

FORMULA KITE 2032

The option missing from the report

All five Joint Working Group recommendations remove the existing Men's and Women's Formula Kite Events. None assesses retaining these proven Events while selecting new Equipment under Regulation 11.5(a)(iii).

5 RECOMMENDATIONS	0 RETAIN OPTIONS	2 OLYMPIC EVENTS REMOVED
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THE DECISION IN ONE VIEW

PROVEN OLYMPIC VALUE - Successfully delivered at Paris 2024 and retained for LA28 - The fastest Summer Olympic Event - Modern, youthful, athletic and visually exciting - Compact, portable Equipment with significant logistical advantages JWG report lines 625–665	THE DECISIVE OMISSION - No evaluation of IKA's Equipment reform proposal - No retain Event/select new Equipment option - No like-for-like test against replacement readiness risks - No transparent weighting or traceable evidence for key claims JWG report lines 75–108, 143–166, 186–261 and 623–726	AN UNEQUAL TEST Formula Kite is judged on observed, correctable issues. Proposed replacements receive credit for intended benefits despite acknowledged uncertainty in Equipment, format, pathways and delivery. The published report does not demonstrate that replacement is better justified than retention with new Equipment. JWG report lines 333–572 and 623–726
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WHAT REMOVAL PUTS AT RISK

Established athlete and MNA pathways, manufacturer investment and an Olympic-tested Event strongly aligned with youth appeal, gender equality, accessibility and compelling broadcast content.

A PROVEN EVENT WITH NEW EQUIPMENT

Retain the Men's and Women's Kite Events and select new Equipment under Regulation 11.5(a)(iii).

IKA proposes selecting new one-design kite and foil Equipment based on **affordability, reliability, durability, performance and delivery capacity**. The ready solution includes two kite sizes for each of the Men's and Women's Events, stronger lines and bridles, an upper wind limit for the use of the larger kites, differentiated Men's and Women's foils and a maximum mast length. A simplified Youth package would use only the smaller sizes of the approved kites with both Foil and TwinTip Race setups.

Together, these **tested** measures reduce Equipment quantity and cost, improve durability, broaden the competitive athlete-weight range and preserve Formula Kite's proven wind range and Olympic delivery capability.



GIVE MNAs A GENUINE CHOICE

Before the recommendations are finalised, include and properly assess the retain Event/select new Equipment option against the same criteria, evidence requirements and Olympic-readiness standards applied to every proposed alternative.

SIX FINDINGS THAT REQUIRE CLOSE EXAMINATION

These are six of the most consequential findings from IKA's line-by-line assessment. They do not replace the full analysis. Before deciding the future of two established Olympic Events, decision-makers should examine the complete evidence and methodology.

01 THE PERMITTED REFORM OPTION WAS NOT ASSESSED

REPORT Regulation 11.5 expressly permits retaining an Event while selecting new Equipment, and the proposal map includes 'Keep/evolve W/M Kite.'

IKA ASSESSMENT Yet all five recommendations remove Formula Kite. More significantly, the report contains no Formula Kite-specific SWOT analysis, although structured SWOT analyses are provided for several other building blocks. It neither evaluates IKA's developed Equipment solution nor provides a balanced assessment of the Event's recognised strengths, correctable weaknesses, development opportunities and manageable risks. It therefore does not explain why targeted reform was rejected in favour of replacing two established Olympic Events.

JWG REPORT LINES 143-166, 252-253 AND 623-726

02 REPLACEMENTS RECEIVE A DIFFERENT TEST

REPORT Wingfoil and Foiling Monohull retain unresolved questions concerning Equipment, format, pathways, athlete weight, light-wind performance and Olympic delivery.

IKA ASSESSMENT Those concepts receive credit for intended future benefits, while Formula Kite is judged on observed and correctable issues. Without a like-for-like readiness test, the report does not establish that replacement is safer or better than retention with new Equipment.

JWG REPORT LINES 343-344, 361-363 AND 493-520

03 OLYMPIC VALUE IS ALREADY PROVEN

REPORT The report recognises Formula Kite as modern, fast, visually dynamic and attractive to younger sailors. It was introduced at Paris 2024 and retained for LA28.

IKA ASSESSMENT These acknowledged strengths support the review's own objectives. Removing two Olympic-tested Events requires clear comparative evidence that replacement would deliver greater Olympic value. The report does not provide it.

JWG REPORT LINES 625-665

04 THE WIND-RANGE PREMISE IS WRONG

REPORT The report describes Formula Kite's operating range as relatively limited and states that racing in practice requires nine knots.

IKA ASSESSMENT Formula Kite has demonstrated successful competitive racing from 5 to at least 25 knots, while Olympic racing at Paris 2024 continued in conditions recorded as low as approximately 4 knots. The report therefore fundamentally misrepresents one of the Event's strongest scheduling advantages without presenting any comparative race data.

JWG REPORT LINES 655-657 AND 713-715

05 THE COST CLAIM IS UNSUPPORTED

REPORT The report describes Formula Kite campaign costs as among the highest in Olympic sailing.

IKA ASSESSMENT No disclosed model or like-for-like comparison supports that claim. Available comparisons place Kite among the least expensive Events, and IKA's proposed package reduces costs further. The complete Equipment travels in one airline bag and is purchased and brought by the athlete, not supplied by the Organising Committee.

JWG REPORT LINES 669-670

06 THE METHOD CANNOT BE VERIFIED

REPORT The evidence base combines data, proposals, assumptions, tacit knowledge and selected conversations. Available data, time and capacity did not permit an exact scorecard.

IKA ASSESSMENT No equivalent qualitative decision matrix, disclosed weighting or evidentiary hierarchy is provided. For example, the conclusion that Formula Kite requires high-speed coach and safety boats, contributing to cost and operational complexity, is presented without any comparative data concerning their number, cost or operation. It also appears to assume that these boats continuously follow the athletes, whereas in practice they generally remain stationed and respond when required. This raises serious questions about the technical basis and reliability of the wider assessment.

JWG REPORT LINES 186-219, 254-261, 675-677 AND 707-709

These six findings are part of a wider body of evidence. Read the full Formula Kite 2032 Public Assessment before deciding whether two proven Olympic Events should be removed.