

GKA Freestyle Kite WORLD CUP Dunkerque, France 2024

28.08.-01.09.2024

It is a pleasure to announce the first freestyle kite event of the Qatar Airways GKA KITE WORLD TOUR 2024 which will be held in Dunkerque, France.

The dates will be from the 28th of August to the 01st September 2024.

This is a 5-Star GKA Kite World Tour event, and the competition is sanctioned and governed by the 2024 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://app.gkakiteworldtour.com/>

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 27th of July 2024.**

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 17th August 2024 via credit card payment through the online registration tool.

Entry restrictions

- Entry-fee payments must be made no later than the end of the inscription-time at the respective event.
- After confirmation of participation, the rider will receive a payment link. Payments must be made via credit card. For certain exceptions, late 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 this case an amount of 40,- Euro processing fee will be added to the regular entry-fee.
- 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.

Membership

- Every competitor needs to hold a valid GKA membership. The duration of GKA membership is from the first to the last event of the current year.
- Membership fees shall be determined by the GKA at the start of the year and may be changed at any notice during the course of the year.
- At the end of the inscription-time, the rider must be able to prove a valid GKA membership. After confirmation of participation, he will receive a payment link. Payments must be made via credit card. For certain exceptions, late payments can be made in cash at the inscription at the respective event. Cash-payments will only be accepted in Euros or USD currency.
- The cost of the GKA membership is 80 € for competing in one event and 160 € per year (to be paid 80 € at the first event entered and 80 € at the second event entered. The total amount of 160 € can also be paid in once at the first event for the complete year. Membership fees are excluding event fees.)
- The GKA membership fee for Local / National Wildcard holders is reduced to 20 € for competing in one event and 100 € per year (to be paid 20 € at the first event entered when receiving a wildcard and 80 € at the second event entered).
- The membership includes athletes' insurance for accident and third-party liability during the competition. Benefits are only provided in accordance with the current ERAG insurance policy. The GKA Kite World Tour, the GKA Event GmbH, the Global Kitesports Association e.V. cannot held liable for any legal and/or financial liability, losses, damages, which might occur from the participation in the competition/event.

Please note that the insurance is only valid for riders not competing in their country of residence. Local riders are **not** insured through their GKA membership.

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 24 male competitors and 24 female competitors entering this event. Entries into KWT events shall be allocated according to the following table:

	Freestyle Discipline
CATEGORY	24 Riders
Seeding List	1-16
Video Wildcards	17-20
GKA Wildcards	21-22
Organizer Wildcards	23-24

- 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 **29th of July 2024**, 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

The seeding list will be based off the end of year rankings from 2023 as Dunkerque is the first freestyle event of the year.

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: @gkakiteworldtour #GKAKiteWorldTour #GKAfreestyle

Equipment storage

Equipment storage will be available in the Congress Centre Dunkerque 28th August – 01st September 2024

Travel info:

Airport: There are many options to get to Dunkerque. The closest airports are.

- Lille
- Ostend

Other international airports

- Brussels (2 hours by car)
- Paris (3 hours by car)

Transfers: For transfers, please contact Vincent on the below details.

r.vincent0799@gmail.com

+33 6 01 29 51 09

Organiser Contacts:

