



Visit Qatar GKA Freestyle Kite WORLD CUP Doha 2023

30.01.-04.02.2023

It is a pleasure to announce the first freestyle kite event of the Qatar Airways GKA KITE WORLD TOUR 2023 which will be held in Fuwairit, Qatar.

The dates will be from the 30th of January to the 04th of February 2023.

This is a 5-Star GKA Kite World Tour event and the competition is sanctioned and governed by the 2023 GKA KWT Rulebook.

Entry procedure and Registration

All competitors planning to enter a KWT event shall pre-register through the registration link on the dedicated event page on the GKA Kite World Tour website:

<https://www.gkakiteworldtour.com/register/>

or via email to tom@global-kitesports.org or by other means to be specified by the KWT Sports Commission, no later than the published closing date for entries for that specific event.

Ultimately it is the competitors' responsibility to pre-register or to apply for an entry for an event and to ensure that the application has been received timely and correctly.

According to rule 11.2, fines and/or having their next events applications cancelled may be handed out to a pre-registered and / or qualified competitor who, without advanced notice fails to show up at an event.

Complete and signed entry forms for event registration must be signed and complete by the time stated in the Race Notice. Exceptions can only be granted by the KWT Representative.

If a competitor is unable to complete registration at the published time and place in the Race Notice for reasons beyond their control, then the competitor should contact the KWT Representative with details of their delay, and must gain consent for their registration period to be extended. Evidence must be supplied to support reasons showing that the circumstances were out of the competitor's control. Failure to comply with the above will prohibit a competitor from entering the event.

All riders must preregister for the event through the online registration form **by 23.59h of the 03rd of January 2023.**

The registration does contain:

- Full Name:
- Nationality:
- Hometown:
- Date of Birth:
- Federative License Number:
- Sponsors:
- Passport number:
- Telephone/Whatsapp:
- Facebook page:
- Instagram account:
- Email:



- Name of Caddy:
- Food specifics:

All attending riders need to have a valid membership with the GKA and be members of a national NATIONAL SAILING FEDERATION and/or WORLD SAILING and have to be insured via the NATIONAL SAILING FEDERATION and/or WORLD SAILING.

Cost of entry is 125.- Euro and fees need to be paid via credit card through the online link when receiving the entry confirmation.

Every competitor needs to hold a valid GKA membership. The GKA membership needs to be obtained before or at the same time when confirming participation for an event and can be paid via the online payment link. The membership includes athletes insurance for accident and third party liability during the competition.

All entry fee and GKA membership payments must be made before the 15th of January 2023 via credit card payment through the online registration tool.

Entry restrictions

Inscription fee payments must be made no later than the end of the inscription-time at the respective event. In the case that the full amount of the inscription fee is not paid by the end of the announced inscription-time, the rider will not be allowed to compete. For certain exceptions approved by the tour management, payments can be made in cash at the inscription at the respective event. Cash-payments will only be accepted in Euros or USD currency!

In order to enter the event, parental consent / authorization must be received for all competitors who are under the age of 18 years old at the registration date.

Eligibility

A competitor is eligible for any KWT event if he meets the following conditions:

- (i). He is a member of his Official National Kiteboarding Federation or Association. A valid membership card or certificate, or other satisfactory evidence of identity and membership may be requested.
- (ii). He has a personal medical insurance with worldwide coverage. A valid membership card or certificate, or other satisfactory evidence of worldwide medical coverage may be requested.
- (iii) The competitor cannot hold the KWT, the GKA or the event-organizer responsible for any claims for damages as a consequence of the competitor not having sufficient personal medical insurance.
- (iv) The competitor cannot hold the KWT, the GKA or the event-organizer responsible for any legal liabilities and/or any claims for damages by third parties caused by the competitor.
- (v). He complies with World Sailing Federation Regulation, Eligibility Code
- (vi). He holds a valid competitor's membership with the GKA Kite World Tour

Entry allocation

There is a maximum number of 28 male competitors and 28 female competitors entering this event. Entries into KWT events shall be allocated according to the following table:

CATEGORY	Kite Surf & Freestyle Discipline	
	28 Riders	14 Riders
Seeding List	1-20	1-10
GKA Wildcards	21-22	11
Video Wildcards	23-26	12-13

