

OBTAINING AKA SANCTIONING FOR YOUR KITE EVENT

I. Basic Information

A. AKA Sanctioning means that American Kitefliers Association members are involved in the administration of the event, that the AKA endorses and approves the event, and that those involved in staging and supervising the event qualify for limited coverage under AKA's liability insurance policy.

- Coverage limits: \$1,000,000 per occurrence (\$100,000 for non-member claimants).
- Certain actions, including Traction kiting activities such as, but not limited to, kite surfing, kite buggying, and kite skiing are excluded from coverage.

B. AKA Sanctioning is awarded for a kite event of a specific date and time or, through the club affiliation fee, for recurring periodic club events for which the Chair and activities remain constant. A standard certificate of coverage is available upon request.

C. AKA Sanctioning is automatically nullified by an illegal action on the part of the Sponsor or Event Chair as regards the sanctioned event.

D. News releases or announcements may not indicate that AKA approves or endorses an event unless and until AKA Sanctioning has been granted in writing.

E. AKA strongly recommends that events have participants sign the [Waiver and Release of Liability Form](#) that is attached (see below). Such waivers will not affect the level of coverage but will add another layer of protection for event organizers and participants.

II. Requirements

The following requirements MUST be met for an event to be awarded AKA sanctioning:

A. The Event Chair must be both an AKA member in good standing and an experienced kiteflier.

B. Sponsorship. An AKA Affiliated Chapter, an AKA member in good standing, or an AKA Member Merchant must sponsor the event.

C. Safety. The Event Chair must assure in writing that the following requirements will be satisfied:

1. The event must satisfy the requirements of Federal Aviation Regulations, Part 101, pertaining to Moored Balloons, Kites, Unmanned Rockets, and Unmanned Free Balloons. If the event is within the control zone of any airport or within the expected flight path of any aircraft, the event must be coordinated with and approved by proper authorities to assure that it will not conflict with aircraft operations in any way.

2. At least two AKA members familiar with safe flying practices must be designated as Safety Coordinators and be on duty at all times during the event. The Safety Coordinators must submit all required reports as stated below.
3. Safety Coordinators will not fly kites during a tour of duty. However, the Coordinators may be relieved by qualified alternates, allowing the Coordinators a time to fly kites.
4. The appropriate AKA Regional Director must approve the site for the event. To the extent necessary, the site itself will be marked to designate areas for the various activities.
5. Adequate space must be provided for sport kites and for large kites weighing over five pounds and having more than 200 pounds of pull. These spaces must be cleared of all other kites.
6. AKA Sanctioned Events do not allow the use of cutting line or any other cutting implements in any Fighter Kite Competitions. See AKA's Fighter Kite and Rokkaku Competition Rules.
7. AKA discourages the inclusion of activities in which a person is intentionally lifted, pulled, dragged, or tethered.

III. The Sanctioning Partnership

Sanctioning is a partnership between the AKA and the event. For its part, AKA provides credibility, publicity, and the option of being covered under the AKA liability insurance policy. In return, AKA asks sanctioned events to:

1. Give recognition to AKA as a sponsor equal to that given to any other sponsor, including printed publicity, T-shirts, and announcements over the P.A. system.
2. Provide opportunity and space for event attendees to join the AKA.

IV. Sanctioning Request Processing

- A. Requests must be submitted to AKA in writing on the form provided below.
- B. Requests should be submitted as early as possible. Requests submitted less than 30 days prior to the event will be processed as quickly as possible. However, due to time limitations, sanctioning of requests received less than 30 days prior to the event cannot be guaranteed.
- C. Any fees that may be assessed for each event (or club affiliation year) to help defray the cost of the sanctioning process must be received before the event takes place. Payment may be by cash, check, or credit card.
- D. Once the appropriate Regional Director and the AKA Executive Director agree that the event meets all requirements and all appropriate fees have been paid, the event will be sanctioned.
- E. AKA's Executive Director or their designee will notify the applicant in writing of the disposition of the sanctioning request. The sanctioning fees will be refunded if the event is not sanctioned.

V. Reports

- A. Urgent Report. If serious personal injury or property damage occurs, the Event Chair or organizer must notify the AKA Executive Director or President in person or by telephone within 24 hours.
- B. Report of Kite Incident. The Safety Coordinators agree to provide the Chair and AKA, within 24 hours of the event, a separate Report of Kite Incident for:

1. Each kite incident which resulted in any personal injury or property damage.
2. Each "near miss" safety violation which posed a potential hazard.

