



Sheffield Kite Fliers Safety Guidelines

Guidelines Statement

1. It is the responsibility of all S.K.F members to be familiar with these guidelines, regularly reviewing them in case of changes and amendments.
2. These Safety Guidelines covers all forms of traction kiting activities

Assess the flying site – Consider the following

1. Are you legally allowed to use the site?
2. Is the site and conditions including wind conditions suitable for the activity you wish to participate in?
3. Could you cause distress to livestock / farmed animals?
4. Could you cause distress to horses? Please be aware that whilst you may think you are far enough away a horse may still panic if a kite comes into view.
5. Could you cause distress to other people using the site?
6. Could you cause damage to the site or any adjacent properties?
7. Could you endanger any adjacent roads, vehicle access points, or bridal paths, potentially causing alarm to drivers, cyclists, and horse riders?
8. Are you observing all local rules and regulations?

Safe Participation – Consider the following

1. Always find a safe place free of people or obstacles to launch your kite.
2. Ensure you have an acceptable level of control over the equipment that you use.
3. If you are unsure about any aspect of your equipment ask another member for advice.
4. Ensure you have plenty of room between yourself and any obstacle downwind allowing for an area for you to recover should you get into difficulties.
5. It is advisable to wear appropriate safety equipment so that minor incidents do not cause any personal injuries.
6. It is recommended that a helmet or quality head protector that fits correctly is worn at all times whilst using kites. An appropriate helmet may reduce the risk of death or injury. Consider carefully the extra risk you may be taking by not wearing one.
7. It is NOT advised that you participate alone in any kite activities.
8. Anyone under 18 years of age should be continuously supervised by a parent or guardian.
9. Kites that are not being flown should never be left unattended unless the kite has been immobilised.
10. Kites that are not being flown for more than an hour should be put away so that the space may be used by other members.

11. Before use check all equipment for wear and tear and to make sure things haven't become loose such as bridles, lines, wheels, nuts, and bolts.

Newcomers – Consider the following

1. If someone is new to the sport they should ensure that they are not trying to participate in conditions that are outside of their abilities.
2. Any newcomers wishing to use the club's registered flying site should be made aware of and read these Safety Guidelines.
3. All newcomers should be advised to purchase British Kite Surfing Association (BKSA) insurance and be informed that it is a requirement of joining and being a member of the S.K.F. that they have and maintain valid BKSA insurance.

External Influences – Consider the following

1. Stop kiting if the weather changes in such a manner that may result in injury such as thunderstorms or high winds.
2. Please comply with the site's owner or authorities if they request that you leave the site. If possible request their name, who they represent, and who the main contact would be so the club can liaise with the owner/authorities afterwards.
3. Should you or your equipment be damaged by any other member of the public do not become confrontational. Raise the matter with them in a calm manner, if they are dismissive try to take a photo of the alleged perpetrator and record such things as the date, time, and car registration details and then report the matter to the local police.
4. If at all possible, avoid asking for help from a non-kiter to assist with launching and landing. If you must ask for help, make sure they are properly briefed and understand the risks of getting involved.