



WORLD KARATE FEDERATION

PARA KARATE EDUCATION PROGRAM, REGULATIONS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PARA KARATE CLASSIFIERS

EFFECTIVE FROM June 2022



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1. INTRODUCTION

World Karate Federation has the responsibility to educate and train Coaches, Referees, Support personnel, and International Classifiers that are capable of delivering high-quality services for Para Karate athletes.

World Karate Federation has devised an education and training pathway for International Classifiers that provides them with the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to deliver classification evaluation at the highest possible standard. World Karate Federation places a high priority on developing its human resources in order to provide the necessary services for the conduct of classification now and into the future.

World Karate Federation believes that standardised learning materials and delivery are the keys to improve the level of Para Karate officiating and classification all over the world. World Karate Federation works to develop educational pathways for those wishing to become involved in Para Karate in various levels and capacities.

This pathway has three levels of certification. Each level is designed to strengthen the participant's knowledge and skills about Para Karate, and classification in Para Karate and must be taken in sequence. Successful completion of each level will allow trainee classifiers to progress along the pathway to be eligible for appointment to a World Karate Federation Para Karate Classification Panel.

These regulations are to efficiently administer the International Classifiers of the WKF in line with the WKF Para Karate Classification Rules.

2. ADMINISTRATION

Overall administration of the International Classifiers shall be made by the WKF Para Karate Commission with the assistance of the Head of Classification as prescribed by the IPC Athlete Classification and WKF Para Karate Classification Rules.

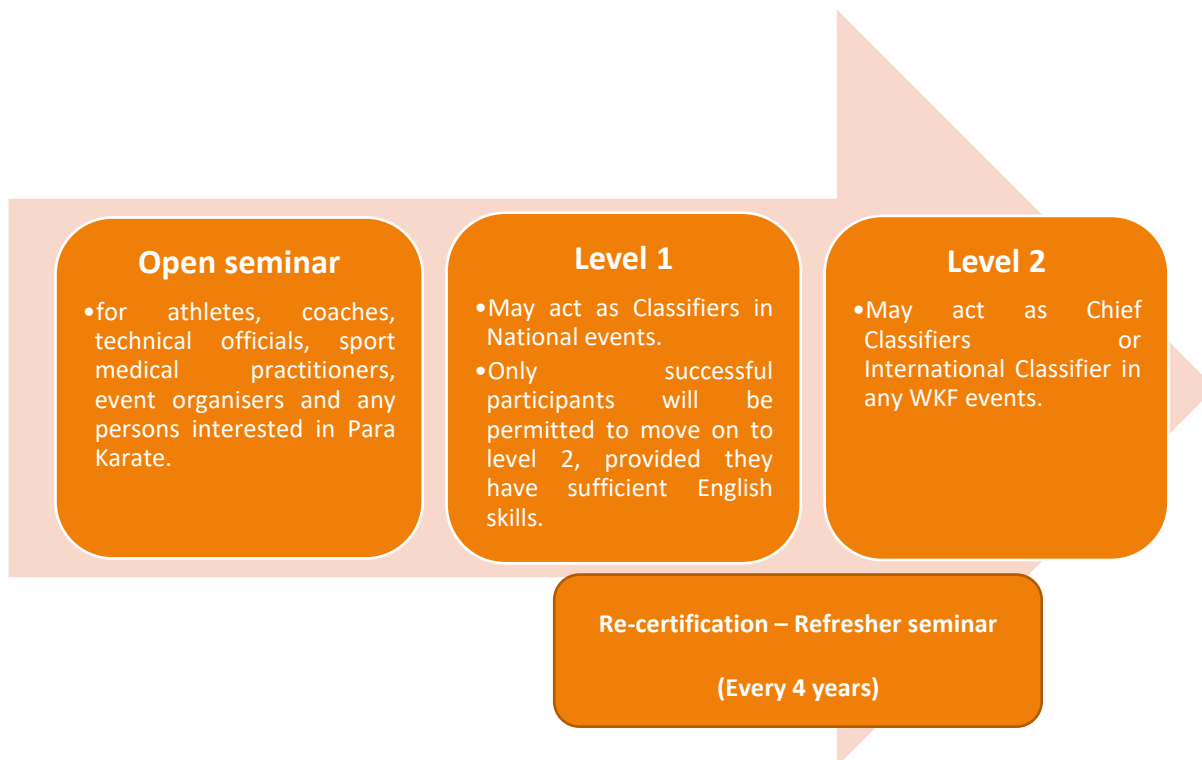
3. QUALIFICATION

The WKF will grant WKF certificates and qualifications to those passing the prescribed levels, exams and practicums assigned by or conducted by the WKF under the auspices of the Head of Classification.

