



# GKA Freestyle Kite WORLD CUP Nuevo Nayarit, Mexico

## 26.05.- 30.05.2026

*It is a pleasure to announce the first Freestyle and next event of the GKA KITE WORLD TOUR 2026*

*which will be held in Nuevo Nayarit, Mexico.*

The dates will be from the 26<sup>th</sup> of May to the 30<sup>th</sup> of May 2026.

This is a 4-Star GKA Kite World Tour event and the competition is sanctioned and governed by the 2026 GKA KWT Rulebook.

### **Registration**

#### **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@gkakiteworldtour.com](mailto:tom@gkakiteworldtour.com) 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 24<sup>th</sup> of April 2026.**

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 must be insured via the NATIONAL SAILING FEDERATION and/or WORLD SAILING.

Cost of entry is €125 for each discipline. - 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 **06<sup>th</sup> May 2026** 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.

### **Eligibility**

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

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.



- He complies with World Sailing Federation Regulation, Eligibility Code
- He holds a valid competitors membership with the GKA Kite World Tour

### **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 one (1) board sticker to be placed on the top and on 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 Euro 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 breakfast and lunch and dinner provided for all competitors.
- Each rider is entitled to register one caddy. Caddies will have free access to the Riders Lounge!
- Caddies will have access to the launching area and the equipment tent, to help their fellow riders with their kite equipment, starting and landing's.
- 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.
- Any technical device for communication between rider on the water and land is prohibited and riders using will be disqualified.
- There will be a social event-calendar for each event that all riders have to join via social media and share.

### **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 Kite sports 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.

### **Equipment storage**

There will be equipment storage on site during the event period: **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May**

### **Travel info**

Airports: Closest Airports to fly into are: **Puerto Vallarta (PVR) & Guadalajara (GDL)**

The organiser will then provide transport to the accommodation hotel as per your arrivals subject to availability and prior confirmation by 18<sup>th</sup> of May 2026.

### **Event Location**

#### **SAMBA Hotel**

Avenida Costera y Playa S/N, Flamingos  
Nuevo Nayarit, Riviera Nayarit, Mexico  
+52 (322) 226-8250  
<https://sambavallarta.mx>

### **Travel documents and Visa:**

If an invitation letter is needed for riders, please email [liam@gkakiteworldtour.com](mailto:liam@gkakiteworldtour.com) and he will issue you the document.

### **Accommodation for competitors:**

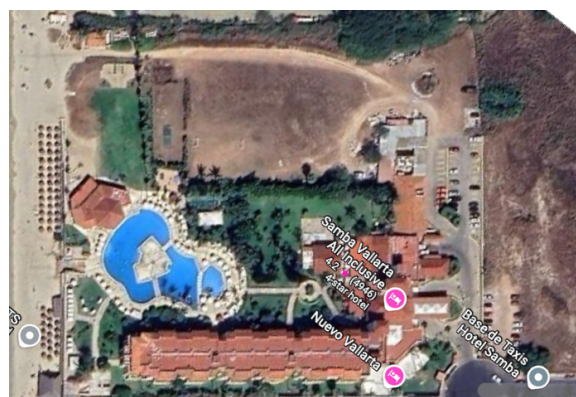
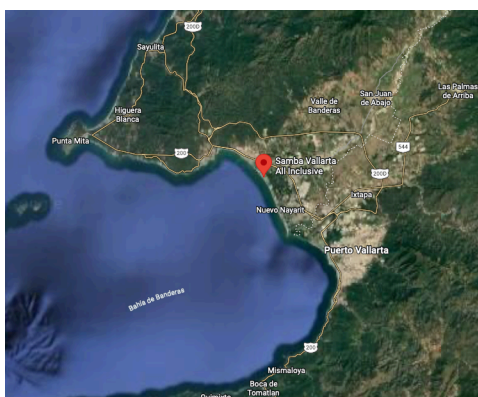
**Room Rate:** \$140 USD + taxes per person / per night ALL INCLUSIVE basis

**Bookings:** [info@gkamexico.com](mailto:info@gkamexico.com)

**Reservation Period:** May 25<sup>th</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup> 2026  
*We can extend offer pre or post official dates*

