

Viborg Amt
Dept. of Environment
Bjoern Westh, Chairman
Skottenborg 26
8800 Viborg
Denmark



Toronto, August 8th 2005

**OBJECTION TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WINDMILL PARK AT ROSHAGE,
HANSTHOLM**

It has come to our attention that the building of a large windmill park at Roshage in Hanstholm is proposed. The International Funboard Class Association, recognised by the International Sailing Federation as the only organiser of Slalom, Freestyle and Wave Performance **World Championships** would hereby like to state that **the international windsurfing sport will suffer a substantial loss**, as long as this project is to be completed in its current form.

Hanstholm is, in international terms, among one of the absolute best windsurfing locations. Together with the reef at Klitmoeller, it offers optimal windsurf conditions in all Denmark's predominantly westerly wind directions. If this proposal is allowed to reach its completion, windsurfing will, at an international competitive level, **lose one of its very best European locations**. The area located directly east of Hanstholm is one of North-Europe's finest locations for holding Wave Performance competition.

In this international competitive discipline there are many essential factors: It is vitally important that the **wind direction is parallel to the coast**, and that **the waves break some distance from the shore-break**. Waves should roll in on a line at right angles to the coast. It is also vital that the **sea beds topology** has an incline and composition, so that the waves produced by it are steep and powerful, it is also essential that these waves have **a long stretch** in which to run free, so as to be as large as possible even in light wind conditions. In Denmark, the Klitmoeller & Hanstholm area are **the only two locations that are well suited for international competition**, because of the hard ocean bed, which in wave terms is comparable to a coral reef.

Furthermore, conditions at Roshage make it possible for **large amounts of competitors to attend, both on water and on land**. This is a necessity for international competition, together with the aforementioned natural demands.

There are some good windsurfing locations found to the South and East of the Oerhage reef in Klitmoeller, but these only work in seldom wind directions and have much less room on water and on land. Hanstholm is functional by far on many more days, as in the interests of competition, compared to any other spot in the area. **The spot at Roshage is the essential factor for the area** as a whole to be considered among the very best in Europe, and important for holding competition in Wave Performance.



International Funboard Class Association

PO Box 12, 275 King Street East, Toronto Ontario M5V 1K5 CANADA
Visit also <http://ifca.internationalwindsurfing.com/>



It is precisely over these last few years that Denmark has to a greater extent shown itself on the international windsurfing scene through the IFCA. Some of the big Danish names in the Wave Performance discipline are:- Lars Petersen, Robert Sand, Mads Bjoernaa, Rasmus Baltersen, Mads Toemming, Nikolai Bjoern Eriksen, Lars Green, Mads Lunoe and Finn Noer. Due to the fact that an overall national membership in the IFCA is of importance whilst choosing a country offering to host a competitive event, **Denmark is a reasonably good choice as a host.**

In the IFCA we see it as a tremendous loss of an area that is well suited for international competition. For the last few years the IFCA has begun to hold competitions in alternative locations than say - Hawaii, Australia, South Africa & Italy. We understand the potential of Hanstholm and see it as a good possibility and an alternative location for international events, precisely because Hanstholm and the surrounding area is without doubt and beyond **comparison the best spot in Denmark, and among the top ten spots in Europe.**

Hanstholm and the surrounding area has previously been the setting for international events. Among these have been, Soulwave, World Championships, Northern Championships & European Championships. All of these events are open to, and popular with the public, and such international events always draw a large crowd. This is probably due to the fact that the elite of the windsurfing sport will be sailing at these events. Some of the very top international professional surfers to have sailed at Hanstholm are: Josh Stone, Robby Seeger, Peter Volwater, Josh Angulo & Fransisco Goya. All of these sportsmen are agreed upon the very special and unique conditions that make this area a class above the European standard. Windsurfing is also a spectacular sport, which serves to entertain tourists that normally would not have any involvement with it.

The IFCA sees the eventual completion of the project in its current form to render Denmark as no longer able to host international events in the IFCA Wave Performance discipline – currently contesting 64 men & 16 women. Furthermore this will also affect the possibility of hosting large events in all IFCA disciplines. **We regard this as a severe limitation for Danish windsurfing in the international & professional stadium.**

On the basis of the above arguments, **the IFCA hereby urges the Viborg council to reconsider carrying out the project east of Roshage**, as this will restrict the future development of Danish windsurfing on an international and professional level.

Kind Regards,

Bruno De Wannemaeker
President International Funboard Class Association



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