



International Kiteboarding Organization

Every year, over 40,000 new kites are certified, 850 Instructors become qualified and dozens of schools from all over the world are affiliated as IKO Centers.

The IKO qualification opens up work opportunities in more than 350 IKO Centers spread over 60 countries and lets you showcase your experience, helping you to find your dream gig on our exclusive jobs search platform.

Established in 2001, the International Kiteboarding Organization (IKO) has grown from a 2-man vision for a safer development of the sport to the largest kiteboarding organization in the world. The IKO now has an active community of more than 600,000 certified kites, 5,000 qualified Instructors and 350 affiliated Centers in over 60 countries. **Our mission is to strive for the safe and sustainable growth of kiteboarding by empowering people to experience the sport with confidence.**

We enhance the kites' learning experience by investing in digital technologies to provide them with the tools and resources needed to start and progress safely in kiteboarding. For Instructors, we offer world-class professional training and a qualification that opens up international career opportunities. We help kiteboarding schools to thrive by giving them the means to increase revenues, and deliver a meaningful learning experience that kites can trust and enjoy.

At the IKO, we connect kites with the world's largest selection of recreational and pro courses— including every level from Discovery to Evolution, and Assistant to Examiner. Our vision is to provide top quality services through an all-inclusive online booking platform. The booking platform will enhance kiteboarding experiences as well as facilitate travel while building the most responsible and knowledgeable kite-community worldwide.

With our headquarters located in windy Cabarete, Dominican Republic, our 12 team members are committed to making this vision a reality. Every year, more than 40,000 new kites are certified, 850 Instructors get qualified and dozens of schools from all over the world affiliate as IKO Centers. So, whether your goal is to learn how to kite, to turn your passion into a job, or to get the quality recognition your business deserves, you can trust in the IKO to get you there with confidence.

The IKO provides a platform for beginners to advanced kites to **find, compare, and book top-quality kiteboarding lessons** in IKO Centers around the world.

The IKO also offers these kites the opportunity to **start learning online with the Kiter Premium membership**. This gives them access to more than 25 hours of online learning in 6 different languages for the safest and most effective way of learning and progressing.

At the end of their lessons with an IKO Instructor, kites have their riding level certified and **access their vCard, the official kiteboarding certification**, recognized by the IKO Community in more than 60 countries.

All students certified according IKO standards: *

IKO CERTIFICATIONS

Day1: Discovery (Level 1)

SEA (Spot, Environment, Activity) assessment

Hold, carry, and secure a kite on land

Kite setup

Safety systems use

Pre-flight check

Launch and land with an assistant

First piloting and explore the wind window's edge

Let go of the bar

Twist and untwist the lines

Fly one-handed

Trim introduction

Walk while flying the kite

Launch and land as a pilot

Wind window theory

Inflight quick release activation

Self-land

Equipment packing



Day 2: Intermediate (Level 2)

Enter and exit the water while controlling the kite

Water relaunch

Body-drag with 2 hands, kite stable

Body-drag with power stroke

Body-drag upwind

Body-drag with the board

Self-rescue and pack down introduction

ROW (Right Of Way) rules introduction

Steady-pull

Waterstart

Controlled stop

Day 3: Independent (Level 3)

Riding upwind

Sliding transition

Riding toe-side

Jibe

Self-launch

Self-rescue and pack down in deep water



Kiteboarder - Advanced (Level 4)

Basic jump

Power jibe

Jump with a grab

Jump transition

Rider recovery

Board recovery

International kiteboarding signs

ROW (Right Of Way) rules

Equipment

Weather and tides

Aerodynamics



Level 5 – Freeride

Hop to toeside

Hop from toeside to heelside

Hop to blind

Ride blind

Jump transition

Jump transition with grab

Jump transition to toeside

Backroll

Backroll transition

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Long distance downwinder

Various grabs

Inverted jump

Pop (no kite movement)

Dark slide

Downloop (no jump)

Downloop jibe

Kiteloop (no jump)

Level 5 - Freestyle

Frontroll

Frontroll transition

Pop (no kite movement)

Hooked-in railey

Hooked-in railey-to-toeside

Higher jump

Higher jump with grab

Higher backroll

Higher frontroll

Unhook and hook back in

Unhooked pop

Unhooked railey

Unhooked backroll



Surface handle pass

Jump transition with kiteloop

Jump and land with downloop

Jump with kiteloop

Jump with kiteloop and land with downloop

Backroll with kiteloop

Backroll with grab

Hooked-in railey with grab

Unhooked pop with grab

Level 5 – Hydrofoil

Terminology

Equipment choice for hydrofoil

SEA assessment for hydrofoil

Set up and trim a hydrofoil board

Carry the hydrofoil board on land with no kite

Enter/exit the water with the board with no kite

Put the board on the feet with no kite

Enter the water with the kite and board

Body-drag with the board

Steady-pull

Waterstart

Riding on the foil



Controlled stops and basic turns

S-turns

Ride toeside

Jibe

Tack