4. WKF PARA KARATE EDUCATION AND CLASSIFIER CERTIFICATION PATHWAY

All education courses will be run by the WKF under the auspices of the WKF Para Karate Commission Chairperson.

The costs associated to these courses are established as detailed in the Annex Summary document.



5. WKF SEMINARS AND COURSES

5.1. OPEN SEMINAR - INTRODUCTION TO CLASSIFICATION (ONLINE)

5.1.1. PARTICIPANT PROFILE

This online course is open for everybody who wants to learn more about the WKF Para Karate, and the importance of classification. Eligible participants might be athletes, coaches, technical officials, sport medical practitioners, event organisers or generally just any persons interested in Para Karate.

Upon completion of this introductory online programme participants will be able to download a certificate of participation. Once completed, persons who wish to continue their education with WKF can continue to the next levels of learning courses.

5.1.2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the online course, participants will:

- Be familiar with Classification Assessment.
- Have a basic knowledge of Para Karate sports classes profiles.



- Have a good understanding of the role of the athlete, coach, personal assistant and classifiers in the classification process.
- Have a general introduction to the WKF Para Karate Kata Competition Rules.

5.1.3. PROGRAMME RECOGNITION

Upon completion of the course, participants will:

- Be given a certificate of participation.
- Be eligible to proceed to the Level 1 course, provided they meet the criteria detailed below.

5.2. LEVEL 1 COURSE (IN-PERSON)

The WKF Para Karate Level 1 Course is open to anybody who would like to learn more about WKF Para Karate Classification. It is a mandatory first step on the WKF Para Karate Classifier pathway. Before starting the Level 1 Course successfully completing the free Para Karate Open Seminar is a compulsory first step. After the completion of the Open Seminar, the candidate can start with the Level 1 Course.

5.2.1. PARTICIPANT PROFILE

Participants in this program should have a desire to serve as a National Classifier and contribute to the development of Para Karate at a National level. This level is the entry-level to becoming an International Classifier.

Eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Certified medical professional currently working with individuals with physical Impairments as part of their clinical practice.
- Have experience in the evaluation of individuals with impairment and activity limitation, especially those impairments most common in WKF Para Karate (such as amputation, orthopaedic musculoskeletal conditions, and other neurological conditions such as multiple sclerosis, brain injury and cerebral palsy).
- Extensive knowledge and experience of the sport of Karate.
- Knowledge and experience of the competition consistent with WKF Competition Rules.
- Experience as a classifier in another sport would be an asset.

5.2.2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The following learning outcomes should be achieved upon completion of the WKF Para Karate Level 1 Program:

- Know the role of a Classifier.
 - Understand and apply the conceptual basis of classification.
 - Understand and be able to follow the WKF Para Karate Classification Rules.
 - Able to correctly place athletes in the correct sport class and set the Compensation Score.
-



- Understand Sports Class Status.
- Be able to properly complete all relevant classification documents.
- Know all Minimum Disability Criteria (MDC) and Sport Class.
- Understand and conduct relevant medical and functional tests for Physical Impairment
- Understand and observe the impact of impairment on the kata performance - Observation assessment
- Criteria/Profiles and where to locate it within the Classification Rules and Regulations.
- Learn how to properly communicate classification outcomes.
- Understand and be able to manage risk as a classifier.
- Be aware of protest procedures and the impact of misrepresentation on the classification
- Prepare athletes for international classification.

5.2.3. LEVEL 1 COURSE CONTENT:

- Introduction to Para Karate
- Para Karate Kata Competition Rules
- Para Karate Classification Rules
- Underlying Health Conditions & Eligible (and Non-Eligible) Impairments, MDFs
- Confidentiality and Duty of Care – Code of Conduct
- Medical “bench” Testing
- Measurement of Impairments
- Minimum Impairment Criteria
- Sports Classes, Sport Class Status, Compensation Score
- Functional Assessment
- Completion of Athlete Evaluation Form
- General Discussion on Protests/Appeals, Intentional Misrepresentation, Medical Review Requests
- Practical assessment skills; observation assessment

5.2.4. PROGRAMME RECOGNITION

- Theory Exam
- Practical Exam

Upon successful completion of the course, participants will receive a Certificate.

