

NATIONAL KITE FOIL SERIES

SERIES GUIDE





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INTRODUCTION

The National Kite Foil Series is established to create an Australian wide approach to Kite Foil racing. The series brings together State and National Championships events to award Series Champions at the end of the season. The following document will not act to replace the Notice of Race (NOR) or Sailing Instruction (SI's), more so communicate information relevant to the series and general guidelines for competition.

Thank you to the National Kite Foil Committee and all the official and volunteers who work together to develop Kite Foil Racing across Australia.

Thank you to those who have contributed to establish this document.

REVISION RECORD

Date	Version	Revision description
12 Jan 2021	1.0	Document accepted by the National Kite Foil Committee



1.0 SAFETY GUIDELINES

Kiteboard racing is easy to practice safely with a little forethought and common sense. Ultimately, we are responsible for minimizing the risk to ourselves and others, which will help protect the future of this great sport. As such competitors are asked to familiarise themselves and follow the below safety guidelines:

1.1 DURING THE EVENT:

- Every competitor holds a responsibility to disclose any pre-existing medical conditions. KA strongly discourages involvement in a kiteboarding event if this puts the competitor's health and well-being at risk.
- Medication (if required) for pre-existing conditions is to be carried by the competitor and the competitor should take all foreseeable measures to make event organisers aware of its location and use in case it is required.
- A rescue vessel will be available for on-water support in the event of an incident/injury to a competitor on the water.
- All competitors are expected to sign on and off each day using the designed sign on/off sheet. Failure to sign off prior to the end of the days competition may result in being disqualification from the competition.
- Treat all other beach users with respect, beach users/swimmers have right of way at all times.
- Treat the environment with respect.
- Competitors are encouraged to drink plenty of water, and protect themselves from the sun (Slip, Slop, Slap).
- Event organisers may postpone or stop races should a safety risk arise i.e. change of weather conditions, member of the public in the competition zone, shark sighting, etc. Races will not be recommenced until the race committee deem it safe to do so.
- Competitors are to report all incidents or confrontations with members of the public to an organising committee member ASAP. The organising committee will deal with any disgruntled members of the public to diffuse the situation prior to escalation.
- Any undesirable behaviour (verbal or physical abuse, unsafe behaviour, disregard for event organisers instructions) will be dealt with appropriately by event organisers and may result in disqualification from the competition.
- Competitors are encouraged to leave valuable items at home or in the club rooms. Items such as towels, shoes, sunglasses should be left in a central location (e.g. the event tents or clubrooms) on the beach where onshore event organisers can monitor them.
- The competition zone will be clearly marked to competitors, organisers and beach users with flags, signs and buoys.



- Competitors should check all equipment for faults prior to the competition, making sure all equipment is fit for use, including making sure safety systems are in working order. Competitors are encouraged to avoid using equipment if deemed to be unsafe.
- Use equipment suitable for the conditions.
- It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure their equipment is ready and they shall report to the marshalling area prior to races. Event organisers will not chase competitors and races will be run whether participants are ready or not.
- Volunteers will be available on the beach to assist with launching and landing kites. Launch/Land kites towards the water and do not self-launch or land outside permitted areas.
- It is also required that racers wear approved protective equipment including helmets and PFD's to prevent injury and harm.
- All participants must ensure their equipment has an adequate quick release
- Roll up bar and lines when kites are not in use to prevent slips, trips, falls and tangles.
- All competitors must abide by the C.L.E.A.R guidelines to avoid collision and respect the give way rules at all times (see page 3).

1.2 ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION:

- Competitors are discouraged to consume alcohol while competing at KA sanctioned events.
- Should competitors choose to consume alcohol during the event they are encouraged to drink responsibly.
- All alcohol must be consumed in accordance with all relevant Australian laws.
- All competitors found with alcohol in a designated dry zone will be asked to leave the competition area immediately.
- No alcohol is to be consumed by minors.

1.3 WEATHER AND MARINE CONDITIONS

- In extreme weather conditions, the race committee reserve the right to call off races(s) or the event if conditions are unsafe.
- In the event of thunder and lightning apply the "International 30/30 rule". That is; if the time between "flash and bang" is less than 30 seconds, immediately exit the water and seek safe shelter. This should be a solid structure, building or hard top motor vehicle. Do not take shelter under large single trees or unsubstantial buildings such as tents or shelters.
- Event organisers and competitors are to keep an eye out for marine creature hazards. Evacuation of the water, postponement of heats or the event may be necessary should signs of danger be present.

1.4 C.L.E.A.R. KITEBOARDING SAFETY GUIDELINES

Conditions



- Wind strength and direction
- Always keep downwind area well clear
- Waves, tides and currents
- Consider possible changes

Look

- Before you launch, land, jump, jibe etc.
- Use appropriate launch areas. Make sure your launch area is in an approved kiting area. Make sure the area is open, no person or hard objects are downwind from you, watch poor or slippery footing, nearby power lines, buildings and walls etc.
- Check to see what size kite other kiteboarders are rigging and get their input on conditions. Try to select a kite size for the lower to middle part of the wind range. Do not rig too large a kite for conditions and carefully consider advice of more experienced riders. If you do not have a small enough kite to safely launch, do not go out