Vincent Renaux

r.vincent0799@gmail.com

+33 6 01 29 51 09

Anthony Rigaut

arigaut@nordnet.fr

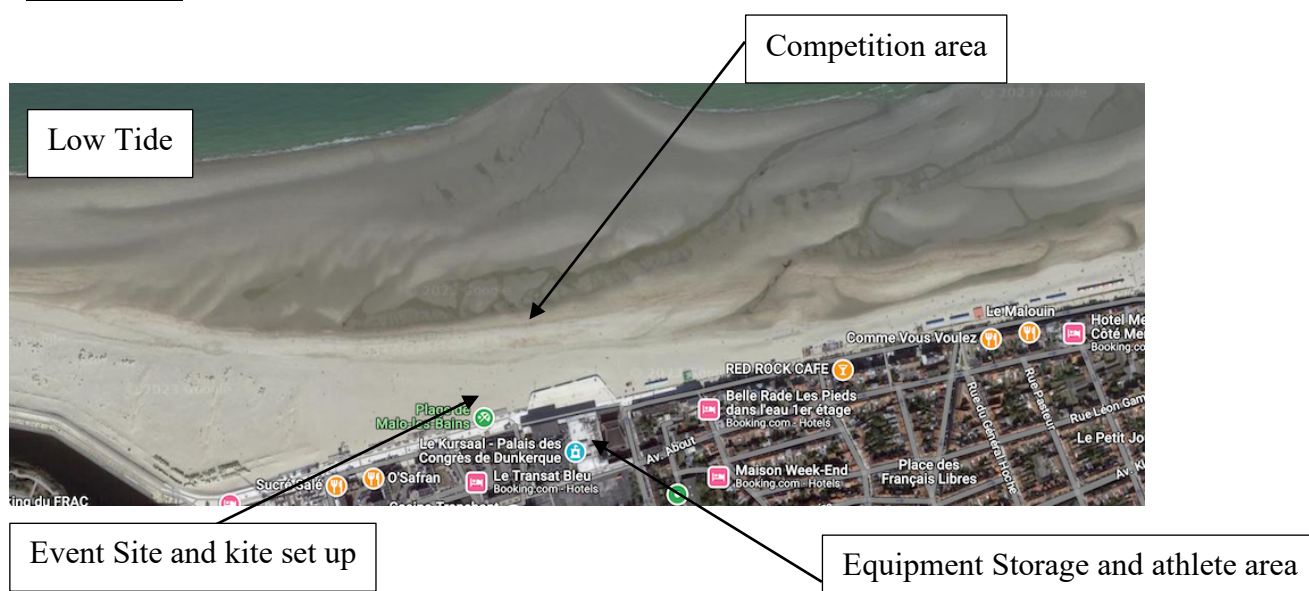
Location Address:

Place du Centenaire

59240

Dunkerque, France

Location map:





Visa/Entry Requirements:

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

Accommodation for competitors:

Free accommodation at Ibis Hotel Dunkerque for the Top 10 riders (male) and Top 6 riders (female) from the current seeding list.

Event parking:

The car park is in "rue Tancrede" for cars or trucks only. For camping car, motor home, sleeping cars... the address is "rue Albert Brenet" that is 800 meters between Tancrede and Brenet.

Weather:

The average maximum daytime temperature in Dunkerque in August lies at 22.9°C (73.22°F). Usually, it is the warmest month of the year. The average minimum temperature goes down to around 13.6°C.

Wind direction

Northeast or Southwest Winds are favored here in Dunkerque. You can expect to see winds ranging from 13-18 knots with days also pushing 25+.

Event Schedule

Wednesday 28th August

09:00 - 10:30: Rider Inscription
11:30 – 12:30: Riders Briefing
13:00: First possible Start
18:00: Opening Ceremony

Thursday 29th August

10:00: Skippers Meeting
11:00: First possible start

Friday 30th August

10:00: Skippers Meeting
11:00: First possible start

Saturday 31st August

10:00: Skippers Meeting
11:00: First possible start

Sunday 01st September

10:00: Skippers Meeting
11:00: First possible start
17:00: Prize Giving/Closing Ceremony

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 prizemoney for the GKA FREESTYLE WORLD CUP Dunkerque 2024 will be **30.000 Euro**. The prizemoney is paid via bank transfer by the GKA to the competitors in line with the GKA Rulebook.

27.000 Euro will be paid to the winners of the event and **3.000 Euro** (10% of the event prizemoney) will go to the first 3 male and female winners of the GKA Freestyle 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) **21.000 Euro** of the total prizemoney will be distributed equally amongst all riders entered in the event. **3.000 Euro** 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 Freestyle World Tour end of the year. **6.000 Euro** will be retained to the organizer.

