



WORLD KARATE FEDERATION

Member of:
Global Association of International Sport Federations (GAISF)
International World Games Association (IWGA)

WKF CONGRESS

MINUTES OF MEETING

Konya (Turkey), Tuesday 25th October at 13.00h
in Dedeman Konya Hotel & Convention Center, Room Balo A-B

1. Congress administration formalities

- 1.1 Delegates registration opened from 1400h

2. Roll Call

- 2.1 The WKF General Secretary, Mr. Toshihisa Nagura, conducted the initial roll call at 1500h. The number of NFs present were at the time 89 of which 65 had voting rights. In addition, the 7 members of the Executive Bureau have voting rights, bringing the total number of possible votes to 72.
- 2.2 The Congress will be informed of any changes before voting or elections.

3. Honoring the Departed

- 3.1 The WKF President, Mr. Antonio Espinos, informed the congress of the three prominent karate personalities that had departed since last Congress, Con Kassis, Sergio Menéndez and Iwaki Hashimoto. The WKF Congress send our warmest condolences to the families of the departed expressing our appreciation for their contribution to karate.
- 3.2 An overhead presentation was presented to the congress in memory of each of the departed followed by a minute of silence in their memory as requested by the WKF President, Mr. Antonio Espinos.
- 3.3 The widow of Mr. Con Kassis, Mrs. Rosanna Kassis, then addressed the Congress expressing her husband's enthusiasm for karate and appreciation he had had for the friendships formed through WKF.

4. Agenda approval

- 4.1 The agenda of the congress was approved without objections.



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5. Opening of the Congress. Address by the WKF President and the Turkish Karate Federation President

- 5.1 The WKF President, Mr. Antonio Espinos, formally opened the Congress, welcoming the delegates and expressing his appreciation for the Turkish Karate Federation for their professional organization of the championships.
- 5.2 The word was then given to the President of the Turkish Karate Federation, Dr. Aslan Abid Uguz, who gave his welcoming address to the Congress.

6. Adoption of the minutes of the Dubai 2021 Ordinary Congress

- 6.1 The minutes from the 2021 Ordinary WKF Congress in Dubai had previously been distributed and no comments received. The minutes were unanimously approved.

7. President's report

- 7.1 The WKF President, Mr. Antonio Espinos, gave his report making reflections on his presidency expressing satisfaction in how far we have come growing to a large and strong international federation with 200 countries and now with an ambitious strategy plan for moving forward.
- 7.2 He hoped that perhaps the most important legacy of his presidency would be the establishment of a strong and professional central administration that can support our activity and giving time necessary to the new President to decide on the WKF way forward.
- 7.3 His experience with WKF had been life changing – but constant travel also making it hard to endure. Having answered many encouragements to again stand for election another time, he hoped that in the period ahead he would be able to devote more time in the HQ working on the implementation of our strategic plan.

8. General Secretary's report. Membership issues.

- 8.1 The WKF General Secretary, Mr. Toshihisa Nagura, presented the EC's proposal for the permanent disaffiliation of the Norwegian Martial Arts Federation (Norges Kampsportforbund) and the permanent affiliation of the Norwegian Karate Federation (Norsk Karateforbund), Solomon Islands, Barbados, and DPR Korea National Federations.



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- 8.2 The Norwegian Martial Arts Federation took the floor urging the Congress to overrule the EC's decision of permanent disaffiliation.

9. Vote on permanent disaffiliation

- 9.1 The vote for the permanent disaffiliation of Norges Kampsportforbund (Norwegian Martial Arts Federation) was passed by the majority of the Congress, with 60 votes in favor, 1 vote against and 4 abstentions.

10. Vote on permanent affiliation

- 10.1 The following National federation were unanimously voted status of permanent affiliation:
1. Norwegian Karate Federation (Norsk Karateforbund)
 2. Solomon Islands
 3. Barbados
 4. DPR Korea

11. Vote on the changes to WKF Statutes approved by EC.

- 11.1 WKF CEO Sara Wolff explained to the Congress in detail all amendments proposed to the current WKF Statutes, based on the documents already provided to all National Federation members in advance.
- 11.2 The Changes proposed by the EC to the WKF Statutes were unanimously adapted.
[See separate document].

12. Elections

- 12.1 For purpose of administrating the election process and count of votes the following Electoral Council was proposed by the EC and accepted by the Congress:
- Mr. A. Vasileiou – Chairman
Mr. B. Sharma - Secretary
Mr. S. Pillay – Member

With the support of Mr. M. Martin, WKF Legal Counsel, and Mrs. S. Wolff, WKF CEO.