They may proceed to the next level if they meet the criteria for Level 2 course International classifiers found in Section 5.3 of the Regulations of Administration of International Classification.

5.3. LEVEL 2 COURSE (IN-PERSON):

- A) MEDICAL
- B) TECHNICAL

The Level 2 Program is delivered in English. The World Para Karate Educator will provide additional training materials to be studied prior to attending the course.

The International Classifier Seminars shall be conducted by the WKF only, and the outline of the Course includes but is not limited to the following:

- IPC Athlete Classification Code and Internal Standards
 - Code of Conduct and Confidentiality
 - Roles and responsibilities of classifiers
- Athlete Evaluation
 - Eligible impairments and health conditions
 - Minimum Impairment criteria and how it is established
 - Technical Assessment (explanation of the tests and brief demonstration)
 - Para Karate Terminology
 - Practical application of Medical assessments
 - Observations during classification under the supervision of current international classification panels
 - Review of Medical Diagnostic Forms and Medical Review Request Forms
 - Medical testing protocols and training
- Sport Profile of Kata
- Pre-Competition Duties
- In-Competition Classification Administration
- Post-Competition Duties and Event Report
- Complex Case studies and Issue Management
- Classification Research

5.3.1. PARTICIPANT PROFILE

The candidate for classifier must be recommended by the pertinent National Federation in the application form to attend the International Classifier Training Seminar or be identified as an appropriate professional by the Head of classification in areas where there is a need for international classifiers.

The WKF Head of Classification also has the right to recommend candidates for classifiers.

MEDICAL CLASSIFIERS

A certified health professional in a field relevant to the Impairment category which WKF at its sole discretion deems acceptable as detailed in the Para Karate Classification Rules, e.g., physicians and



physiotherapists for Athletes with Physical Impairment, ophthalmologists and optometrists for athletes with Visual Impairment, and psychologists for athletes with Intellectual Impairment.

TECHNICAL CLASSIFIERS

An extensive coaching or other relevant background in the sport of Karate or a recognized and reputable academic qualification which encompasses a requisite level of anatomical, biomechanical and sport-specific expertise, which WKF at its sole discretion deems to be acceptable.

5.3.2. COURSE PRE-REQUISITES AND REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS

- Level 1 is a pre-requisite to this level course along with proof of national classification experience.
- Must submit a CV displaying relevant education or skills
- A letter of support from their National Federation
 - With proof of at least 12 months experience as a Level 1 Classifier in his/her National Federation. He/she must have completed a minimum of 5 (de-identified and written) National Classification Evaluations.
 - The proof that the candidate does not have a role with their National member federation (i.e., as team doctor or physiotherapist).
- Participants must be proficient in oral and written English.

5.3.3. NATIONAL QUOTA

The WKF may limit the number of applicants for International Classifier Seminar per National Federation if necessary, to seek for balanced development of Para Karate among regions and countries, including fostering international classifiers.

5.3.4. EXAMINATION

The Candidate must get at least 75 out of 100 in each test to pass the examination. Results will be e-mailed to all candidates and their pertinent NFs.

- **Written Test**
 - The Candidate must get at least 75 points out of 100 points in each test to pass the examination. The candidate will then be given the status of Trainee Classifier and may progress to the practical components of training.
 - Candidates who do not successfully complete the theory examination may observe classification at the competition where the seminar takes place but must repeat the course and pass the theory component before being allowed to attend the practicums.
- **Practical Test**



- If after 3 (three) practicums the Trainee Classifier has not demonstrated the practical competencies required for certification they shall lose status as a Trainee Classifier and be required to repeat the LEVEL 2 COURSE.
- **Interview**
 - At the end of each practicum, the trainee will be evaluated by the supervising international classifier(s). A verbal evaluation will be given to the Trainee Classifier. Verbal evaluation will include any items that need to be improved.
 - If two years lapse after the successful completion of the theory exam component and the Trainee Classifier has not successfully completed two practicums the Trainee status will be removed, and the candidate will be required to repeat the Level 2 Course.