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 24 Riders Dingle Elimination

ROUND # 1			ROUND # 2			ROUND # 3			SEMI-FINALS			FINALS		
Seed	HEAT # 1	Pos												
19														
11														
6														
Seed	HEAT # 2	Pos												
22														
14														
3														
Seed	HEAT # 3	Pos												
18														
10														
7														
Seed	HEAT # 4	Pos												
23														
15														
2														
Seed	HEAT # 5	Pos												
20														
12														
5														
Seed	HEAT # 6	Pos												
21														
13														
4														
Seed	HEAT # 7	Pos												
17														
9														
8														
Seed	HEAT # 8	Pos												
24														
16														
1														

KWT 12 Riders Dingle Elimination

ROUND # 1			ROUND # 2			SEMI - FINALS			FINALS		
Seed	HEAT # 1	Pos									
10											
6											
3											
Seed	HEAT # 2	Pos									
11											
7											
2											
Seed	HEAT # 3	Pos									
9											
5											
4											
Seed	HEAT # 4	Pos									
12											
8											
1											

KWT 8 Riders Dingle Elimination (Women)

Dingle 8 WOMEN (4 COMP)											
Round 1				Round 2				FINAL			
Heat 1		Rk		Heat 3		Rk		Heat 7			
7				4TH#2				1ST#3			
6				3RD#1				1ST#4			
3				2ND#2				1ST#1			
2								1ST#2			
Heat 2		Rk		Heat 4		Rk					
8				4TH#1							
5				3RD#2							
4				2ND#1							
1											

Heat Progression

- In those dingle eliminations the winner of the first-round advances to the third round, whilst the second and third advance to the second round.
- The winners and second placed rider of the second-round advance to the third round, whilst the third and fourth placed riders are out of competition.
- The winner of the third-round advance to the fifth round, whilst the second and third placed riders are re-seeded into the fourth round.
- From the fourth round on, the winner and second placed rider of the heats advance to the next round, whilst the third and fourth placed riders are out of competition, until the final.

Judging Criteria

Judging Criteria are applied to score the quality of the execution of each individual trick. Each judge analyse the following major elements when scoring a trick:

- Height and amplitude – The combination of height and amplitude of the tricks completed during the heat. As the wind conditions increase, this aspect will exponentially become more and more into consideration, but only when the height and amplitude are achieved along with risk factor and technical difficulty.
- Technical Difficulty – The technical difficulty of tricks completed during the heat.
- Power – The power during the execution of the tricks. Power will be considered as a combination of speed into the trick to pop and speed out during the landing, kite position, height and amplitude during the trick.
- Risk factor – The risk factor is directly linked to the power, height, amplitude and technical difficulty of the jump, but also to the commitment of the competitor and physical challenge during the execution, duration of the critical moment, and energy on the execution.
- Smoothness – Smoothness and fluidity during the execution and landing of tricks completed during the heat.
- Innovation – Performing completely new tricks from the trick list. To be called an 'innovation,' a trick must represent a distinct evolution from all the tricks listed. Tricks appearing in red are those that haven't been landed before in a competition. If any of these tricks are successfully landed, the judges will reward accordingly, taking all judging criteria and landing into consideration for the final score.

Trick's groups and families

To check the Variety groups and families in the APPENDIX A1 and A2 of the rulebook.

There are two groups of tricks:

- Heelside group
- Variety group

Inside the “Heel side” group there are the following trick families:

- Raley or flat Based
- Slim & KGB
- Hintenbergers and Heart Attacks
- Mobes

Inside the “Variety” group there are the following trick families:

- Rewinds
- Toesides or blind sides
- Combos
- Double inverted rotations
- Kiteloops or Downloop handle passes.

Tricks counting for the MEN competition:

When 4 (four) tricks are counting for the final score:

- A maximum of 2 (two) tricks counting from the heel side group from different families.
- A maximum of 3 (three) tricks counting from the variety group from different families.

