



**Training and Examination Guidelines of the VDWS e.V.  
Valid for the issuing of competency certificates**

**Discipline: Kite-board**

**Kite-board Basic Certificate  
International Kite-boarding Basic Licence**

*Date: 1.January/ 2001*

*Amended*

*1 July 2006, 15.April 2014*

## **§ 1 Kite-boarding-Basic Certificate**

The Verband Deutscher Wassersport Schulen e.V. (VDWS) issues kite-boarding basic certificates through its network of affiliated and certified windsurfing schools. The basic certificate serves as a proof of competence, that the holders can kite-board competently. All VDWS certified schools are obliged, to operate in line with the most up to date version of rules which apply for the issuing of basic certificates.

## **§ 2 Validity**

The basic certificate is proof of competency; it certifies that specific knowledge and skill have been attained in internationally used standard system. Important for the school location is that locality is suitable for the foreseen type of kite-boarding activities. Most important is that sailing/kite sailing activities at the location are not restricted by local or environmental regulations.

## **§ 3 Duration of Training**

Kite-boarding is a complex and difficult sport to master. That is why the practical training for the basic licence has been broken down into five skill levels. The examiner confirms the attainment of each skill level with a special sticker in the licence card. This makes it easier to quickly access the skills of each kite-boarder. The full basic licence is first valid when all five practical exams and the theory exam have been passed. The training period is not fixed; the theory and practical exams can be done over weeks or months depending on the level of talent and previous experience.

## **§ 4 Eligibility**

Candidates for the kite-boarding licence exam must be at least 12 years old.

## **§ 5 Examiner**

The VDWS- Trainings and Examination Licence allow a recognised VDWS-affiliated school to run kite board courses and skill level examinations for the kite boarding basic certificate. The school manager is responsible to appoint an examiner. The examiner decides on the time frame and location for the exams but must give adequate advance notice. The examiner is also responsible that the exams are run in an orderly way.

## **§ 6 Examination Procedure**

The Kite-boarding Basic Certificate has a step by step practical skill level exam approach, the multiple practical levels and one theoretical exam must all be passed. Some parts of the practical exam can be examined in conjunction with the tuition for example rigging-up and de-rigging the kite.

### ***Practical Exam***

The practical exam should be carried out using a suitable kite in wind conditions up to Beaufort force 5. The practical exam is deemed as passed when the exercises and manoeuvres are done in a safe, sure and decisive way. The ability of the examinee to return safely to the starting point in normal wind and wave condition is considered to be part of the exam.

### ***Theoretical Exam***

The theoretical exam requires that an exam paper is filled out. The possible total points allocated and the minimum points required to pass should be indicated on the examination paper. If the result is on the lower borderline an addition oral exam based on similar question from a different exam paper can decide the outcome. A repeat of the exam is possible after an appropriate learning period.

## **§ 7 Examination Content**

### ***Practical Exam***

The Kite-boarding Basic Licence is made up of 6 levels altogether; there are 5 practical levels and one theory level. Each level achieved is documented with a sticker system on the licence card.

<b>I. Level</b>	General safety, setting up, starting and control over the kite, body-drag
<b>II. Level</b>	Body-drag, starting a kite which lies on the water surface (re-launch)
<b>III. Level</b>	Water start, first trips on the board (at least. 50m)
<b>IV. Level</b>	Reaching with the kite, avoidance manoeuvres to windward and lee, holding height to windward, gybeing
<b>V. Level</b>	Gaining height to windward

Further to the above other more advance skills can be documented with the exams.

### ***Theory Exam***

General and special safety procedures are examined. For example wind recognition, knowledge of equipment, location evaluation for safety (land, shoreline and open water), rescue and self rescue issues, basic aerodynamics, collision avoidance rules, other (right of way, keeping clear and conduct rules), course to the wind.

## **§ 8 Examination Results**

The written record of the level exam bearing the signature of the examiner must be made. The result should be indicated by “passed” or “failed”. A repeat of an exam is allowed theory or practical exam, when an exam part is failed. All records of exam results must be filed and stored by the watersports school.

## **§ 9 Confirmation of the skill levels**

The attainment of each skill level is to be document on the reverse side of the basic licence card. Only official VDWS uniform cards and sticker are to be used.

## **§ 10 Participation of VDWS during exams**

The VDWS has the right to oversee the exam procedures at anytime. E.g. VDWS can be represented by a committee member, a Learnteam member or an appointed representative. Such participation does not require any advance notice.

## **§ 11 Replacement Issues**

Lost Basic licence will be replaced by the VDWS. The new licence must be marked as a “Replacement Issue” it must be confirmed with an appropriate signature and date.

## **§ 12 Enactments**

These Basic Certificate sailing guidelines take effect with their publishment.

*Weilheim 1.July 2006*

*Modified 15.4.2014*