Equipment

- Always complete a pre-flight check (Check your kite for tears or leaky bladders. If you have leaky bladders or tears in your kite, repair them before flying. Check all equipment, including your kite, harness and bar. Check that your safety works and inspect lines for knots, cuts, wear or abrasion. If the line sheathing shows any breaks or knots, replace them. The pigtails should be replaced no less frequently than every year on inflatable kites)
- Use a kite leash and use a quick release on anything you hook into
- Practice using your safety systems regularly so that it becomes instinctive
- Never exceed manufacturers specifications and connect your lines according manufacturers specifications

Attitude

- Always seek and listen to local advice
- Do not exceed your limitations
- Use judgement to prevent situations, do not rely on skill to try and get out of it

Respect

- Others - be considerate and courteous to all other waters and beach users
- The law
- Fellow kites - follow the right of way rules
- The environment

2.0 COMPETITION FORMAT

2.1 CATEGORIES FOR STATE AND NATIONAL EVENTS



Division	Gender	Age
Male Juniors	Male	<18
Female Juniors	Female	<18
Open Men	Men	All ages
Open Women	Women	All ages
Masters	Male and Female	35+
Formula X (Event Organisers Discretion)	Male and Female	All Ages

- The event organising committee has the authority to not run a division
- It is at the event organising committee's discretion to allow individuals to compete in multiple division, should they be eligible.
- The Formula X division should be reserved for kiteboarders in their 1st season of Kite Foil racing or on unregistered equipment. The event organising committee has the right to bump competitors to another division if they are deemed too good for the Amateurs division.
- If racing on freeride equipment, participants should ride in Formula X (this includes LEI kites)
- Juniors age will be determined on the registration day of the event. E.g. If participant is 18 years of age on the start date of competition, they cannot compete in the junior division.

Races shall be run in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing

National Kite Foil Series Champion

Will be awarded in the following categories:

Division	Gender	Age
Male Juniors	Male	<18



Female Juniors	Female	<18
Open Men	Men	All ages
Open Women	Women	All ages
Masters	Male and Female	35+

2.2 FORMULA X

Formula X is a division created for participants who are competing on an amateur level. Riders are permitted to use a mix of freeride equipment or non-registered equipment.

Formula X division is for participants looking to start racing or race on a modified course and participation encouraged from all looking to get involved. There are no series points attributed to the Formula X division.

2.3 RACING RULES OF SAILING

Races will be run in accordance with World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing RRS 2021-2024

Appendix F will be included for the specifics of Kite Foil Racing

The Racing Rules of Sailing can be found here - <https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org>

2.4 IKA CLASS RULES

The IKA Kite Foil Class rules will regulate the equipment used in foiling kiteboard racing events.

The aim of the rules is to enable Foil Kiteboards to participate regardless if they are factory or custom made with certain restraints.

The rules can be found here - [https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/KF2019CR20190418-\[24906\].pdf](https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/KF2019CR20190418-[24906].pdf)

3.0 ELIGIBILITY

3.1 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



The National Championships may only be awarded to an Australian Resident or a person who currently holds a long-term visa for three or more consecutive years.

International participants can compete at the National Championships, however they will not be awarded the National Titles.

3.2 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

State Championships eligibility is at the discretion of each State Association. Should no prior advice be given to the State Title Eligibility criteria prior to the event then the National Titles eligibility criteria will apply.

3.3 SERIES CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Series is open to participants within Australia and internationally.

3.4 MEMBERSHIP

- All competitors must be financial event or full members of Kiteboarding Australia/ State Association and an Australian Sailing Club (This includes the low cost Sail Pass)
- By default, members of Kiteboarding Australia are also members of their state association. Membership can be obtained through at www.kiteboardingsaus.com.au/registration

4 NATIONAL KITE FOIL SERIES

4.3 SERIES SCORING

The National Kite Foil Series Champion will be crowned at the end of the first year.

- If the series consists of 4 events, a racers 3 best results will count towards their series score.
- If the series consists of 5 events, a racers 3 best results will count towards their series score.
- If the series consists of 6 events, a racers 4 best results will count towards their series score.
- If the series consists of 7 events, a racers 4 best results will count towards their series score.

The National Titles will have 200 points available.

The State Championships will have 100 points available.

The winner of an event receives the maximum number of points, the second place 1 point less etc. If there are more than 100 (200) competitors, remaining competitors all receive 1 point.

The racer with the most points at the end of the series will be crowned the National Kite Foil Series Champion.



4.4 PRIZES

- The overall series champions will be awarded a trophy at the conclusion of the series.
- Each series stop will be awarded a winner of the event,

4.5 COVID BORDER RESTRICTIONS

If there is a border closure within Australia that excludes 1 or more states from attending a series event, the total number of events that will count towards an individual's total series score will reduce by 1.

At no point will the series reduce to below 2 events contributing to an individual's series score.

E.g. There is a 6-stop series, with 4 events counting towards the series score. Border closures mean that individuals can't attend the Victorian event. Therefore, the series becomes a 6-stop series with 3 events counting towards the series score.

4.6 EQUIPMENT

The National Kite Foil Series will occur in a 'Kite Foil' format meaning participants can use any kite and hydro foil combination.

The event organising committee can choose to allow registered 'Formula Kite' equipment and award results in this category for specific events. E.g. The National Championships

4.7 WIND WINGS

The organisers of each event can invite Wind Wings to participate during the races.

Multiple formats may be adopted to suit fleet sizes and conditions.



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