All these combinations are possible as longest each trick counted is from a different family:

- 1x Heel side and 3x Variety.
- 2x Heel side and 2x Variety.

When 3 (three) tricks are counting for the final score:

- A maximum of 2 (two) tricks counting from the heel side group from different families.
- A maximum of 2 (two) tricks counting from the variety group from different families.

All these combinations are possible as longest each trick counted is from a different family:

- 1x Heel side and 2x Variety.
- 2x Heel side and 1x Variety.

Tricks counting for the WOMEN competition:

When 4 (four) tricks are counting for the final score:

- A maximum of 3 (three) tricks counting from the heel side group from different families.
- A maximum of 3 (three) tricks counting from the variety group from different families.

All these combinations are possible as longest each trick counted is from a different family:

- 1x Heel side and 3x Variety.
- 2x Heel side and 2x Variety.
- 3x Heel side and 1x Variety.

When 3 (three) tricks are counting for the final score:

- A maximum of 2 (two) tricks counting from the heel side group from different families.
- A maximum of 2 (two) tricks counting from the variety group from different families.

All these combinations are possible as longest each trick counted is from a different family:

- 1x Heel side and 2x Variety.
- 2x Heel side and 1x Variety.

Judge Criteria for Combos

The entire combination of the tricks will be counted as a unique score; judge criteria will be similar as freestyle tricks (Rule 33.3).

The combo trick will be scored on a scale from 0.1 to 10 points. Additionally, the following will be rewarded; the linking, the variety, and the creativity connecting the tricks such as toe or blindside and switch tricks. Combining switch man oeuvres will increase the score potential.

Rulebook

<https://gkakiteworldtour.com/rulebooks/2024/GKA%20RULEBOOK%202024.pdf>

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 Kite World Tour

As a competitor, I agree to respect the racing rules and in particular:

- 1- to display visibly the sailing-number attributed to me.
- 2- to wear the official event-competition-lycra at all times when proceeding to the water (also during training) as well as during interviews, official presentations and on podium.
- 3- to wear a life jacket and safety helmet during the competition,
- 4- to follow the recommendations and/or instructions provided by the crew.
- 5- to place board stickers (GKA Kite World Tour & Event sponsor) on the top and on the bottom of the board at all time during the event (competitions, interviews, media conferences, award ceremony...).
- 6- to take note that all rider meetings, opening/closing ceremonies and media conferences requested by the Event Organizer are mandatory to all riders. I assure that I'll be on time and ready.
- 7- I'm aware that a non-observance of this rule will incur a fine of up to 500 USD. Any competitor finishing in the top 3 positions who fails to attend the awards ceremony on time - without being justified by a force of major circumstance - will incur a fine equal to their earned prize money for the event. Furthermore fine can incur an additional penalty of up to 1.000 USD and suspension for the next event.

GKA Staff at the GKA Freestyle Kite World Cup Dunkerque 2024

Tour Manager: Tom Hartmann

Race Director: Rui Meira

Head Judge: Alvaro Onieva

Judge: Javier Santangelo

Judge: Paul Serin

Judge: Maxi Gomez

Judge: Tom Schouten

Judge: Alberto Rondina

Live Score Operator: Javier Oppolito

Media Coordinator: Gemma Hamaini

Social Media: Celtia Rob

Copy Writer: Caroline Morris

Foto: Lukas Stiller

Video Production: Julian Leleu



TV: Diogo Cardoso

Editor: Lukas Faltenbacher

Editor: Christoph Meitinger

Commentator: Jo Ciastula

Commentator: Youri Zoon

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

* **5-STAR World Cup** includes (1) Livestream, (2) International TV coverage and (3) 30.000,- Prizemoney.

* **4-STAR World Cup** includes 2 out of the 3 assumptions of a 5-STAR World Cup.

* **3-STAR World Cup** includes 1 out of the 3 assumption of a 5-STAR World Cup.