



KITEBOARDING
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

The summer of 2018/2019 saw another amazing wind season for WA and one of the busiest yet for your association. The beginning of the summer saw some major changes in the form of rebranding from WAKSA to KWA. This was followed by the running and support of a number of kiting events culminating in once again holding the National Freestyle Championships at Safety Bay.

Beach advocacy saw KWA working with various councils and regulatory bodies dealing with a range of issues from helping create dedicated launching and landing areas to the quality of the water feeding into the Pond.

This summer also saw the addition of rider development courses and continuation of kite rescue training for surf lifesaving.

I'd like to thank all the committee members and volunteers that helped facilitate the summers activities. Special mention must go to Chrissy Gauderi who is stepping down from her role as the freestyle representative. Chrissy has been a real flag bearer for the discipline and all the past few seasons freestyle events couldn't have been done without her.

Overall this season KWA has continued to build its profile as the official state sporting body. Events continue to play their role as an important engagement mechanism which puts us at the forefront if there is any kite related issues to be dealt with. A key part of the organisation's strategy moving forward is to become better resourced as more issues come up particularly as Perth's population continues to increase.

Wishing you all fair winds and a safe and healthy winter.

Drew Norton
President KWA

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

What a fabulous season we have had! At the last AGM it was voted by the majority to rebrand WAKSA to Kiteboarding WA. The development of the new brand, headed up by Conor McGrath, is looking brilliant and extremely professional as it has been introduced throughout the season. The committee are extremely happy with the outcome plus feedback has been very positive in regard to the new logo, design and website update. The process in design is discussed in further detail in Conor's report.

The start of the season saw Kiteboarding Australia & KWA introduce a new Kite Expo season opener event to demonstrate the upcoming seasons gear. I think it's safe to say the event was a huge success with the wind delivering a near perfect Spring Seabreeze with an excellent turnout. The event for the upcoming season's Kite Expo is scheduled for Saturday 5th October once again at Leighton Beach.

Unfortunately, due to the conditions, the State Wave titles had to be cancelled this season and due to lack of time available, we were unable to reschedule another appropriate date. Thank you once again to our sponsors Cabrinha and Kite Addiction, and to Russell Curtin for the support of the wave event. Talks are currently being held about a potential new location for the event this season but nothing yet has been confirmed.

The WA conditions allowed for us to run a successful State Freestyle competition down at a different location this year, moving from Woodies Beach 3 to The Pond. The juniors definitely stole the show and the competition gave them good practice for the Australian Freestyle Nationals which were held a few months later. The Nationals were once again a huge success down at The Pond with the winds delivering consistently throughout the event. This year we held a Kite Karnival event on the Sunday for kiteboarders of all levels along with activities for local family residents which was proudly welcomed and supported by the City of Rockingham. A huge thank you to long time Duotone rider, Christina Gaudieri, for being hugely involved in the freestyle competitions throughout the past 4 years. As well as Chrissy competing in the comps, she has been heavily involved in the organisation of the events and her contribution has been invaluable to the development of this discipline. Thank you, Chrissy!

Daniel Anderson, another valued member of the committee and Duotone, introduced a small number of freestyle clinics focused on developing competitors for the events. The clinics were welcomed with opened arms and will again be a feature for the next season. Huge thanks to Daniel for pursuing these down at The Pond with WA Surf.

Social Media & the online digital presence of KWA has played an extremely valued role in the presentation of the new brand along with the promotion of the season's events. Statistics show the consistent growth of these platforms throughout the season, with events being the biggest influencers targeting the larger audiences. A big thank you to Shot Life Photography for their photograph from the Kite Karnival event which went viral across social media. This was a great influencer for the Kiteboarding WA social media accounts. In fact, a huge thank you to all of the photographers who help contribute to the events and content for social media, it is greatly appreciated!!

We are looking forward to another successful upcoming season and we look forward to seeing you on the water!

Rebecca Bury
Vice President KWA

THE REBRAND

Following the decision of WAKSA to rename the organisation to Kiteboarding WA (KWA) and align itself with the name change adopted by other peak sporting groups in each state, it was agreed that KWA also needed to create a new brand that could represent all West Australian kiteboarders.

Kiteboarding has grown dramatically globally and locally and with increased competition on space the risks to access and safety have also increased. It was WAKSAs aim to step up and be able to represent the sport and its riders professionally. The need to rebrand was reinforced when the volunteer-run organisation was formally recognised as the official state peak body for the sport of kiteboarding in Western Australia.