C. Incidents that may result in civil action must be reported to directly the AKA.

D. Sport Kite Competition results: Results of all contests in which fliers may earn AKA Sport Kite Conference points, including the name and state of each contestant or team member, must be forwarded to the appropriate Conference Commissioner.

E. Kitemakers' Competition results: Kitemakers' competitions should report 1st, 2nd and 3rd places to the chair of the Kitemakers' Committee, including name and email or address of each competitor.

F. Fighter kite results should be forwarded to the regional Fighter Kite Committee representative to be then forwarded to the Official AKA Fighter Kite Scorekeeper.

PLEASE MAIL OR EMAIL THE [REQUEST FOR SANCTIONING FORM](#) (ATTACHED BELOW), ALONG WITH ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION AND FEES, TO:

The American Kitefliers Association
P. O. Box 699
Cedar Ridge, CA 95924
Email: aka@aka.kite.org

WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

By participating in the EVENT NAME _____ (event), I agree to:

- Engage in and promote safe, responsible flying, and to adhere to all event safety rules.
- Inspect all facilities, fields, and equipment prior to participating and to immediately share any safety concerns with event organizers.
- Acknowledge that kiteflying may involve risk of serious injury and/or economic losses resulting from my actions or those of others.
- Assume this risk and agree not to sue event sponsors, organizers, owners and lessors of event locations, and event participants, as well as the American Kitefliers Association, its directors, agents, and volunteers, for losses damages, property damage, or injury.

I HAVE READ THE ABOVE WAIVER AND RELEASE, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY.

Name of Participant _____

Age (if under 18) _____

Signature of Participant _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if participant is under 18)

Please note: by signing on behalf of a participant less than 18 years of age, the parent/guardian also expressly agrees to all of the above.

Date: _____

REQUEST FOR AKA EVENT SANCTIONING

NAME OF EVENT: _____ DATE OF EVENT: ___/___/___

LOCATION: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE: _____

FEE for: *Kite Event*: \$200.00; *Club Event(s)*: \$200.00 per year; *Club Events + One Public Event*: \$250.00

PAID BY: CHECK ___ CASH ___ CREDIT CARD ___

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: ___/___

Security Code (on back) _____ Cardholder Name (Print) _____

Signature: _____

All four of the following positions must be held by members in good standing of the American Kitefliers Association (AKA) both at the time sanctioning is requested and throughout the duration of the event. The same person may hold the positions of "Sponsor" and "Chairperson" but there must be no less than three separate AKA members listed below who have agreed to accept and perform the duties of their position.

CHAIRPERSON:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ or (____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

SPONSOR:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ or (____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

SAFETY COORDINATORS:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ or (____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: (____) _____ or (____) _____ - _____
Email: _____

COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF EVENT AND SITE, including activities, ages, competition levels and events, number of fliers, safety coordinators, distances from power lines and airports, etc. Attach a map and additional information if necessary.

Would you like this event to be listed as an AKA Sport Kite Conference Event? (Yes) (No)

Please list any additional named insureds and their relationship to the event. Example: XYZ Kites - Sponsor; CY City Parks and Recreation Department - Landlord

The undersigned request sanctioning for this event and acknowledge that:

1. They have read and understand the requirements as set forth in the information sheet "Obtaining AKA Sanctioning for Your Kite Event" and that their event complies with said requirements.
2. The AKA strongly recommends that events have participants sign a waiver and release of liability.
3. They have discussed this event with AKA's Regional Director for the region in which the event will be held.
4. AKA sanctioning of events does NOT provide liability coverage for incidents relating to the sale of liquor or the legal sale of marijuana at sanctioned events.
5. They will give recognition to AKA as a sponsor equal to that given to any other sponsor, including printed publicity, T-shirts, and announcements over the P.A. system. They will provide opportunity and space for event attendees to join the AKA.

Please remember that sanctioning and the resulting limited liability insurance coverage is intended as a benefit of AKA membership. Abuse of this program could lead to the loss of the AKA liability coverage.

SIGNATURES:

(Event Chair)

(Sponsor)