deface them.
- All riders must be available for photos calls and interviews during the event. If riders do not comply they may be penalised with scores / prizes/ prize money being withheld.
- All riders must be present at opening and closing ceremonies.

2. Rider Conduct

- Any rider kiting dangerously or being verbally abusive will face verbal and or written warnings. Depending on the seriousness of the offence they can face disqualification from the heat, round or tour.
- Each rider will compete as indicated on the scoreboard and shall be solely responsible for competing in the right heat at the right time. If the head judge does not deem a competitor to be up to standard or they are unsafe, they will not be allowed to continue.

3. Rider Information

- Riders will be informed of specifics, alterations or additions to these rules, at the rider meetings. All start times; heat durations and flag signals will be covered at these meetings if in doubt ask the head judge. Visual signals may be accompanied by an acoustic signal, but only the visual signal count.
- Any competitor who is late or does not attend the rider meetings may not be allowed to compete.

4. Membership

- Under the IKA sanctioning rules where a competitor is not a direct member of the IKA, they may instead be a member of either their local, national or regional kiteboarding association or organisations, which is affiliated to the IKA. The KTA entry fee includes membership at each race

5. Insurance

- It is advisable for all competitors to hold their own liability and accident insurance. The KTA is current seeking insurance cover for all riders in its competitions and this rules maybe amended to cover this in the future.



6. Entering the events

- A rider may register for freestyle or course racing or both within any single round of the KTA Asian Tour or numbers of rounds or the complete tour.
- Riders have the option to register either through the official KTA website for any event or any round of the Asian tour or for the whole Asian tour in one go. Riders may also register for any events directly at the event itself on the registration day. Please note that pre-registered riders hold the priority to compete if the competition is oversubscribed. Maximum numbers of competitors for a given discipline are stated in the rules for that discipline.
- The KTA is open to all riders of all nationalities that comply with the conditions and rules of competition. The Asian champion titles however may only be awarded to male and female riders who are nationals of an Asian country.

7. Fees

- All fees for entry to the KTA events will be published on the official website.

Drugs / Drinks

- The taking of illegal substances is prohibited at all KTA events.
- If any competitor is deemed to be under the influence by the start of competition after the night before they will not be allowed to compete.
- No drinking is allowed by competitors on the grounds of safety until the competition is completed or called off for the day. Any rider caught will not be allowed to compete without refund of entrance fees paid.
- In the event of an injury to a third party, whether another competitor or member of the public, legal proceedings may be taken against the individual and the KTA depending on the laws of the country the event is being held in, if a competitor is suspected of being under the influence of drink or drugs.
- It has been advised that the KTA has a drink/drugs policy in place to promote professionalism as a sporting event. It is not the intention of the KTA to heavily police this issue unless an incident occurs or a rider is deemed to be a potential threat to themselves or others.

Competition Prizes

- Prizes or prize money shall be allocated for a minimum of first to third places in each discipline on an individual event basis in agreement with the local organiser and the KTA.
- Tour trophies will also be awarded at the final round on the KTA to the male and female KTA Tour Champions and Asian Champions. Second and third place riders will be awarded tour medals.

Rankings

- Rider's competition in the KTA will be ranked in accordance with IKA requirements based on the scoring system in operation for each discipline.
- The KTA will rank each rider's position on an individual tour stop event basis and show each rider's ongoing tour ranking positions on the official website.
- IKA world ranking points will also be awarded to all riders competing in KTA sanction events and a rider's overall world ranking position within each discipline will be shown on the official IKA website.

Changes and updates

The KTA reserves the right to make changes and updates to the competition rules as required.