### **Location and event map:**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/jwfn4BkzSuz6nkZ9>





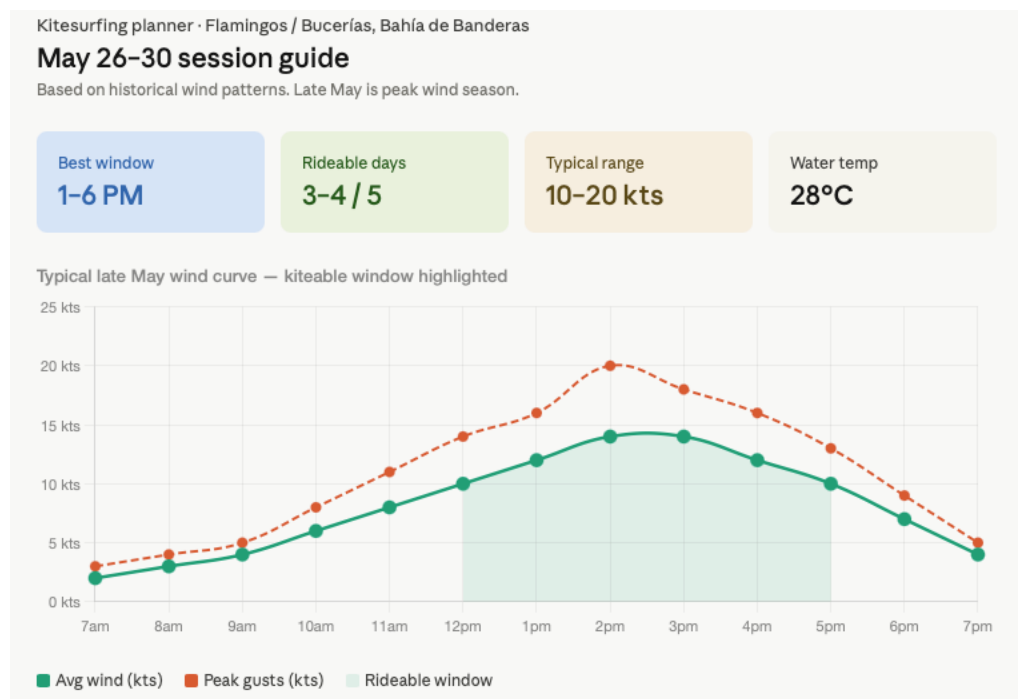
## Weather:

At the end of May in Nuevo Nayarit, the weather is hot and sunny with daytime temperatures around 30–32°C, warm nights, and rising humidity that makes it feel more tropical. Most days are clear and great for the beach, though you might get an occasional short rain shower as the rainy season begins to approach.

## Wind Information

May is the windiest month in the bay. Maximum sustained winds are at their highest in late May to early June, where average top sustained speeds can reach around 15-25 knots. Wind speed reaches its peak for the year during May, predominantly blowing from the west/west-northwest during the afternoons, with calmer east-northeast winds in the mornings and evenings.

Expect daytime temperatures around 33 °C, clear to partly cloudy skies, very low rain probability (the rainy season doesn't truly start until June), and the lowest relative humidity of the year at about 67%.



### Day-by-day planner

Time	Activity	Conditions
7–10 AM	Free time / relax	Too light (2–5 kts). Flat water, good for SUP
10 AM–12 PM	Rig up / warm up	Sea breeze building (6–10 kts). Foilers can start
1–5 PM	Prime session	Peak thermal (10–20 kts). Onshore W/WNW
5–7 PM	Sunset session	Dying breeze (6–10 kts). Big kite or foil only
7 PM+	Done for the day	Wind dies. Sunset at ~8:30 PM



## **Event Schedule**

### **Tuesday 26 May**

08:00–09:00 – Inscription  
10:00 – Riders Briefing  
11:00 – First possible start for competition

### **Wednesday 27 May**

10:00 – Skippers Meeting  
10:30 – First possible start

### **Thursday 28 May**

10:00 – Skippers Meeting  
10:30 – First possible start

### **Friday 29 May**

10:00 – Skippers Meeting  
10:30 – First possible start

### **Saturday 30 May**

10:00 – Skippers Meeting  
10:30 – First possible start  
17:00 – Prize Giving (subject to change dependent on competition)

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!

## **Disciplines**

There will be one Official Disciplines in this KWT event:

- **Freestyle Kite**

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)

## **Entry Allocation – Kitesurf & Freestyle Discipline & Hydrofoil Big Air**

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:

	<b>Freestyle &amp; Hydrofoil Big Air Discipline</b>
<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>24 Riders</b>
TOP 20	1-16
Video Wildcards	17-20
GKA Wildcards	21-22
Organizer Wildcards	23-24



1. For GKA wildcards the KWT Sports Commission will select competitors based on their participation in past events as well as their kite merits.
2. For riders aiming for Video wildcards (only for Kitesurf), the athlete needs to submit a Wildcard Video application through the following online rider app - <https://app.gkakitemworldtour.com/>
3. 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)
4. 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.
5. Wild card enquiries need to be done via mailing to [tom@gkakitemworldtour.com](mailto:tom@gkakitemworldtour.com)

### **Seeding - Freestyle Discipline**

The seeding for the upcoming Freestyle event in Mexico will be done according to the 2025 end of year rankings which can be found here - <https://www.gkakitemworldtour.com/rankings-2025/freestyle/>

### **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:
  - If ranked in the top 4 on the KWT Rankings before the injury, the rider will be seeded 5;
  - If ranked in the top 8 on the KWT Rankings before the injury, the rider will be seeded 9;
  - If ranked in the top 16 on the KWT Rankings before the injury, the rider will be seeded 19.