When considering what criteria, the new brand needed to fulfil for KWA, it was essential it should:

- Align the brand to advocacy
- Represent the community as a whole
- Represent the sport as a trusted and knowledgeable leader
- Represent all proud West Aussie participants, and lastly
- To present the sport with credibility to secure government and business support for a safe and secure future.

KWA used social channels to ask kilters at a grass-roots level what was unique about kiting in WA. From the many written and visual responses to that question KWA incorporated the feedback to shape the design brief while meeting all criteria. The most common responses that make kiting in WA unique were the:

1. Sunset kiting
2. The red-dirt landscape.

With the visual fundamentals locked-in the final option was produced and the iconic logo has proven in 2018-19 to be easily applied in print and digitally while securing high-level brand recognition already, in less than 12 months of use.



Credit: Connor McGrath

FREESTYLE



Credit: Krzysztof Olszak – Shot Life

This season saw the continued growth of the discipline in WA. It was particularly exciting to see seven competitors from WA in the Under14 category for the National Championships.

Also proving popular were the KWA Freestyle Clinics headed up by Dan Anderson. We certainly want to build on these clinics ensuring up and coming juniors are getting coaching from some of the state's best.

2018 STATE TITLES

The WA Freestyle State Titles was held at the Pond on Sunday the 16th December 2018. There was a great turnout especially from the juniors and many who competed for the first time. The wind was blowing 25-30 knots for most of the day, proving to be good practice for the Australian Nationals event! Many of the state title competitors went to then compete in the Nationals competition which was also held at the Pond.

	<u>Juniors</u>	<u>Womens Open</u>	<u>Mens Open</u>	<u>Masters</u>
1 st :	Logan McCormick*	Shannon Ducker	Emerson Johnston	Denys Karatonis
2 nd :	Patrick Smyth*	Rachel Hughes	Denys Karatonis	Armando DellaCorte
3 rd :	Nathan Pizzuto	Kate McKenzie*	Alex Djuric	Charl Brinck
4 th :	Tristan Lewis		Gianluca Cavaiola	Fabio Biscosi
5 th :	Sacha Brown*			Laurie Maximilian
6 th :	Jaiyden Brown*			Nelly
7 th :	Ruben Swart*			
8 th :	Max Symons*			

* *Amateurs/ first time competing*

AUSTRALIAN FREESTYLE KITEBOARDING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2019

KWA was proud to hold the National Championships for the second year running at the Pond in Safety Bay. Branded as the Kite Karnival the event attracted competitors from throughout Australia. Highlights included an amazing turnout of West Australian juniors who showed the future looks bright for the discipline in our State. Also, great to see long time ripper Shannon Ducker take out the Womens Open.



Credit: Rick Pryce
Womens Open



Credit: Rick Pryce
Juniors

2019 AUSTRALIAN FREESTYLE NATIONALS RESULTS



Junior 14's & U
1 Anthony Eppen
2 Patrick Smyth
3 Alex Verrecchia
4 Nathan Pizzuto

Masters
1 Jason
2 Sci Anderson
3 Lucian Dinu
4 Denys Karantonis

Juniors U18
1 Leo Verrecchia
2 Aaron Kenny
3 Ben Savage
4 Angus Bubner

Mens
1 Dan Sweeny
2 Emerson Johnston
3 Leo Verrecchia
4 Ben Winding

Womens
1 Shannon Ducker
2 Sam Chapman
3 Kate Anderson
4 Racael Hughes

Photo: Paul Smyth
Rider: Dan Sweeny

20  19
KITE KARNIVAL
SAFETY BAY • WA • FEB 1-3
KITEBOARDING FREESTYLE NATIONALS

**2019 AUSTRALIAN FREESTYLE
NATIONALS
RESULTS**

WAVES

Unfortunately, due to light wind conditions over consecutive weekends in November KWA was unable to hold the State Wave competition. However, in January the Lancelin Ocean Classic Wave event did go ahead in steady breezes and consistent swell.

RESULTS

	<u>Mens Open</u>	<u>Junior Mens</u>	<u>Womans Open</u>	<u>Masters</u>
1 st :	Dale Stanton	Patrick Smyth	Theresa McKirdy	Dan Hazell
2 nd :	Jake Gordon	Ruben Swart	Hannah Anderson	Luca De Prato
3 rd :	Ryland Blakeney	Dan Curtin	Anne Nordgard	Julian Herm
	<u>Senior Masters</u>	<u>Legends</u>	<u>Amateurs</u>	
1 st :	Andre Cater	Jason Marshall	Rob Mitchell	
2 nd :	Scott Fullerton	Mike Bergman	Mark Blais	
3 rd :	Julian Flack	Dave Murphy	Wilco Verman	
	<u>Best Wipe Out</u>	Matt Holmes		
	<u>Best Move</u>	Dale Stanton		
	<u>International Prize</u>	Anne Nordgard		



Credit: Ironbark Photography

KITE RACING



Credit: Drew Malcolm

The 2019 West Australian Kite Racing Championships were held over the weekend of the 23rd and 24th of March. Presented by Perth Kite Racing and the Fremantle Sailing Club and sponsored by Forward WIP Australia and Bisschops Boards.

