



**INTERNATIONAL
IKA FORMULA KITE
CLASS RULES
2015**



The IKA Formula Kite Class was adopted as an
ISAF international class in 2013

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IKA FORMULA KITE COURSE RACING COMPETITIONS

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INTRODUCTION

The IKA Formula Kite Class rules are meant to regulate the equipment used in kiteboarding course racing (“Formula Kite”) events.

The aim of the rules is to enable competitors of different weight and size to compete on sailing crafts that are regarded as “Formula Kite” to participate on an equal playing field. Development of equipment within the limitation of these class rules is encouraged.

Hulls and Kites shall only be manufactured by Licensed Manufacturers and shall be series production manufacture controlled with every board and kite of the series built to the highest possible degree of uniformity in every performance related respect,

Hulls and Kites shall, after having left the manufacturer, only be altered to the extend permitted in Section C of these class rules.

Owners and Crews shall be aware that compliance with rules in Section C is the responsibility of the competitor. Rules regulating the use of equipment during a race are contained in Section C of these class rules, in ERS Part I and in the Racing Rules of Sailing.

This introduction only provides an informal background and the International Kiteboarding Association Class Rules proper begin on the next page.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

CLASS RULES IN THIS CHAPTER ARE CLOSED CLASS RULES WHERE IF IT IS NOT SPECIFICALLY STATED THAT YOU MAY, THEN YOU SHALL NOT.

COMPONENTS, AND THEIR USE, ARE DEFINED BY THEIR DESCRIPTION.

PART I – ADMINISTRATION

Section A – General

A.1 LANGUAGE

- A.1.1 The official language of the class is English and in case of dispute over translation the English text shall prevail.
- A.1.2 The word “shall” is mandatory and the word “may” is permissive.
- A.1.3 Except where used in headings, when a term is printed in “**bold**” the definition in the ERS applies, and when a term is printed in “*italics*” the definition in the RRS applies.

A.2 ABBREVIATIONS

- | | | |
|-------|------|--|
| A.2.1 | ISAF | International Sailing Federation |
| | MNA | ISAF Member National Authority |
| | FK | IKA Formula Kite Class |
| | IKA | International Kiteboarding Association |
| | NCA | National Class Association |
| | RRS | Racing Rules of Sailing |
| | ERS | Equipment Rules of Sailing |

A.3 AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A.3.1 The international authority of the class is the ISAF which shall co-operate with the IKA in all matters concerning these **class rules**.
- A.3.2 The ISAF or IKA, or its delegated representatives can accept no liability or legal responsibility in respect of these rules.

A.4 ADMINISTRATION OF THE CLASS

- A.4.1 The class is administered by the International Kiteboarding Association.

A.5 ISAF RULES

- A.5.1 These **class rules** shall be read in conjunction with the ERS.

A.6 CLASS RULES VARIATIONS

- A.6.1 At class events – see RRS 89.1.d) – ISAF Regulation 10.5(f) applies.
At all other events RRS 87 applies.

A.7 CLASS RULES AMENDMENTS

- A.7.1 Amendments to these **class rules** are subject to the approval of the ISAF in accordance with the ISAF Regulations

A.8 CLASS RULES INTERPRETATIONS

- A.8.1 Interpretation of **class rules** shall be made in accordance with the ISAF Regulations

Section B – BOAT ELIGIBILITY

For an **IKA FK kite-board** to be eligible for *racing* it shall comply with the rules in this section

B.1 LICENSED MANUFACTURERS

- B.1.1 No board and kite shall compete in IKA course racing (“Formula Kite”) events unless it is series production equipment and registered with the IKA and included in the registered production equipment list.
- B.1.2: From 01.11.2016, no **fin** shall compete in IKA course racing (“Formula Kite”) events unless it is a series production equipment registered with the IKA and included in the Registered production equipment list

B.2 HULL IDENTIFICATION

- B.2.1 Hulls shall display either
- (a) IKA Logo + Manufacturer name + Manufacturer s/n or
 - (b) IKA plaque + Manufacturer name
- As applied by the manufacturer

B.3 KITE IDENTIFICATION

- B.3.1 Production kites registered after September 1st 2012 shall display the official IKA Registered Production Equipment Plaque including the model name/size, the manufacturers serial number, and the IKA unique plaque ID.

B.4 FIN IDENTIFICATION

- B.4.1 Production **fins** shall have the IKA unique plaque ID number, the model name and size engraved in the trailing edge of the **fin** as applied by the manufacturer.