Organizer Wildcards	27-28	14
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- For GKA wildcards the KWT Sports Commission will select competitors based on their participation in past events as well as their kite merits.
- For riders aiming for Video wildcards, the athlete needs to submit a Wildcard Video application through the following online form:
 - <https://www.gkakiteworldtour.com/wildcard-video-applications/>
- Wildcards will be seeded based on their KWT ranking whenever available. If this is not possible, they will be distributed in the KWT ladder according to rule 18.1.1.(ii)
- If any ranked competitor cannot compete in one KWT event due to an injury or other reasons, the empty spot will be given to the next highest ranked competitor. If this is not possible, the KWT Representative may grant exceptionally the available entry to another competitor prior approval from the KWT Sports Commission.
- The GKA will publish the GKA wildcard allocation on **5th of January 2023**, one day after the preregistration period closes. The number of injury wildcards to be granted according to rule 17.3. remains unknown until then.
- Wild card enquiries need to be done via mailing to tom@global-kitesports.org

Equipment

There are no restrictions on equipment.

Seeding

Seeding is based on 2022 end of year rankings.

MEN			WOMEN		
1	Gianmaria	Coccoluto	1	Mikaili	Sol
2	Manoel	Soares	2	Bruna	Kajiya
3	Carlos	Mario	3	Rita	Arnaus
4	Maxime	Chabloz	4	Claudia	León
5	Juan	Rodriguez	5	Estefania	Rosa
6	Arthur	Guillebert	6	Nathalie	Lambrecht
7	Adeuri	Corniel	7	Alexandra	Torres
8	Valentín	Rodriguez	8	Francesca	Bagnoli
9	Luis	Cruz	9	Suami	Carvallo
10	Posito	Martinez	10	Merle	Moenster
11	Guilherme	Costa	11	Karlie	Thoma
12	Finn	Flugel	12	Cristielly	Silva
13	Erick	Anderson	13	Naïs	Balbinot
14	Valentin	Garat			
15	Lorenzo	Calcano			
16	Robin	Goetgebuer			
17	Davi	Ribeiro			
18	Matteo	Dorotini			
19	Jeremy	Burlando			
20	Nelson	Gomez			
21	Joao	Lucas			
21	Leo	Verrecchia			
23	Luca	Seer			
24	Daniel	Pereira			

25	Pierfrancesco	Rizzello			
26	Tom	Bridge			
26	Anthar	Racca			
26	Ismael	Moraes			
29	Jhon	Perez			
29	Eros	Balbinot			
29	Greg	Willcocks			
32	Carlito	Martinez			
32	Andrés	Qintero			
34	Rashid	Almansoori			
34	Youssif	Moussa			
34	Hamza	Nasser			
34	Peyo	Cremades			
38	Duvan	Macías			
38	Renzo	David			
40	Luis	Silva			
40	Mateus	Mendez			
42	Mostafa	Al Hussaini			
42	Pedro	Alexandre			

Injury wildcard

- To be entitled to an injury wildcard, a competitor must be ranked top 16 in the KWT ranking at the time of the injury.
- In order to apply for an injury wildcard, an official medical certificate must be delivered to the KWT Sports Commission and there must be evidence that the competitor missed at least 33% of the current year events or combined two years events.
- The maximum period to be granted an injury wildcard will be 365 days from the date of their injury or until the start of next scheduled event after the 365 days.
- A rider who has received an injury wildcard will be seeded in accordance with the following when returning from injury, until the start of next scheduled event after the 365 days from the date of their injury, except if they improve their ranking:
 - A. If ranked in the top 4 on the KWT Rankings before the injury, the rider will be seeded 5;
 - B. If ranked in the top 8 on the KWT Rankings before the injury, the rider will be seeded 9;
 - C. If ranked in the top 16 on the KWT Rankings before the injury, the rider will be seeded 19.

Discipline

There will be only one Official Discipline in this KWT event: Twintip Freestyle (mixed format)

Divisions:

- Pro Men: any age (minimum 14 years old in the year of competition)
- Pro Women: any age (minimum 14 years old in the year of competition)

IMPORTANT INFO

- Competitors have to wear the official lycra at all times when proceeding to the water – also during training – for optimal recognition above the harness.
- Competitors will get their names printed on their personal lycra.

