This weekend local waters will provide the backdrop for a kitefoil regatta known as the Flying Sardine FKSS 2020. Europe’s only circuit for Olympic windsurfing, the Formula Kite Spain Series (FKSS) is spread across five trials in 2020. Three have already taken place in Alarcón, Castelló and Mallorca and the final fixture of the competition is scheduled to play out in Tarifa this December.

More than forty people have signed up for the event in Formentera, a two-tier trial divided into the Open for world-renowned stars of the modality and the F-One, an amateur competition geared towards newcomers.

According to tourism chief Carlos Bernús, trainers, family members and friends accompanying the thirty participating athletes mean that over a hundred people will be arriving on the island for the occasion. “At this time of year, they’re more than welcome”, asserted Bernús.

The competition benefits from backing from Formentera’s departments of sport and tourism, with sport consellera Paula Ferrer emphasising the added visibility that sports like windsurfing, which claim many followers on the island, stands to gain thanks to the event. Ferrer encouraged fans to attend the fixture, which is scheduled to take place in Ses Illetes.

One of the fixture’s standout contestants is ten-time world “free style” champ Gisela Pulido. This weekend will mark the circuit leader’s first time competing on the island, and Pulido insisted that the presence of opponent Julia Damasiewicz ensured the competition would be hard fought. “Julia’s a big name in the game”, she said, “and neither one of us intends to pull any punches”.

The regattas will be held in Ses Salines nature reserve. Official training will begin at noon tomorrow (Friday), with trials starting at the same time Saturday and 9.30am on Sunday.

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Department of Communications
Consell de Formentera