B.4 EVENT INSPECTION

- (a) For the purpose of RRS 78, **crew** is considered to be the owner.
- (b) The role of **Equipment Inspectors** at an event is to ensure compliance with these **class rules**. Where an **equipment inspector** determines that an item of equipment needs further investigation they shall use whatever inspection methods they deem appropriate, including comparison with a standard or a sample of other equipment presented for inspection. Should this comparison reveal deviation greater than the Inspector considers being within manufacturing tolerances, this shall be reported to technical representatives of ISAF, RCA and Manufacturer for investigation and a decision on the legality of the equipment. If this investigation takes longer than the time available for inspection, the owner shall present alternative equipment for inspection.

B.5 EVENT LIMITATION MARKS

- B.5.1 All items of a **crew's** equipment which are subject to control, as per the schedule on the Regatta Equipment Registration Form, and which require **event limitation marks** shall be so marked.
- B.5.2 Some items of equipment may receive **two event limitation marks**, one in a readily visible position and a second in a position protected from wear and tear.

PART II – REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

The **crew**, **equipment** and the **kite-board** shall comply with the Rules in Part II when *racing*. In case of conflict Section C shall prevail

The rules in Part II are **closed class rules** as defined in the ERS. Equipment inspection shall be carried out in accordance with the ERS except where varied in this part

Section C – Conditions for Racing

C.1 GENERAL

C.1.1 LIMITATIONS

- (a) Not more than one production **hull**, four production kites and two *fins* per *fin box* (if so prescribed by the Notice of Race) shall be registered for an event. When a hull, kite or fin has been lost or accidentally damaged beyond repair, a replacement may be made, only with the approval of the Race Committee. The Race Committee shall then attach an **event limitation mark** to the replacing item
- (b) Not more than one production kite shall be registered per size range:
 - Large: Nominal Size of 15m or bigger
 - Medium: Nominal Size of 11m to 15m
 - Small: Nominal Size 11m or smaller
 - X-Small: Nominal Size 9m and smaller
- (c) From 1st September 2014, only hulls displaying a plaque ID (see (B.2.1(b))) shall be used at World Championships.
- (d) From 1st September 2014, only kites displaying a plaque ID (see (B.2.1(b))) shall be used at World Championships.
- (e) From 1st September 2015, only hulls displaying a plaque ID (see (B.2.1(b))) shall be used at World and Continental Championships.
- (f) From 1st September 2015, only kites displaying a plaque ID (see (B.2.1(b))) shall be used at World and Continental Championships.

C.2 CREW

C.2.1 LIMITATIONS

- (a) The **crew** shall consist of one person.

C.2.2 MEMBERSHIP

- (a) No **crew** is permitted to race at a National or International Regatta unless he/she is a member of his/her NCA. If there is no NCA, then the **crew** shall be a member of the IKA.

C.3 PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

C.3.1 **Personal equipment** does not have to be produced by a licensed manufacturer

C.3.2 SAFETY AND LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT

(a) A detachable *kite leash* shall be used. The Notice of Race and the Sailing instructions may change this rule.

(b) In accordance with RRS 1.2 the following provision is made: The **crew** does not have to wear or carry on board a **Personal Flotation Device** unless RRS 40 applies or the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions specifies it. The **Personal Flotation Device** shall conform to the minimum standard of ISO 12402-5 and if prescribed, the **crew** shall wear it. Alternative or additional standards may be prescribed in the Notice of Race.

(c) Any helmet may be used

C.3.3 OPTIONAL

In addition to food and personal effects to keep warm and/or dry, and/or to protect the body, the following may be carried on board:

(a) Any harness.

(b) Any buoyancy vest or jacket (which may be described as mandatory in the Sailing Instructions). If personal buoyancy is prescribed, every competitor shall wear a personal flotation device that shall conform to the minimum standard of ISO 12402-5 (Level 50).

(c) Any container for holding beverages in accordance with RRS Appendix F 43.1(a)

(d) Any electronic or mechanical timing device

(e) Any heart rate monitoring device

(f) Any electronic or mechanical compass

C.4 PORTABLE EQUIPMENT

C.4.1 **Portable equipment** does not have to be produced by a licensed manufacturer.

C.4.2 OPTIONAL

(a) any GPS tracking device . The Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions may change this rule.

(b) Any camera recording equipment and attachments, where permitted by the Notice of Race and/or Sailing instructions, and removable for weighting

C.5 IDENTIFICATION

Competitors shall comply with RRS F9

C.6 ADVERTISING

C.6.1 LIMITATIONS

Advertising shall only be displayed in accordance with the ISAF Advertising Code.

