



## Your guide to becoming an IKO Kitesurfing Instructor

[Here you will find all the information you need about your training.](#)

**The training consists of 3 stages.**

**Stage 1.** Pre Requisites

**Stage 2.** Pre Study – Online tests

**Stage 3.** Instructor Training Course (ITC)



Please note – There is **no guaranteed pass**, it is up to you to prove you are ready!

# Stage 1 – Pre Requisites

To be accepted for training you must fulfill ALL the following criteria:-

- Be at least **18 years of age** by the start of the ITC. Proof may be required
- Read, write and speak **fluently** in the language the course is given in
- Have one-year minimum kiteboard riding experience and be at an IKO level 3n for at least 6-months (**jumping** and riding **toe side**). Perform level 3n skills on demand in all wind conditions from 10-30 knots.
- Have a current valid **First Aid** & CPR certificate. (see below)
- Have a **Power boat licence**. (see below)
- Pass online **Pre-ITC Course**
- Have an **IKO Assistant Instructor certification** or **log 40 hours** shadowing with a **level 2 IKO Instructor** and have an IKO letter of recommendation signed (See below)
- Sign the waiver form

You will have to demonstrate your riding ability during the ITC.

## First Aid



**You must possess a minimum First Aid level.**

- Either the day before or after the ITC I will be running a First Aid course. The course is called **Emergency First Response – Primary Care CPR**  
**This course is worldwide recognised as it is owned by PADI.**

Payment for this must be made in full when booking your ITC and is non refundable.  
This can be booked online at [www.kitesportsworldwide.com](http://www.kitesportsworldwide.com)

- If you already hold a valid qualification you will need to bring a copy to the ITC.  
**Check the expiry date. If it is over 3 years old you will need to renew it.**  
Regulations are changed frequently and you need to be aware of any changes.
- An "Appointed person" level is acceptable

## **Boat License**



You must have a boat license regardless of the regulations where you live or work. As the IKO certification is International we must ensure all Instructors have the same minimum levels. Your initial boat license can be from any organization. If you are using a boat then you must also ensure that you have the appropriate license for the location.

[\(The UK requires RYA Powerboat level 2\)](#)

- This is necessary even if your intended teaching spot cannot use a boat.
- If you already hold a valid qualification you will need to bring a copy to the ITC

## **Previous Teaching Experience**

You have 2 choices here

1. Take the IKO assistant Instructor course. (Those who take this first always do better on the ITC.)
2. Log 40 hours of shadowing with an IKO L2 or higher. This must be done on the appropriate form provided by IKO. Any IKO Instructor can download this form for you.

IKO cannot accept letters of recommendation or certifications from other sports as proof of shadowing.

In the absence of either of these you can still be accepted on the ITC, however post ITC shadowing of 40 hours will be added to any shadowing your examiner allocates

# **Stage 2 – Pre Study – online tests**

## **Pre Study – online tests**

Before the first day of the ITC you must study 6 subjects online, complete and pass the tests for each

The information for how to access these is contained in a separate document that you will receive once your booking is confirmed.

The tests are designed to assess your current knowledge of various related topics. Each topics study material should be read first and the questions read very carefully before answering.

Where there may be more than one answer that you feel is correct, choose the most correct answer only unless the question asks for more than one answer.

Your Examiner will be checking how you have done on these tests before the ITC starts and will be able to answer any questions related to them during the ITC.

# **Stage 3 - ITC**

## **Instructor Training Course (ITC)**

**The course is run over 5 days and is a combination of learning how to deliver the course and an assessment of your own skills and attitude. Some of the areas covered are listed below.**

- Equipment knowledge
- Boat handling
- Riding skills
- Pre ITC tests
- Teaching psychology
- IKO teaching methods
- Student certification
- Presentation skills
- Teaching in a live situation

## IMPORTANT NOTE

You have one week in which to prove that you have not only the necessary skills but the right attitude to teach kitesurfing to IKO standards. This includes, timekeeping, enthusiasm, desire to learn, professionalism, knowledge of various equipment (both old and new) and respect for the IKO.

Only attend the IKO Instructor course if you want to learn and are ready to take the responsibility for others safety.

I cannot stress enough, how important it is to make every effort to maintain a professional attitude and to be able to take criticism.

If you are unable to recognize your own faults then you will not pass.

If you are taking the course simply to improve your own knowledge then please let your examiner know before the ITC starts. This is perfectly acceptable and an excellent idea.

# What happens after the ITC?

## If you have passed

- You need to register as a new Instructor on [www.ikointl.com](http://www.ikointl.com)
- To maintain your status you will need to keep your membership up to date and earn points by collecting feedback from students and passing online tests.

## If you are weak in 1 or 2 areas,

- Complete post ITC logged hours with an IKO Level 2 or higher Instructor who can assess the areas that were of concern.
- Depending on the Examiners concerns, in addition to logged hours a time constraint and/or restrictions on the Instructors or schools able to reassess you may be imposed

*For example, 40 hours over a minimum of 3 months and not with school Rotten-Kitesurfing.com*

## If you are weak in many areas

**Retake the ITC** – In this case you will have to wait at least 6 months before being accepted on another ITC. You may well have to pay the full amount again.

**Advised this is not for you** – In some cases it becomes apparent that a candidate Instructor is not suitable. Not everyone has the right skills to teach. Remember we have other people's lives in our hands!

## Example

- Riding level is very poor
- Time management is very poor
- Equipment knowledge very poor
- Lack of safety awareness
- Unable to communicate

### **Your course may be terminated for the following reasons**

- If you display a very poor attitude or lack of respect to the IKO
- Abusive behavior
- Endangering yourself or others
- Seen taking or under the influence of prohibited drugs
- Drunk.

If your course is terminated early, either by yourself or your examiner, you will be asked to leave the class and you will not be entitled to a refund.

# About the course

## What do I need to bring?



You will need to bring all your **kitesurfing equipment** as you will be required to prove your riding skills.



This will be done in a wind range from 10 to 30 knots.

The conditions will be assessed by the Examiner and if he decides they are safe you must perform the test.



**Watch** - In order to time your presentations and lessons.



**Paper** and a **pen** or **pencil** to write with.



## LANGUAGE

The course will be in English by an English Examiner.

You must be able hold a conversation in English to a good standard and you will be required to read passages out loud to the class from the manual and to complete written tasks also in English.

This includes the Exam at the end of the week, which is written in English and requires written English answers.

If you have problems with the language please email the Examiner before the start of the course at [ikouk@ikointl.com](mailto:ikouk@ikointl.com)



## The Weather

We need wind for some of the elements of the course, if there is no wind then post ITC shadowing will be given which must be supervised by an IKO Level 2 or higher Instructor