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The Electoral Council took control of the electoral process as from that moment, for the purposes of verifying and conducting the issuance of votes, the count of the votes issued and the announcement of those elected.

It was decided to simultaneously conduct the elections for both WKF President and Members of the WKF EC.

- 12.2 The updated roll-call was initially given with 95 National Federations (NFs) with voting rights present, but was subsequently reduced to 93 NFs with voting rights present, since Norway, although being present, did not have voting rights at this Congress because they did not fulfill the requirement of sports participation in the year 2021; and Jamaica, because it was erroneously listed as attendant despite not being present at the Congress.

Based on the above, the total number of valid voting rights was of 100, being 93 NFs with voting rights and additionally 7 EB members.

- 12.3 Following the issuance of votes by those attending, and finished the counting process of votes issued, the Electoral Council Chair Mr. Vasilieou announced to the Congress that WKF President, Mr. Antonio Espinos was re-elected as WKF President for a period of six years (2022-2028).
- 12.4 Also, the following candidates were elected to the WKF Executive Committee:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| For AKF: | Mr. Al Gannas, Ibrahim (KSA)
Mr. Al Razooqi, Nasser (UAE)
Mr. Nagura, Toshihisa (JPN)
Mr. Tun Seri Setia, Mohammad Ali Rustam (MAS) |
| For EKF: | Mr. Benetello, Davide (ITA)
Mr. Cipek, Davor (CRO)
Mr. Dinsdale, Michael (GBR)
Mr. Moreno, Antonio (ESP)
Mr. Nordahl, Gunnar (NOR)
Mr. Weigert, Wolfgang (GER) |
| For PKF: | Mr. García Maañón, José (ARG)
Mr. Mendez, Jose Antonio (PUR)
Mr. Vokey, Craig (CAN) |
| For UFAK: | Mr. Cherif, Bechir (TUN)
Mr. Gaye, Souleymane (SEN) |
| For OKF: | Mr. Mesbahi, Mohamad Tahar (ALG)
Mrs. Lenoa, Makarita (FIJ) |



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13. Report on Konya World Championships

- 13.1 The Chair of the Organizing Commission, Mr. Esteban Perez, gave his report for what is clearly going to be the largest Cadet, Junior and U21 Championships to date.
- 13.2 The preparation and registration have functioned satisfactorily.

14. WKF Strategic Planning for 2023-2025, updates and implementation

- 14.1 The WKF Senior Advisor, Mr. Francisco Alegrete, presented the updated strategic plan now including details of qualification for the new World Championships format.
- 14.2 Mr. Alegrete gave a presentation of the Guardian Girls Global WKF Karate Program. Following the agreement signed with Koyamada International Foundation (KIF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) the WKF launches a worldwide social program that aims to promote gender equality and woman empowerment to defend themselves from all forms of gender-based violence. The program was launched by the WKF team in Los Angeles beginning of the month.

15. Ratification of EC proposal for 2024 World team Championships in Pamplona, Spain

- 15.1 The Congress was given an update of the plans for the championship by Mr. Esteban Perez. The award of the championships to Pamplona as proposed by the EC was unanimously approved.

16. Karate's bid for participation in the LA 28 Olympic Games

- 16.1 The WKF General Secretary, Mr. Nagura, gave his presentation outlining the steps taken so far:
- January 22: Kick off Meeting, WKF/USANKF
 - February 22: Sent Letter of interest to LA28
 - April 22: LA28 announced Sport Programme for Selection
 - Jun 22: Karate's shortlisted by LA28
Started work on request for information
- 16.2 The WKF LA28 Bid Leader, Elisa Au, presented the key points and strengths of Karate's bid to the LA28 Olympic Games, together with the "Karate for Life"



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tagline.

17. Report of the Sports Commission Chair

- 17.1 The Chairman of the Sports commission and Referee Commission, Mr. Javier Escalante, gave his report.
- 17.2 The referee course in Konya had the following attendance and pass-rates:
- | | | | |
|---------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| KATA: | 79 candidates | Passed: 38 (48%) | Failed: 41 (52 %) |
| KUMITE: | 162 candidates | Passed: 101 (62%) | Failed: 61 (38%) |
- 17.3 A high level of summary of rule changes proposed for 2023 followed. The vote for adaptation of the new competition rules for 2023 is scheduled for the EC to be held on the 27th of this month.