Mens Open
1st: Jean de Falbaire
2nd: Mani Bisschops
3rd: Alty Frisby

PKR WA State Championship
Mani Bisschops
Alty Frisby
Andrew Cooksey

Masters
Alty Frisby
Andrew Cooksey
Phillip Rowlands

Free Race
1st: Simon Maris
2nd: Vaughn Bisschops
3rd: Ben Maslen

Youth
Mani Bisschops

MESSAGE FROM KITEBOARDING AUSTRALIA

Dear Kiteboarding Western Australia Committee and Members,

Congratulations on another great year of Kiteboarding in Western Australia. We were pleased to have Kiteboarding Western Australia host the Freestyle National Titles at Safety Bay, the team did another fantastic job and the perfect Safety Bay conditions delivered once again. Our Kite Foil Nationals were held in Townsville and Wave Nationals were held in Torquay, coinciding with the first GKA Kite-Surf World Tour event in Australia. We look forward to continuing to develop our three premier National Title events into the new season.

The 2018/19 season at Kiteboarding Australia has been successful with continued growth and an ability to deliver positive outcomes for our sport in Australia. We welcomed a 10% increase in membership over the 2018/19 season and Kiteboarding Australia is in our best financial position to date. Kiteboarding Australia kicked off the season with a brand-new event series; the Season Launch Kiteboarding Expo which consisted of 5 events across each state through the month of September. We were pleased to form a strong relationship between the kiteboarding industry event sponsors, state associations and our membership base to celebrate the start of the kiteboarding season. The event was an opportunity to meet like-minded kiteboarders, catch up with old friends and find out what is happening in the kiteboarding industry for the new season. We thank our existing members and new members for joining us at this event and we look forward to seeing you at this annual calendar event each year.

Furthermore, Kiteboarding is now an Olympic sport, with our debut to take place in 5 years at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games. Kiteboarding Australia wants to ensure we are providing a solid pathway for kiteboarders to progress through and develop in our sport to reach this level if they do so desire. Towards the end of the season, we partnered with the British Kitesports Association to roll out our new Senior Instructor and Coaching Course. These two courses are the latest additions to our training and education program; strategically they are an important step to ensure that our school network is the leading industry standard for teaching and training in kiteboarding. We are proud to now have accredited coaches in Western Australia and we look forward to seeing what this will lead to in the future.

Kiteboarding Australia also undertook a comprehensive all encompassed nation-wide survey. We appreciate the time and effort our members took to complete this survey and we are grateful for the feedback which will help build the base for future decision making to enhance our sport in Australia. To all the all our members, dedicated volunteers and the Kiteboarding WA executive committee, have a safe winter, thank-you for your time and dedication over the season and we look forward to continuing working with you over the 2019-20 season.

Good winds and safe kiteboarding



**Declan McCarthy, General Manager Kite Boarding Australia
Kite Boarding Australia Limited**

FINANACIAL SUMMARY

Unfortunately, at the time of the printing of this report a comprehensive record of the financials was unavailable. Below is a summary of the type of expenditure and revenue we experienced including the membership numbers and bank balance from last year compared to this year. The comprehensive report will be added as soon as possible.

In the meantime, if any details of the finances are required please contact us at committee@waksa.org.au.

KWA Revenue

- Membership Fees
- Lighthouse to Leighton Support Payment
- Kite Karnival Sponsorship

KWA Expenses

- Kite Karnival Event
- KWA Apparel
- Storage
- Website Maintenance

Membership Numbers

- May 2018: 442 members
- May 2019: 475 members

Bank Balance

- May 2018: \$19,112.33
- May 2019: \$21,581.32

KITEBOARDING WESTERN AUSTRALIA COMMITTEE 2019

President	Drew Norton
Vice President	Rebecca Bury
Treasurer	Vacant
Secretary	Vacant

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Executive	Conor McGrath
Executive	Ieke van Winkelhoff
Freestyle	Chrissy Gauderi
Freestyle	Dan Anderson
Freestyle	Kate Anderson
Freestyle	Fabio Biscosi
Waves	Russell Curtin
Waves	Julian Herm
General	Hossam Ismail
General	Mark Arkley
General	Marcin Gabriel