- Each rider will get one competition riders' vest at the registration. Each rider is responsible for his competition riders' vests. In case of loss a replacement is not possible!
- Competitors shall wear the event advertising lycra vest supplied by the Event Organizer over all other clothing, including harness on the water at all times during the event and two (2) board stickers to be placed on the top and the bottom of the board.
- All competitors are required to abide by the advertising rules as laid out in the Rule Book. Competitors breaching these rules may be warned in writing for the first offence and may incur a fine at the second offence of not more than \$ 500 for each violation. Repeated offenders may be disqualified from the Event and/or Series.
- All rider meetings and opening/closing ceremonies in the schedule are mandatory to all riders. Please be on time and ready. There will be free lunch, snacks (sandwiches and fruits) and water provided for all competitors.
- Each rider is entitled to register one caddy. Caddies will not have free access to the Riders Lounge! Caddies will only have access to the launching area and the equipment tent, to help their fellow riders with their kite equipment, starting and landing.
- The Riders ID-Strap authorizes you to enter the equipment storage container. You will receive the Riders ID-Strap personally and only at the registration.
- Riders are not permitted to publicly associate their names in non-authorized parties/autograph sessions.
- There will be a social event-calendar for each event that all riders have to join via social media and share.
- Please use these media hashtags for all social media posts:
@qatarairways@visitqatar
@fuwairit_kite_beach
@gkakiteworldtour

#GKAKiteWorldTour #GKAQatar #GKAFreestyle #kiteboarding #kitesurfing
#fuwairitkitebeach #visitqatar #discoverqatar #QatarAirways #gkaxqatarairways

Equipment storage

Equipment can be stored at the FKB Hotel within the kite centre from the 29th January – 5th February 2023.

Travel info:

Airport: Hamad International Airport (DOHA) is the closest international airport in Qatar.

Transfers: Transfers can be arranged to FKB. Transfer costs are based on two people sharing a 4 x 4 vehicle incl. luggage from HIA to FKB one way.

When we know everyone's arrival times FKB will look at putting on a larger vehicle/bus/coaster/van for groups and as such the cost per person will come down.

Based on two people sharing a transfer the price is EUR 66 per person.
Based on single person occupancy price is EUR 133.

Organiser Contact:

Name: Sarah Lord
Email Address: slord@qatarairways.com.qa

Phone Number: +974 5547 2993

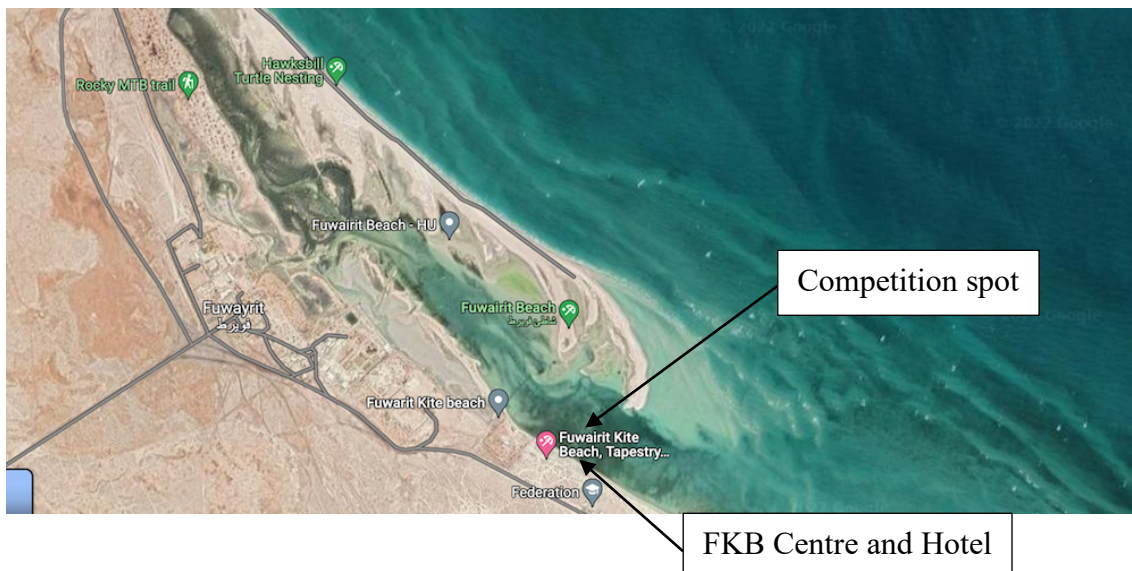
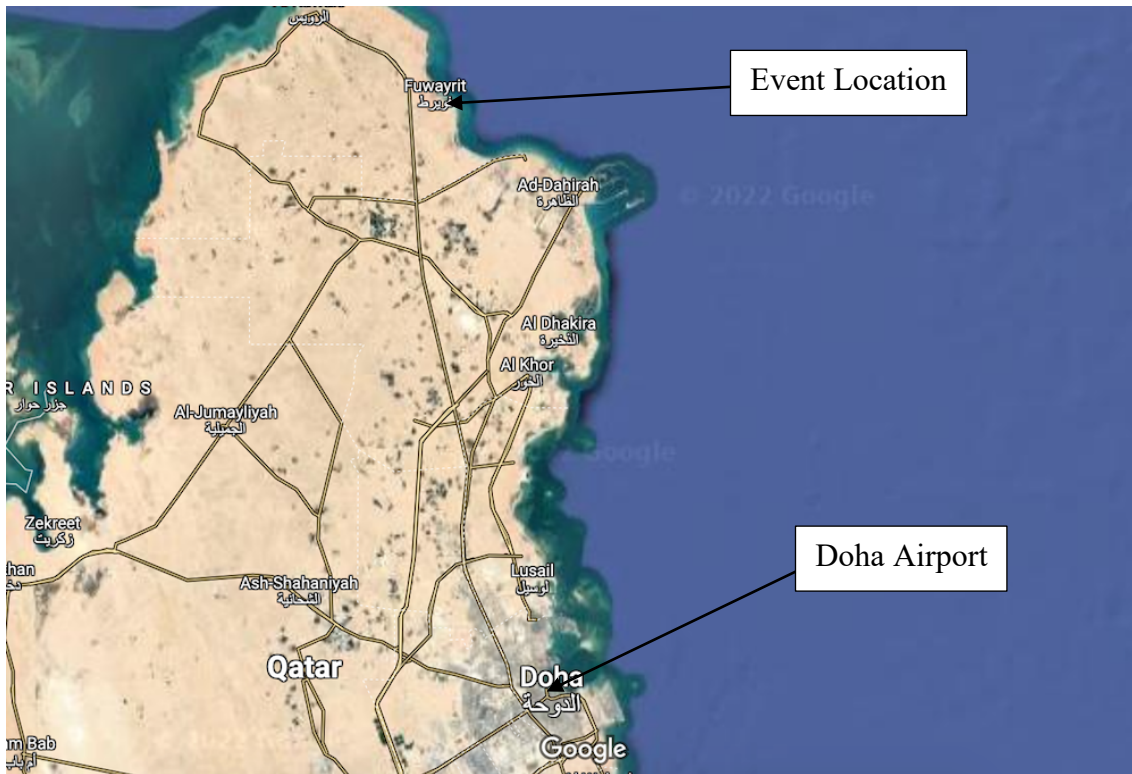
Website: <https://fkb.qa/>