18. Report on Para-Karate and Refugee athletes

- 18.1 A presentation on the application of Para-Karate for the Paralympic Games 2028 in Los Angeles was presented by Wolfgang Weigert, Vice-President, and Commissioner of Para Karate and Dušana Čierna Augustovičová, Chairwoman of the Para-Karate Commission.
- 18.2 Because Para-Karate was not admitted to the IPC until June 2013, it could not be part of the Paralympic Games in Tokyo 2020, as the decision was made in January 2013.
- 18.3 Regarding the Paralympic Games in Paris, Para Karate was within the last six of 12 applying sports. But only one sport - which also had to be Olympic sport at the same time - was admitted.
- 18.4 Paralympic Program 2028 to be fundamentally reformed. Olympic sport no longer a prerequisite
- 23 instead of 22 sports
 - host can propose 3-5 sports in addition
 - more mentally impaired sports and disciplines will come
 - every sport will be equally evaluated, whether it is in the Paralympic program or not.
- 18.5 Application for LA 2028 only with intellectual impaired in 4 disciplines with 2 women and 2 men each with 40 participants in total.



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19. Presentation of the 2023 WKF Youth Camp & Youth League in Poreč, Croatia

19.1 The Croatian Federation made a presentation of the 2023 Youth Camp and Youth League events. The program will be as follows:

- REGISTRATIONS CAMP: 24th-25th June
- CAMP: 26th - 28th June
- REGISTRATIONS U12 & U21 CUP: 24th-25th / 28th June
- WKF KIDS U12 & U21 CUP: 29th June
- REGISTRATIONS YOUTH LEAGUE: 24th-25th / 28th-29th June
- WKF YOUTH LEAGUE: 30th June – 2nd July

20. Presentation of the 2023 World Senior Championships in Budapest, Hungary

20.1 The Hungarian Federation presented a power point presentation of the competition venue, and allocated hotels.

21. Presentation of the 2024 World Cadet, Junior and U21 Championships in Venice

21.1 EC Member and Vice President of FILJKAM, Mr. Davide Benetello, showed a PowerPoint presentation of the facilities for the Jesolo Venice 204 World karate Championships for Cadet, Junior and U21 to be hosted by FIJLKAM (Italian Judo Wrestling Karate Martial Arts Federation).

22. AOCB

22.1 The WKF President Mr. Espinós gave information regarding discussions going on regarding the reintroduction of athletes from Russia and Belarus. The WKF follows the signals from IOC and hope that some solution can be in sight within reasonable time.

22.2 The WKF CEO, Ms. Sara Wolff, gave an overview of the status of the 2023 sports calendar. Not all is resolved but the calendar will be updates as the missing dates fall into place.



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DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
13-15 January	Series A	Athens (Greece)
27-29 January	Premier League	Cairo (Egypt)
3-5 February	EKF Cadet, Junior & U21 Championships	Larnaca (Cyprus)
24-26 February	Youth League	Fujairah (UAE)
10-12 March	Series A	City TBD (Turkey)
24-26 March	EKF Senior Championships	Guadalajara (Spain)
14-16 April	Series A	Richmond-Vancouver (Canada)
28-30 April	Youth League	La Coruña (Spain)
5-7 May	Mediterranean Championships	Tunis (Tunisia)
12-14 May	Premier League	Rabat (Morocco)
26-28 May	PKF Senior Championships	San José (Costa Rica)
9-11 June	Premier League	Fukuoka (Japan)
26-29 June	WKF Youth Camp	Porec (Croatia)
30 June - 2 July	Youth League	Porec (Croatia)
30 June - 1 July	European Games (Karate competition)	Krakow (Poland)
TBD	AKF Senior Championships	TBC
6-7 August	ANOC World Beach Games (Karate competition)	Bali (Indonesia)
4-19 August	African Games/UFAK Championships (Karate dates TBC)	Accra (Ghana)
25-27 August	PKF Cadet, Junior and U21 Championships	Santiago (Chile)
6-8 September	Mediterranean Beach Games	Heraklion (Greece)
8-10 September	Premier League	Dublin (Ireland)
22-24 September	Youth League	City TBC (Mexico)
29 Sept - 1 Oct	Series A	Larnaca (Cyprus)
23 Sept - 8 Oct	Asian Games (Karate dates TBC)	Hangzhou (China)
21-30 October	World Combat Games (Karate dates TBC)	Riyadh (Saudi Arabia)
24-29 October	World Senior Championships	Budapest (Hungary)
3-5 November	Pan American Games (Karate competition)	Santiago (Chile)
24-26 November	Series A	Matosinhos (Portugal)
19 Nov. - 2 Dec.	Pacific Games (Karate dates TBC)	Honiara (Solomon Islands)
8-10 December	Youth League	Venice (Italy)

25 October 2022

In red: to be confirmed

23. Next Congress

- 23.1 Next Congress will take place the day before the forthcoming World Championships in Budapest in 2023.