APPENDIX BB – April 2009 Version
EXPERIMENTAL
KITEBOARDING COMPETITION RULES

Kiteboarding competition shall be sailed under Appendix B of The Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by this appendix. Rules shown in red are rules for kiteboarding that differ from the rules for windsurfing in Appendix B or from the rules for sailboats in Sections 1 – 7. These kiteboarding rules are evolving. Organizing authorities are urged to download and use the most recent version. The ISAF Racing Rules Committee and the ISAF Windsurfing Committee would appreciate receiving suggestions for improving these kiteboarding rules.

The term ‘boat’ elsewhere in the racing rules means ‘kiteboard’ or ‘boat’ as appropriate. A kiteboarding event can include one or more of the following disciplines or their formats:

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In expression competition a kiteboard’s performance is judged on skill and variety rather than speed and is organized using elimination series. Either wave performance or freestyle competition is organized, depending on the wave conditions at the venue. In speed competition, a ‘round’ consists of one or more speed runs in which the kiteboards take turns sailing the course at
intervals. In the racing discipline a marathon race is a race scheduled to last more than one hour.

In racing or expression competition, ‘heat’ means one elimination contest, a ‘round’ consists of one or more heats, and an elimination series consists of one or more rounds.

**B1 DEFINITIONS**

**B1.1** The following additional definitions apply:

*About to Round or Pass* A kiteboard is *about to round or pass* a mark when her *proper course* is to begin to manoeuvre to round or pass it.

*Beach Start* When the starting line is on the beach, or so close to the beach that the competitor must stand in the water to *start*, the start is a *beach start*.

*Capsized* A kiteboard is *capsized* when her kite is in the water, her lines are tangled, or the competitor has lost control or has accidentally become disconnected from her kiteboard.

*Finish* A kiteboard *finishes* when any part of her hull or the competitor crosses the finishing line in the direction of the course from the last *mark*, either for the first time or after correcting an error made at the finishing line under rule 28.1.

*Jumping* A kiteboard is *jumping* when her hull and the competitor are clear of the water.

*Leeward and Windward* A kiteboard’s *leeward* side is the side that is or, when she is head to wind, was away from the wind. However, when sailing by the lee or directly downwind, her *leeward* side is the side on which her kite lies. The other side is her *windward* side. When two kiteboards on the same *tack overlap*, the one whose hull is on the *leeward* side of the other’s *hull* is the *leeward* kiteboard. The other is the *windward* kiteboard.

*Looping* A kite is *looping* when it is being flown in a pattern of repeated loops, clockwise, counter clockwise or alternating between the two.
**Obstruction**  An object that a kiteboard could not pass without changing course substantially, if she were sailing directly towards it and three lengths of her hull from it. An object that can be safely passed on only one side and an area so designated by the sailing instructions are also obstructions. However, a kiteboard racing is not an obstruction to other kiteboards unless they are required to keep clear of her, give her room or mark-room or, if rule 22 applies, avoid her. A vessel under way, including a kiteboard racing, is never a continuing obstruction.

**Start**  A kiteboard starts when, her hull and the competitor having been entirely on the pre-start side of the starting line at or after her starting signal, and having complied with rule 30.1 if it applies, any part of her hull, or the competitor crosses the starting line in the direction of the first mark.

**Tack, Starboard or Port**  A kiteboard is on the tack, starboard or port, corresponding to the competitor’s hand that would be forward if the competitor were in standard riding position (riding heel side with both hands on the control bar). A kiteboard is on starboard tack, when the competitor’s right hand would be forward and is on the port tack when the competitor’s left hand would be forward.

B2.1 Changes to the Rules of Part 4

(a) Rule 42 is changed to ‘A kiteboard shall be propelled only by the action of the wind on the kite, by the action of the water on the hull and by the unassisted actions of the competitor.’

(b) Add to rule 43.1(a): ‘However, a competitor may wear a drinking container that shall have a capacity of at least one litre and weigh no more than 1.5 kilograms when full.’

(c) Rule 44 is deleted and replaced with:
44 PENALTIES AT THE TIME OF AN INCIDENT

44.1 Taking a Penalty
A kiteboard may take a Scoring Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while racing. However, if the kiteboard caused injury or serious damage or gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach her penalty shall be to retire.

44.2 Scoring Penalty
(a) When a kiteboard decides to take a Scoring Penalty, she shall inform the other kiteboard, if possible. She shall complete a scoring adjustment form for each penalty within the time limit for protests.

(b) The race score for a kiteboard that takes a Scoring Penalty shall be the score she would have received without that penalty, made worse by the number of places stated in the sailing instructions. However, she shall not be scored worse than Did Not Finish. When the sailing instructions do not state the number of places, the number shall be the whole number (rounding 0.5 upward) nearest to 20% of the number of boards entered. The scores of other kiteboards shall not be changed; therefore, two kiteboards may receive the same score.

(d) Add to rule 47.1: ‘except as stated in rule 41.2’. (See rule B4.4.)

B2.2 Entry and Qualification [No changes.]

B2.3 Event Organization [No changes.]

B2.4 Identification on Competitors
Appendix G is deleted and replaced with:
Appendix G – Identification
Every kiteboard shall be identified as follows:

(a) Each competitor shall be provided a shirt with a personal competition number of no more than three digits.

(b) The numbers shall be displayed on front and back side of the shirts and be at least 15 cm high.

(c) The colour of the numbers shall contrast with the colour of the shirt.

B2.5 Touching a Mark [No changes.]