Location Address:

Fuwayrit Kite Beach
Building No. 255,
Street 3015 Al Shamal Rd,
Exit 79 Al Shamal,
Fuwayrit,
Qatar

Location map:

More information can also be found at <https://fkb.qa/>





Visa/Entry Requirements:

You can find all relevant visa information to enter Qatar by following this link:

<https://www.qatarairways.com/en/travel-alerts/requirements.html>

All passengers must sign an Undertaking and Acknowledgement Form before arriving in Qatar. The form is available on the Ministry of Public Health website, the pre-registration platform website www.ehteraz.gov.qa and airline online booking form.

If an invitation letter is needed for riders, please email liam@global-kitesports.org and he will issue you the document.

Accommodation for competitors:

Top 10 male and top 6 female competitors will receive free accommodation on-site at FKB from 29th January – 5th February 2023.

All other competitors will receive a discounted rate for FKB. All room rates are per night, based on two people sharing on bed and breakfast basis are as follows;

	Room Type	EUR- Cost per Person
Number of rooms available	Twin Beach Room	
	Twin Beach Room- price per person based on two sharing B&B	EUR 90
	Kite Room	
10 rooms (20 pax)	Twin Beach Room- price per person based on two sharing B&B	EUR 62
	DQ Staff Villa	
1 villa (10 pax)	Room- price per person based on two sharing- self serve breakfast	EUR 44



For any accommodation enquiries please contact Sarah Lord on the details below;

Email Address: slord@qatarairways.com.qa

Phone Number: +974 5547 2993

Website: <https://fkb.qa/>

Event parking:

There is free parking at FKB Hotel.

Weather:

The average temperature in Qatar during January and February ranges from a high of 71°F (22°C) and a low of 62°F (17°C).

Sea temperature ranges from 18°C -20°C. Wetsuit is recommended.

Wind direction

A side shore wind direction from the left ranging from 15-25 knots.

