

Thank you for joining /renewing your membership with The UK Windsurfing Association (UKWA).

It gives me enormous pleasure to congratulate all those that competed during 2022 at National and International events particularly those that medalled during what was an exciting season. Many performances stand out, but it is well worth mentioning the continued success of Emma Wilson, (Senior), and Charlie Dixon who swept the International board, (Youth) IQFOIL.

I must thank the UKWA events Team who managed to run a full program of events throughout 2022 including, Course Racing, Slalom, Speed and Wave. Whilst it was pleasing to see our established team, 2022 saw many new volunteers assisting at events and this can only be seen as a positive for the future of The UKWA. Many of the innovations and policies which came in during Covid remained in place with many functions remaining on-line. Fortunately, events were unaffected by The Virus in 2022, to our great relief.

During 2022 the UKWA took the bold step to include Wing Foil racing at several of its Slalom events. This was not just successful with 45 wings taking part, it was both joyous and exciting to see this new discipline become part of our UKWA family. Both competitors and their families added great value to these slalom events and as a consequence Wing Foiling will be added to all Slalom and Cup events for 2023 making The UKWA by far the market leader for competitive Wing Foiling in the UK. By the start of the season we will have our own Wing third party insurance in place so we can offer full UKWA membership to those taking part and to any keen recreational Wing sailors keeping everyone safely covered. There will also be another change at course racing events with the amalgamation of the Cup & Inland Series into one British tour. 2023 will see a full events calendar, Speed Week, 7 Cup events, 7 Slalom events, a dedicated wave tour and The National Windsurfing Championships and The Champions Cup. Anyone interested in hosting a Freestyle event/series should contact admin@ukwindsurfing.com

We should take the opportunity to thank all our host locations/clubs, all the local councils and all of the event sponsors who worked so hard to support The UKWA and its members, including the volunteers working behind the scenes to make sure the events worked safely during 2022.

2022 was a beautiful summer and it was good to see so many people on our beaches windsurfing, paddle boarding, canoeing and kitesurfing and reports from the trade are very positive. The sport continues to innovate, foiling continues to grow and the new kid on the block, Wing foiling has exploded in popularity.

The UKWA is always looking for additional volunteers. Right now we are looking for volunteers to man the safety ribs for the 2023 season. If you would like to volunteer or know someone that might, then please email admin@ukwindsurfing.com and one of The Team will contact you with further information. The UKWA is a volunteer association, without new volunteers it will be increasingly difficult to provide members with the events they so enjoy. Join The Team today.

The UKWA thanks Bishop Skinner for supporting the Association as its supplier of third party insurance to our membership. For further information see www.ukwindsurfing.com/membership Many UKWA members have either never competed at or have retired from competition. We absolutely welcome recreational membership. However, all should be sure that their membership is up to date. Membership includes your Third-Party Insurance an absolute must in modern times, protecting you if the worst should happen. Remember your insurance expires the exact same day as your membership. Before taking to the water, Think Safety First - be Insured.

We continue to benefit from the support of our sponsors. Many brands, importers and magazines support us and the RYA continues to support the pathway classes. We take this opportunity to thank them all and to further thank our volunteers who continue to support windsurfing in the UK. We look forward to further outstanding achievements by British sailors in the year to come, however, the UKWA welcomes all participants, regardless of ability, gender, ethnicity, age or chosen discipline. Thank you again for joining us, if you need any further information, please contact us or go to the website www.ukwindsurfing.com for up-to-date information and follow us on Social Media.