C.7 HULL

C.7.1 MODIFICATIONS/MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

- (a) The *hull* shall not be altered in any way except as permitted by these class rules.
- (b) Routine maintenance and repairs may be carried out provided such repairs are made in such a way that the essential shape, characteristics or function of the original are not affected. The serial number/s shall remain legible.
- (c) The deck grip may be partially removed to apply personal sponsor logos or may be restored to its original condition with a clear coating. The original hull designs shall remain identifiable.
- (d) A damaged fin box may be replaced only by the same 'type' of fin box and shall be positioned at the same position as the original.
- (e) Unused fin boxes must not be filled or sealed.
- (f) Any footstraps may be used
- (g) A damaged insert may be replaced and shall be positioned at the same position as the original. Inserts may be filled or sealed.
- (h) Footpads may be replaced or extended along the board with a similar type of material and as close as possible same thickness as the original, provided that the original hull design remains identifiable
- (j) Any adhesive tape may be used provided that the original hull design remains identifiable.

C.7.2 MAKERS MARKS

For hulls registered after 01.01.2013, personal advertising as provided in the ISAF Advertising Code may be applied provided that brand, make and size identification remains identifiable.

C.8 HULL APPENDAGES

C.8.1 FIN

Any fins and/or retractable fins are allowed. No other hull appendages are permitted.

C.8.2 DIMENSIONS

The shortest distance between the lowermost point of the **fin** or retractable fin when fully retracted and the bottom of the hull shall not exceed 500 mm.

C.9 RIGGING

C.9.1 BARS

- (a) Any handle bar with a quick release system may be used.

C.9.2 LINES

- (a) Any lines may be used.
- (b) *Front lines* shall have a *depowering device*.

C.9.3 BRIDLES

- (a) Any *bridles* may be used.

C.9.4 DIMENSIONS

The maximum distance measured from the lowermost point of the *rigging* to any part of the kite, when rigged, shall be 45000 mm.

	Maximum Diameter	Minimum Diameter
<i>Front Lines</i>		1.2mm
<i>Back Lines</i>		0.8mm

C.9.5 MATERIALS

- a) *Flying lines* shall be made of dynema or spectra or generic materials
- b) *Bridles* if used shall be made of Carbon, Kevlar, Poly-aramid, dynema or spectra or generic materials

C.10 KITE

C.10.1 MODIFICATIONS, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

- (a) The kite shall not be altered in any way except as permitted by these **class rules**.
- (b) Routine maintenance and repairs may be carried out provided such repairs are made in such a way that the essential shape, characteristics or function of the original are not affected. Serial numbers/plaque ID's shall remain legible.

C.10.2 IDENTIFICATION

If prescribed by the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, each kite shall carry two nationality flags, placed app. 1m from each tip on the outside (top side) of the canopy and with the longer side parallel to the struts. The dimensions shall be

- (a) For kites with a nominal size of less than 10m, 60x40 cm
 - (b) For kites with a nominal size of 10m and more, 90x60cm
- Nationality flags, brand and size identification shall not overlap.

C.10.3 SAILMAKERS MARKS

For kites registered after 01.01.2013, personal advertising as prescribed in the ISAF Advertising Code may be applied provided that model and size remains identifiable.

Section D – Hull

D.1 GENERAL

D.1.1 DIMENSIONS

	Min	Max
Hull Length		1900mm
Hull Beam	150mm	700mm

D.1.2 WEIGHT

	Min	Max
Hull weight (equipment registered before September 1st 2012) (included deckpads and excluded fins and footstraps)	4000 gr	
Hull weight (equipment registered after September 1st 2012) (included <i>footpads</i> and excluding fins and <i>footstraps</i>)	5500 gr	

D.1.3 MATERIALS

Any materials may be used

Section E – Hull Appendages

E.1 GENERAL

E.1.1 MATERIALS

From 01.11.2016, Production **fins** shall be made of semitransparent glass/epoxy laminate (“G10” / ”G11” or generic products).

Section F – Rigging

Not in Use

Section G – Kite

G.1 GENERAL

G.1.1 MATERIALS

- a) The outside shell of the *front tube* (if any), the *canopy*, and the outside shell of the *struts* (if any) shall be made out of woven ply
- b) Reinforcements, *battens*, tapes may be made out of other material.
- c) *Bladders* shall be made out of TPU, PU or PVC materials

G.1.2 SIZE

The nominal size of a kite registered after 01.01.2013 shall be within +/- 0.5 sqm of the actual measured size of the kite (laid out area)

G.1.3 SIZE DECLARATION

For Kites registered after 01.01.2013 the nominal kite size shall be printed by the manufacturer on the outside (top side) of the canopy in a contrasting colour and clearly legible. Commercially available typefaces

giving the same or better legibility than Helvetica are acceptable. The height of the characters shall be at least 150mm

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