



# 2009 FREESTYLE RULE BOOK

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## CONTACTS

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# 1) Introduction

## Purpose of the Freestyle Rule Book

- Supply clear rules for freestyle kite competitions
- Establish and provide interference and safety rules for freestyle riding competitions

## Communication

- Official language used in all freestyle documents and publications as well as disputes and voting procedures is English.
- Depending on the kind of protest, the race director can ask for the protest in written form
- Protests can be made on breach of rules NOT disagreement with judges opinion
- Scores sheets will NOT be shown to riders, head judge will explain decision if necessary

# 2) General rules

## Safety :

- Competitor shall give all possible help to any other competitor in danger.
- Competitor is individually responsible for wearing protective gear adequate for the conditions.
- Competitor must have signed the organizer's waiver if required.
- Any kite used in S.A.K.T event must have an under tension quick release system in order to be allowed to compete .
- All bars used in the competition must have a system permitting. depowering and retaining the kite without endangering anybody once the bar has been released. This system must be attached to the rider
- In case of strong wind or obstacles downwind race director / head judge can decide that every competitor must wear a helmet during their heat and training time.

## Fair competing

- A rider shall compete in compliance with recognized principles of sportmanship and fair play.

## Acceptance of rules

- By participating in an event conducted under rules of **Freestyle** rulebook, each riders agrees :

- to be governed by these rules
- to accept the penalties imposed and other actions taken under these rules, subject to appeal and review procedures provided in them, as the final determination of any matter arising under the rules.

## Decision to Freestyle

- A competitor is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to start or continue riding.
- The competitor must respect the decisions of the organization staff. All the riders must follow the decisions of the organization staff.

### 3) Conduct of a Freestyle event

#### Location timing and duration

- All riders have to be at the first skippers' meeting of the day
- Choice of location, heat duration day and transition period shall be specified by the organization staff before the start of each days competition. If needed they will modify them at any time.
- Riders is individually responsible to know when his / hers heat will start.
- Under no circumstances shall anyone from the organization be held responsible if competitor misses his / hers heat.
- The timing of day and transition periods shall be done by the race director.
- Free-riding/ training MUST be downwind or well clear of Judge Zone(JZ) and riders in heat.

#### **Competitors and identification**

- Colored lycra are distributed at the beginning of each heat by Beach Marshall
- Kite colour and brand may be used instead of lycra if required
- Kite colour and brand must be notified to beach marshall before entering the water
- Lycra must be returned to beach marshall as soon as possible after the heat
- Check-in with beach marshal to show board & get lycra incl clearance to free-ride

#### **Weather conditions**

- Only the organization staff can decide to cancel the day due to dangerous wind conditions.
- No Minimum wind speed to conduct the **Freestyle event**.

#### **Signals**

**Flags :** Regulation of day, during event shall be made using 3 flags.

- Yellow up 15min before the first heat of the day
- 7 min heats + 3 min transition, 2-4 man heats then man-on-man in final (according to weather condition)
- Will start on timings by flags & horns - no waiting - allow time to get to JZ

#### **Flags:**

- yellow up : beginning of transition, down : 1 min before start
- Green up - heat start, down : 1 min before end of heat
- red up - return to beach for further instructions
- Horn :** Regulation of heats, transitions during event shall be made using horn.

A Sound signals shall be:

- one (1) horn stroke for end of transition period and start of heat
- one (1) horn stroke for end of heat and start of transition period
- three (3) horn strokes for cancelation of heat
- B These sound signals shall be used if not decided otherwise by Race director.

#### **Breakdown and outside help**

- Assistance from 1 registered caddy out of JZ eg change board or kite. No assistance allowed to get upwind
- Riders are allowed to change any part of equipment during the heat.
- Safety - as per Rule Book (Kite leash etc). If you require assistance - raise hand, **no further freestyle scored**

#### **Event area**

- Size and position of a event wave masters area will be decided by the organization staff in accordance with safety rules.
- The organization will do everything possible to keep the public users clear of the competition area, however riders must ensure the safety of the public IF a breach occurs
- Competition area shall be clearly marked up to four (4) visible marks.

#### **Duty toward sponsors**

- Each rider has the obligation to wear his lycra (colored or not) when riding or free riding or filming shooting.
- Rider MUST have stickers on board

# APENDICES

## STAR POINTS BREAKDOWN OVERALL

Number of events  Number of Discards

1-3 = 0

4-6 =1

7-8 =2

10-12 = 3

More than 12 = 4

PLACE

### SAKT Tour 4 Star Event

### 5 Stars Event

1	1638	2100
2	1500	2067
3	1402	2034
4	1316	2001
5	1238	1968
6	1168	1935
7	1106	1902
8	1055	1869
9	1006	1836
10	963	1803
11	926	1770
12	894	1737
13	866	1704
14	845	1671
15	828	1638
16	811	1605
17	795	1572
18	778	1539
19	761	1506
20	745	1473
21	728	1440
22	711	1407
23	695	1374
24	678	1341
25	661	1308
26	645	1275
27	628	1242
28	611	1209
29	595	1176
30	578	1143
31	561	1110
32	545	1077
Not qualified/injured	<b>528</b>	<b>1044</b>

The organization reserves the right to determine the number of riders accepted in each competition

## 4) Interference

### General rules

- All riders have to behave in a fair way and shall not obstruct or endanger any other riders.

