



**Training and Examination Guidelines of the VDWS e.V.  
Valid for the issuing of competency certificates**

**Discipline: Windsurfing**

**Part: A**

**Windsurfing-Basic Certificate  
International Basic Licence Windsurfing**

*From 10.April 1983*

**Part: B**

**Windsurfing-Basic Certificate “Junior”  
International Basic Licence Windsurfing “Junior”**

*From 1.January 1992*

*Modification from 15.4.2014*

## **Part A**

### **Windsurfing-Basic Certificate International Basic Licence Windsurfing**

#### **§ 1 Windsurfing-Basic Certificate**

The Verband Deutscher Wassersport Schulen e.V. (VDWS) issues windsurfing basic certificates through its network of affiliated and certified windsurfing schools. The basic certificate serves as a proof of competence of the holder that they can sail a windsurfer competently. All VDWS certified schools are obliged, to operate in line with the most up to date version of rules which apply for the issuing of basic certificates.

#### **§ 2 Validity**

The basic certificate is proof of competency; it certifies that specific knowledge and skill have been attained in internationally used standard system. Important for the school location is that locality is suitable for the foreseen type of windsurfing activities. Most important is that windsurfing activities at the location are not restricted by local or environmental regulations.

#### **§ 3 Duration of Training**

The Basic Certificate training foresees, depending on the experience level 12 to 14 hours of tuition in theory and practical exercises.

#### **§ 4 Eligibility**

Candidates for the Windsurfing Basic Licence exam must be at least 12 years old.

#### **§ 5 Examiner**

The VDWS- Trainings and Examination Licence allow a recognised VDWS-affiliated school to run windsurfing courses and examinations for the windsurfing basic certificate. The school manager is responsible to appoint an examiner. The examiner decides on the time frame and location for the exams but he or she must give adequate advance notice. The examiner is also responsible that the exams are run in an orderly way.

#### **§ 6 Examination Procedure**

The Basic Windsurfing Certificate requires that both a practical and a theoretical exam are done. Some parts of the practical exam can be examined in conjunction with the tuition for example rigging, de-rigging the board and knot making tests.

##### ***Practical Exam***

The practical exam should be carried out using a suitable windsurfing board with a dagger board in wind conditions up to Beaufort force 3. The practical exam is deemed as passed when the exercises and manoeuvres are done in a safe, sure and decisive way. The ability of the examinee to return safely to the starting point in normal wind and wave condition is considered to part of the exam.

##### ***Theoretical Exam***

The theoretical exam requires that an exam paper is filled out. The possible total points allocated and the minimum points required to pass should be indicated on the examination paper. If the result is on the lower borderline an additional oral exam based on similar question from a different exam paper can decide the outcome. A repeat of the exam is possible after an appropriate learning period.

## **§ 7 Examination Content**

### ***Practical Exam***

Rigging and de-rigging the board, lifting the rig up and getting under way, basic sailing position, positioning the board, steering and sailing on different points of the wind with the sail set properly, going about, emergency stop, tacking to windward and reactions in an incident situation.

### ***Theory Exam***

Boating equipment, general legal issues, basic right of way regulation, special local regulations, sailing theory sail position relative to the wind and the various forces generated, safety, respect for nature and the environment, knots and their various uses, what to do in cases of emergency and deteriorating weather condition, preventive safety measures and safety equipment.

## **§ 8 Examination Results**

The written record of the exam results showing the individual marks and bearing the signature of the examiner must be made. The result should be indicated by “passed” or “failed”. A repeat of an exam is allowed theory or practical exam, when an exam part is failed. All records of exam results must be filed and stored by the watersports school.

## **§ 9 issuing of the basic certificate**

The examining watersport school certifies the candidate has successfully completed the exams. This school is responsible for issuing the Basic Certificate to the trainee.

Only the appropriate VDWS pre-printed forms are to be used when issuing the Basic Certificate. The Windsurfing Basic Certificate must be signed by the examiner and be stamped with the official school stamp of the school manager.

## **§ 10 Participation of VDWS during exams**

The VDWS has the right to oversee the exam procedures at anytime. e.g. VDWS can be represented by a committee member, a Learnteam member or an appointed representative. Such participation does not require any advance notice.

## **§ 11 Replacement Issues**

Lost basic licence will be replaced by the VDWS. The new licence must be marked as a “Replacement Issue” it must also be confirmed with an appropriate signature and date.

## **§ 12 VAW**

The VDWS is a member of the VAW (Vereinigte Ausbildungsverbände Windsurfen). The VAW is an international working group which represents many watersport school associations; its aim is the setting of uniform internationally accepted standards for training, examination and watersport certificates. The correct basic certificate title is actually. **The “VAW Basic Certificate” issued by the VDWS.**

## **§ 13 Enactments**

These Windsurfing Basic Certificate guidelines take effect as of publication.

*Weilheim 10. April 1983*

*Modified at 15.4.2014*

## **Part B**

### **International Basic Licence Windsurfing Junior”**

Youngsters can do the International Basic Licence Windsurfing “Junior” the same training and exam guidelines of the VDWS.e.V as in **Part 1** will apply, when no later changes are made.

#### **B § 2 Validity**

The Junior Basic licence applies only for a restricted area, this location must be overseen by a competent supervisor. The supervisor takes on the responsibility for judgement and correctness of information concerning the location, weather assessment, shipping-traffic, restrictions and the general suitability and sea worthiness of the equipment used.

#### **B § 3 Licence**

**The following pre-requisites apply before the Basic Junior Licence can be issued.**

- a) The candidate for the exam must be at least 7 years old and should not yet have reached their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- b) Permission has been given by the parents or a legal guardian.
- c) German youth swimming award (Bronze), equivalent to 15 min continuous swimming.

The Basic Licence Junior becomes invalid with the 17<sup>th</sup> birthday. As of the 12<sup>th</sup> birthday the Basic Licence Junior can be upgraded to an adult licence by successfully completing the adult theory exam.

#### **B§ 5 Exam Content**

##### **Theory Exam**

Windsurfing equipment, legal issues, sailing theory, safety, responsibility for nature and the environment, knots and their uses.

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