Event Schedule

Can also be viewed on <https://fkb.qa/>

Monday 30th January

10:00 – 14:00: Rider Training/Media Shoot

14:30 – 16:00: Riders Inscription

16:00 – 17:00: Official Opening Ceremony

18:00 Onwards: Beach BBQ and Opening Celebrations

Tuesday 31st January

10:00: Riders Briefing

11:00: First Possible Start

16:30: End of Competition

Wednesday 1st February

10:00: Skippers Meeting

11:00: First Possible Start

16:30: End of Competition

Thursday 2nd February

10:00: Skippers Meeting

11:00: First Possible Start

16:30: End of Competition

Friday 03rd February

10:00: Skippers Meeting

11:00: First Possible Start

16:30: End of Competition

Saturday 04th February

10:00: Skippers Meeting

11:00: First Possible Start

15:00: End of Competition

16:00: Prize Giving and Closing Ceremony
 18:00 Onwards: Dinner and Party

Be aware that times of competition can change and will depend on weather conditions. Skippers meeting for the following day will always be communicated at the end of the previous day!

Prize money

The prize money for the Visit Qatar GKA FREESTYLE KITE WORLD CUP 2023 held in Fuwairit, Qatar will be **40.000 Euro**. The prize money is paid by the GKA to the competitors in line with the Rulebook via bank transfer by the GKA.

36.000 Euro will be paid to the winners of the event and **4.000 Euro** (10% of the event prizemoney) will go to the first 3 male and female winners of the GKA Freestyle Kite World Tour end of year ranking, World Championship Title.

In the case of “no results” due to an Act of God (i.e. bad weather, no wind) 50% of the total prizemoney will be distributed equally amongst all riders entered in the event, 10% will be kept in the GKA account for the prizemoney to be paid out to the first three male and female winners of the GKA Kite Freestyle World Tour end of the year and the remaining 40% will be kept by the GKA.

The prize money distribution for a valid and completed KWT Freestyle event will be done according to the following:

If there are 16 or more competitors in one gender and less than 16 competitors in the other gender then the prize split will be as followed:

1. 40% of total prize money are split between Top 4 women
2. 40% of total prize money are split between Top 4 men
3. 20% of total prize money are split between Positions 5-8 of the gender with more than 16 competitors (4 riders in equal 5th place)

gender with 16 or more		gender with less than 16	
position	percentage (%)	position	percentage (%)
1	15	1	15
2	10	2	10
3	8	3	8
4	7	4	7
Total 1- 4	40	Total 1- 4	40
5	5,5		
5	5,5		
7	4,5		
7	4,5		
Total 5-8	20		

If there is 16 or more competitors in both genders the prize split will be as followed:

1. 50% of total prize money are split between Top 8 women
2. 50% of total prize money are split between Top 8 men

16 or more women		16 or more men	
position	percentage (%)	position	percentage (%)
1	14	1	14

2	9	2	9
3	7	3	7
4	6	4	6
5	4	5	4
5	4	5	4
7	3	7	3
7	3	7	3
Total	50	Total	50

If there is less than 16 competitors in both genders the prize split will be as followed:

1. 50% of total prize money are split between Top 4 women
2. 50% of total prize money are split between Top 4 men

Less than 16 women		Less than 16 men	
position	percentage (%)	position	percentage (%)
1	19	1	19
2	14	2	14
3	10	3	10
4	7	4	7
Total	50	Total	50

Scoring

- There shall be no more than 1 dingle elimination at each KWT event.
- The minimum number of elimination series to constitute a valid score at an event and in order to distribute prize money is one (1) KWT elimination ladder - where the fleet has been eliminated to the top eight riders with a 28 riders Dingle or four riders with a 14 riders Dingle.
- Finishing positions in Dingle Elimination shall be scored as listed in the rule book depending on number of participants.

The elimination procedure shall be.

- Competitors' names shall be entered on the appropriate elimination ladder according to the event seeding and the heat distribution table below.
- "Byes", if any, shall be positioned so that they are allocated to the most highly ranked competitors.
- If a majority of the heats of the first round have Byes, the Race Director and Head Judge may position competitors in the next rounds based on their seeding.
- Competitors shall ride one against one, or in groups of up to 4. The declared winners shall advance on the elimination ladder.