## Freestyle competitions

- Where possible the race director will run man-on-man heats to ensure detail is not missed.
- Transition periods will be a minimum of three minutes but if more time is required the Head Judge can increase the transition time after informing the flag marshal and beach marshal.
- Interference results in 5 points taken off the score in each instance
- Competition shall be conducted in heats as follows:
  - first (1st) round – heats of four (4) competitors – **One / One if possible**
  - second (2nd) round – heats of four (4) competitors – **One / One if possible**
  - quarter finals – heats of two (2) competitors
  - semi finals - heats of two (2) competitors
  - final - heat of two (2) competitors
- All instructions regarding heat format shall be given on first skipper's meeting by the Race director.
- No competitor can substitute other competitor in any heat.

## Interference

Rider on a STARBOARD tack (kite is on right side of wind window) has ride of way.

Rider on PORT TACK (kite is on left side of wind window) must keep clear.

When passing or crossing another competitor the upwind competitor must keep their kite high (angle between water and kite lines shall be more than 45 degrees), and downwind competitor must take keep their kite low (angle between water and kite lines shall be less than 45 degrees).

When two competitors are both on a starboard tack the lagging rider must turn early enough so that the lead rider is not run onto the beach or an unreasonable distance beyond the competition area (or turn point in course racing).

If both riders riding same tack upwind rider is keeping her/his kite up (45 or more) downwind rider is keeping her/his kite low (45 or less).

Rider upwind performing jump or trick must keep safe distance to other riders.

Riders doing transition jumps should watch for riders behind them before attempting a transition jump.

Riders must not change course to obstruct another rider.

During transition the competitors entering the competition area for the heat about to start have right of way over any competitors returning to shore irrespective of the tack they are on.

Competitors are not allowed inside the competition area while heats are taking place other than during their own heat.

## 5) Judging

### Organization Staff

- Judging panel (5) for each day . (1 race director, 1 head judge and 3 judges)  
Judging panel can be change by the organization.
- The number of the day and organization staff name must be clearly entered in the judging sheet.
- Organization staff tally their own score and fill the ranking on score sheet.
- All scores shall be double checked by the race team.  
The competition will be briefed by the race director

### Judging criteria

The Freestyle judging criteria is:

- 10 points **Technical Difficulty** considering:
  - risk = likelihood of failure X consequence
  - the power kite is delivering at critical points (when the bar is passed, landing, body inverted, etc)
  - height (rider above kite for wake style moves/ exceptionally high for other styles)
  - 10 points **Variety** including:
    - powered **wake-style AND**, difficult innovative **high** board-off moves
    - ability to perform on both tacks
    - forward and back rotations
    - off-axis and around the axis rotations
  - 10 points **Overall Impression** including:
    - innovation
    - style
    - smoothness of rotations
    - clean landings
    - quality not quantity
    - wow" factor
- Moves not landed do not count towards the score for **technical difficulty**. Nearly landing (butt check) very difficult moves can be considered but with 50% less than a cleanly executed move.
- The Head Judge will make any close calls.
- Difficult moves not landed **can** be considered in variety and overall impression.
- Take-off AND landings must be in the Judging Zone to be scored at all.
- The Head Judge will make any close calls.
- Consistent crashing lowers overall impression.
- All** moves are to be recorded with additional markings striking through your notations to indicate crash (X), butt-check (/) and landed outside the JZ (O).
- Variety should be self-evident from your notes ie your notation needs to include the factors listed above.
- Easy filler moves will reduce scores across all three criteria.
- Judges may ask questions of FACT at any time ie "what was that?" but may not discuss any *question of judgment*, quality or placings, etc.
- The Head Judge/ Race Director determines the placing from each heat by averaging the placings across all judges – NOT the scores from each judge. Scores will not be published.
- attention to detail including:
  - power the kite is delivering when the bar is passed and when landing (this is more than just the angle of kite pull)
  - body position (invert/ straight not bent at waist, etc)
  - smoothness and angle of rotation to the kite axis
  - clean landing (be very careful to assess powered landings that make a big splash obscuring the detail)

## 6) Disciplines

### General rules :

- 1 - Competitor who causes willfully destruction or damage to property, or damage to the image of kiteboarding at a **S.A.K.T event** will be subject to disciplinary action and a possible immediate fine or other appropriate penalties imposed by the Race committee.
- 2 - Under no circumstances of any kind a competitor is allowed to assault judges, officials, event staff, other competitors, media or public.
- 3- Under no circumstances of any kind a competitor is allowed to make rude gestures to judges, officials, event staff, other competitors, media or public.
- 4- A competitor may not abuse it's own equipment during event in the contest area.

- 5 - Under no circumstances of any kind a competitor is allowed to throw his/her equipment over spectators or let go on purpose his/her kite or board flying over the competing site.
- 6 - As long as the fine is not paid to the race committee the competitor is not allowed to continue or register on next **S.A.K.T event**.
- 7- The competitor must comply with the agreements required by the main sponsors and the organizer regarding branding support and the chosen branding support area (lycra, stickers). No compliance will result in an elimination.
- 8 - Fines will be paid to the Organization committee during the event; if not, the fined competitor will not be accepted to enter any other S.A.K.T event until he hasn't paid the fine.

## **7) Protests**

- 1 - Competitor has a right to protest, when he/she was involved in an incident during his/her heat.
- 2 - All protests (except the protest on miscalculation) shall be presented in written format and in english language to the Race Committee. The protest must be in writing before the end of the next heat.
- 3 - The Race Director can, according to the degree of the assault and final outcome, make a decision or stop the competition and call for hearings.
- 4 - The only parties allowed to be present on hearings are competitors involved in the incident, witnesses judges, Head judge any other party called by the race committee.
- 5 - After hearings the Race Committee will give their final decision.
- 6 - The amount of the fine given to the rider is forwarded to the S.AKT account.
- 7 - Competitor will not be penalized without a hearing.

## **CONTACTS**

**For Further Information, please contact :**

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