B2.6 Deleted Rules
Rules 17, 18.3, 43.2, 45, 47.2, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 54, 61.1(a)(2), 67, J2.2(28) and J2.2(33) are deleted.

B3 RULES FOR RACING COMPETITION
Rule B3 applies to racing competition. Rule B2 also applies.

B3.1 Changes to the Rules of Part 2, Section C

(a) The first sentence of rule 18.1 is changed to ‘Rule 18 applies between kiteboards when they are required to leave a mark on the same side and at least one of them is about to round or pass it.’

(b) Rule 18.2(b) is changed to

If kiteboards are overlapped when the first of them is about to round or pass the mark, the outside kiteboard at that moment shall thereafter give the inside kiteboard mark-room. If a kiteboard is clear ahead when she is about to round or pass the mark, the kiteboard clear astern at that moment shall thereafter give her mark-room.

(c) Rule 18.2(c) is changed to

When a kiteboard is required to give mark-room by rule 18.2(b), she shall continue to do so even if later an overlap is broken or a new overlap begins.
(d) Rule 18.3 is deleted.
(e) Rule 18.4 is changed to

When an inside overlapped right-of-way kiteboard must change tack or bear away at a mark to sail her proper course, until she changes tacks or bears away she shall sail no farther from the mark than needed to sail that course. Rule 18.4 does not apply at a gate mark.

B3.2 Changes to Other Rules of Part 2

(a) In the preamble of Part 2, ‘rule 23.1’ is changed to ‘rules 23.1 and 23.3’.

(b) Rule 13 is deleted and replaced by:

13 EXCEPTIONS TO RULES 10, 11 AND 12

13.1 When a kiteboard changes tack on an upwind leg, she shall keep clear of other kiteboards until she is on a close-hauled course. During that time rules 10, 11 and 12 do not apply. If two kiteboards are subject to this rule at the same time, the one on the other’s port side or the one astern shall keep clear.

13.2 When sailing downwind, a kiteboard that is looping her kite shall keep clear of one that is not.

13.3 If two boards converge while sailing downwind and it is not possible under rule 10, 11 or 12 to determine which one has right of way, the one on the other’s starboard side or the one astern shall keep clear.

(c) Rule 16 is deleted and replaced by:

16 CHANGING COURSE OR KITE POSITION

16.1 When a right-of-way kiteboard changes course or the position of her kite, she shall give the other kiteboard room to keep clear.

16.2 On a beat to windward, when it becomes clear to a starboard-tack kiteboard that a port-tack
kiteboard is *keeping clear* by sailing to pass astern of her and there is risk of contact, the *starboard-tack* kiteboard shall, if reasonably possible, keep her kite high enough to allow the *port-tack* kiteboard to pass close astern of her hull.

16.3 In slalom racing, a right-of-way kiteboard shall not change her course or the position of her kite during the last 30 seconds before her starting signal if as a result the other kiteboard would have to take immediate action to avoid contact.

(d) Rule 17 is deleted.

(e) Rule 21 is deleted and replaced by:

**21 STARTING ERRORS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

21.1 A kiteboard sailing towards the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions after her starting signal to *start* or to comply with rule 30.1 shall *keep clear* of a kiteboard not doing so until she is completely on the pre-start side.

21.2 When approaching the starting line to *start*, a kiteboard shall have her kite out of the water and in a normal position, except when accidentally *capsized*.

21.3 During the last minute before her starting signal, a kiteboard that significantly slows down or stops, and is no longer making material forward progress, shall *keep clear* of one that has not.

21.4 A kiteboard that is *jumping* shall *keep clear* of a kiteboard that is not.

(e) Rule 22 becomes rule 22.1, ‘*capsized*’ and ‘*capsizing*’ are italicized, and its last sentence is deleted. Add new rule 22.2: ‘A *capsized* kiteboard shall not take an action that hinders another kiteboard.’
(f) Rule 23.1 is changed to ‘If reasonably possible, a kiteboard not racing shall not interfere with a kiteboard that is racing. After finishing, a kiteboard shall immediately clear the finishing line and marks and avoid kiteboards still racing.’

(g) Add new rule 23.3: ‘A board shall not sail in the course area defined in the sailing instructions when races are taking place except in her own race.

B3.3 Starting Races [No changes.]

B3.4 Other Rules for the Conduct of a Race

Add new rule 29.3:

29.3 Recall for a Slalom Race

(a) When at a kiteboard’s starting signal for a slalom race or heat any part of her hull or the competitor is on the course side of the starting line, the race committee shall signal a general recall.

(b) [No changes, except change ‘sail number’ to ‘competitor number’.]  

(c) [No changes.]

B4 RULES FOR EXPRESSION COMPETITION

B4.1 Right-of-Way Rules [No changes.]

B4.2 Starting and Ending Heats [No changes.]

B4.3 Registration of Sails; Course Area; Heat Duration [No changes.]

B4.4 Outside Help

(a) Rule 41 becomes rule 41.1. Add new rule 41.2: An assistant may provide replacement equipment to a kiteboard but shall keep clear of other kiteboards competing. A kiteboard whose assistant fails to keep clear shall be penalized. The penalty shall be at the discretion of the protest committee.
(b) Add new rule 41.1(e): ‘another kiteboard, who is also \textit{racing}, may assist a relaunch.’

B5 ELIMINATION SERIES [No changes.]

B6 RULES FOR SPEED COMPETITION [No changes, except that ‘sail number’ is changed to ‘competition number’ in rules B6.3(a) and (b).]

B7 PROTESTS, REDRESS, HEARINGS AND APPEALS [No changes.]

B8 SCORING [No changes.]