Elimination ladders

KWT 28 Riders Dingle Elimination

ROUND # 1			ROUND # 2			ROUND # 3			ROUND # 4			ROUND # 5			SEMI-FINALS			FINAL						
HEAT #1	NAME	Color	Rk.				HEAT #7	NAME	Color	Rk.				HEAT #15	NAME	Color	Rk.	HEAT #19	NAME	Color	Rk.			
18							15							2ND#15				2ND#19						
19							6							3ND#15				3ND#19						
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														2ND#109				2ND#113						

a) There will be an additional/bonus score at the end of the heat depending how many variety columns have you scored.

b) The **Maximum variety score** you can reach at the end of your heat is **7 points**.
You will reach SEVEN (7) points once you've tapped four different families/sub-families with your FOUR (4) counted tricks.

c) **The Family 1. HEEL-SIDE TRICKS** will have FOUR (4) different Sub-families:

For the Men's discipline, the **maximum variety potential score** is 4 points. When counting for the final score **three different tricks on three different Sub-families** (Only inside the heel-side family for men division).

To reach the maximum variety score potential, some other Families (2, 3, 4 or 5) must be reached (7 points).

Example: BS317 + KGB5 + HEART ATTACK 7 + FMB = 4 points variety.
BS317 + KGB5 + HEART ATTACK 7 + 310 (313 to blind) = 7 points variety.

Also its possible to get max variety score by using other families:

Example: 313 + CROW MOBE 5 + COMBO + KITELOOP FS 360 = 7 points variety.

For the Women there is no limitation. You can score a maximum variety potential score when reaching the 4 different subfamilies on family 1 or any other of the families.

Example: BS313 + SLIM + HEART ATTACK + FRONT BLIND = 7 points variety.

d) The variety bonus will increase accordingly the more you reach via sub-families/families:

1x sub-family/family = 1
2x sub-family/family = 2
3x sub-family/family = 4
4x sub-family/family (max 3 sub-family in family 1 for men) = 7

e) **Judge Criteria for Combos:** The entire combination of the tricks will be counted as a unique score; judge criteria will be same as freestyle tricks, rewarding specifically the explosivity and linking in between tricks, creativity, combinations, toe or blindside and switch tricks. This combo trick will be score on his own scale from **0.1 to 10 points**.

3. Open Format.

The format will be kept open regarding the conditions however, if the conditions are not suitable for a proper freestyle performance this could then turn into a pure big air competition. Either will be pure freestyle format or pure big air format. The decision will be made by the sport commission and be announced 30 minutes before the change.

Rulebook

The "GKA Kite World Tour Rulebook 2023" will be available for download on the official GKA Kite World Tour website shortly.

Covid-19 Pandemic Disclaimer



Every competitor must be aware of the Covid-19 pandemic situation and its changing restrictions and regulations on travel protocols and event regulations. In case the event will be cancelled because of reasons not under the responsibility of the GKA, the GKA Event GmbH and/or the Organizer, neither the GKA, nor the GKA Event GmbH, nor the Organizer can be held legally responsible for any financial losses.

The rider is aware about the global Covid-19 pandemic, which might cause travel restrictions, the changing of laws and custom-procedures worldwide on very short notice. Each rider takes part in the event at his or her own risk, which includes also all travels because of his or her participation at this event. Each rider is responsible for ensuring and fulfilling all relevant individual travel requirements as well as fulfilling all legal requirements for border controls, which are necessary for the participation in the event and for the return home. The GKA, the GKA Event GmbH and the event Organizer cannot be held legal and/or financial liable by the rider for damage and/or financial losses caused by travel restrictions, quarantine measures, flight changes or flight cancellations, tests required for entering or exit countries or because of any other regional, national or international measures associated with the Covid-19 Pandemic.

GKA Staff at the Visit Qatar GKA Freestyle Kite World Cup Doha 2023

Ceo: Jörgen Vogt

Tour Manager: Tom Hartmann

Race Director: Rui Meria

Head Judge: Alvaro Onieva

Judge: Javier Santangelo

Judge: Mallory de la Villemarque

Judge: Maxi Gomez

Judge: Dani Jimenez

Judge: Tom Schouten

Live Score Operator: Julio Furest

Marketing Director: Bernhard Ritzer

Media Coordinator: Rasa Iselionyte

Social Media: Gemma Hamaini

Copy Writer: Jim Gaunt

Foto: Svetlana Romantsova

Commentator: Liam Dredge

Commentator: Jo Ciastula

Commentator: Willow River Tonkin

Any question please contact our Tour Manager Tom Hartmann at tom@global-kitesports.org or our Assistant Tour Manager Liam Dredge at liam@global-kitesports.org

We look forward to seeing you very soon!

The GKA Team