### **Prize money – Freestyle Discipline**

The prize money for the GKA Freestyle World Cup in Mexico will be **25.000 Euro**. The prize money is paid cash by the organiser to the competitors in line with the Rulebook.

22.500 Euro will be paid to the winners of the event and 2.500 Euro (10% of the event prizemoney) will go to the first 3 male and female winners of the GKA Kite-Surf World Tour end of year ranking, World Championship Title.

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



- 1) if there is 16 or more competitors in one gender and less than 16 competitors in the other gender then the prize split will be as followed:

40% of total prize money are split between Top 4 women

40% of total prize money are split between Top 4 men

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
<b>Total 1- 4</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>Total 1- 4</b>	<b>40</b>
5	5		
5	5		
5	5		
5	5		
<b>Total 5-8</b>	<b>20</b>		

- 2)

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

50% of total prize money are split between Top 8 women

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	3,5	5	3,5
5	3,5	5	3,5
5	3,5	5	3,5
5	3,5	5	3,5
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

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

50% of total prize money are split between Top 4 women

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
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

If the women's or men's division doesn't take place, the full amount allocated as prize money will be added to the one and only division.

### Elimination ladders - Freestyle Discipline

The elimination ladder used for the KWT event shall be Dingle.

- KWT 24 Riders Dingle Elimination

ROUND # 1			ROUND # 2			ROUND # 3			ROUND # 4			SEMI FINALS			FINALS				
HEAT #1	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #9	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #17	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #25	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #33	NAME	Color	RL
30				2ND05				15TR6				15TR7				15TR8			
13				3RD02				15TR8				15TR9				15TR9			
6								15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
HEAT #2	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #10	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #18	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #26	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #34	NAME	Color	RL
22				2ND06				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
14				3RD04				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
3								15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
HEAT #3	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #11	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #19	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #27	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #35	NAME	Color	RL
38				2ND07				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
30				3RD06				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
9								15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
HEAT #4	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #12	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #20	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #28	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #36	NAME	Color	RL
20				2ND08				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
15				3RD08				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
2								15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
HEAT #5	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #13	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #21	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #29	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #37	NAME	Color	RL
20				2ND09				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
12				3RD09				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
5								15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
HEAT #6	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #14	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #22	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #30	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #38	NAME	Color	RL
22				2ND10				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
13				3RD10				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
4								15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
HEAT #7	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #15	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #23	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #31	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #39	NAME	Color	RL
17				2ND11				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
9				3RD11				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
8								15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
HEAT #8	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #16	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #24	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #32	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #40	NAME	Color	RL
24				2ND12				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
30				3RD12				15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			
1								15TR9				15TR9				15TR9			

- KWT 12 Riders Dingle Elimination

ROUND # 1			ROUND # 2			ROUND # 3			SEMI FINALS			FINALS							
HEAT #1	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #5	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #9	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #13	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #17	NAME	Color	RL
30				2ND03				15TR5				15TR9				15TR9			
6				3RD02				15TR5				15TR9				15TR9			
3								15TR5				15TR9				15TR9			
HEAT #2	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #6	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #10	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #14	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #18	NAME	Color	RL
11				2ND04				15TR6				15TR9				15TR9			
7				3RD03				15TR6				15TR9				15TR9			
2								15TR6				15TR9				15TR9			
HEAT #3	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #7	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #11	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #15	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #19	NAME	Color	RL
9				2ND05				15TR7				15TR9				15TR9			
9				3RD04				15TR7				15TR9				15TR9			
4								15TR7				15TR9				15TR9			
HEAT #4	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #8	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #12	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #16	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #20	NAME	Color	RL
12				2ND02				15TR8				15TR9				15TR9			
8				3RD03				15TR8				15TR9				15TR9			
1								15TR8				15TR9				15TR9			

- KWT 6 Riders Dingle Elimination

ROUND # 1			ROUND # 2			SEMI FINALS			FINALS								
HEAT #1	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #3	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #5	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #7	NAME	Color	RL	RL	NAME
6				2ND02				15TR8				15TR5				1	
3				3RD01				15TR8				15TR6				2	
2								15TR8				15TR6				3	
HEAT #2	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #4	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #6	NAME	Color	RL	HEAT #8	NAME	Color	RL	4	
5				2ND01				15TR4				2ND05				5	
4				3RD02				15TR2				2ND06				5	
1								15TR2				2ND06				5	



#### Heat Progression:

- In those dingle eliminations the winner of the first-round heats advances to the third round, whilst the second advance to the second round and third placed riders are out of competition.
- The winners of the second-round heats advance to the third round, whilst the second placed riders are out of competition.
- The winner of the third-round heats advances 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 - Freestyle**

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://www.gkakiteworldtour.com/rulebooks/2025/GKA%20RULEBOOK%202025.pdf>