Once they have successfully completed two practicums or an evaluation of a minimum of 20 athletes, a level 2 certificate will be given to the Candidate. They can then be assigned to competitions as part of a Classification panel at any International event, including the World Championships. WKF Para Karate Commission will notify each successful Continental Head of Classification of his/her successful completion of Course 2 and will publish it on the WKF website.

Level 2 Classifiers should continue to keep a log of the events attended, number of athletes and types of impairments he/she has classified. This is required by WKF Para Karate Commission to assist in determining if the Classifier is meeting the criteria to maintain the Certification.

5.4. ACTIVATION

Those who passed the examination at the International Classifier Training Seminar shall be automatically registered with the WKF as International Classifiers (medical or technical). They shall submit the signed Code of Conduct for WKF International Classifiers to the WKF for activation. Certificates to successful participants will be provided at the end of the International Classifier Seminar.

5.4.1. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The International Classifier Course is a combination of reading, online theory, and face to face practical and theory review.

On completion of the course, participants will be required to take a written examination and achieve a minimum of 75 % in Theory based on the rules and a practical evaluation based on either medical testing or technical testing. The following learning outcomes should be achieved upon completion of the course:

- Have an in-depth understanding of the IPC Athlete Classification Code and International Standards and its relation to the WKF Para Karate Kata Competition Rules.



- Understand and apply the conceptual and practical basis of classification to a high standard, including being the lead classifier in a panel performing complete classification evaluation on complex cases.
- Know and conduct in competition Observation assessment to a high standard independently for complex cases.
- Differentiate between misrepresentation and non-cooperation of an Athlete.
- Know how to effectively mentor less experienced classifiers.
- Understand and clearly explain all Classification procedures, protest situations, and other procedures that are the responsibility of the Chief Classifier.
- Know how to effectively deal with issues relating to Team management, conflict management, ethical and cultural issues.
- Understand and demonstrate leadership in the management of risks in classification
- Know the role of an International Classifier and roles and responsibilities of a Chief Classifier

5.5. RE-CERTIFICATION

The WKF Para Karate Commission conducts the International Classifier Refresher Seminar for education on amended WKF Para Karate Athlete Classification Rules and updated classification procedures, tests, etc.

5.5.1. TERMS OF RE-CERTIFICATION

Certification of Level 2 - International Classifiers is for four years. When certification expires Classifiers must attend and successfully complete a re-certification course at a time and place designated by WKF Para Karate Commission. Classifiers who do not participate and an international classifier in a season and do not take part in a seminar(s) provided by WKF Para Karate Commission may not be appointed to a Classification Panel.

If certification is not renewed the classifier will not be assigned to any further competitions.

A review of rules and procedures will be done prior to each competition by the Chief Classifier.

A database of accredited classifiers is held by the WKF Para Karate Commission including competitions attended and courses attended.

5.6. SUSPENDED INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIERS

Classifiers under suspension or disciplinary measures in accordance with Article 8 are not allowed to attend a Level 2 -International Classifier Refresher Seminar.



6. CLASSIFIER UNIFORMS

6.1. THE FORMAL UNIFORM FOR USE IN THE VENUE

The formal uniform for use in the venue shall be as follows:

- A single-breasted navy-blue blazer (colour code 19-4023 TPX).
- A white shirt.
- An official tie, worn without tiepin.
- Plain light-grey trousers without turn-ups.
- Plain dark blue or black socks and black slip-on shoes for use on the match area.
- Religiously mandated headwear that is WKF approved and discreet earrings.
- Classifiers may wear a plain wedding band.
- Female Classifiers may wear a hairclip and discreet earrings.

6.2. THE INFORMAL UNIFORM

The informal uniform to be used in classification shall be as follows:

- Black golf shirts.
- Plain black trousers without turn-ups.
- Plain dark blue or black socks and black slip-on shoes for use on the tatami.
- Religiously mandated headwear that is WKF approved and discreet earrings.
- Classifiers may wear a plain wedding band.
- Female Classifiers may wear a hairclip and discreet earrings.

7. CLASSIFIER DUTY

- 7.1. The Level 2 - International Classifier shall abide by all the rules with pride and dignity as an International Classifier of the WKF.
- 7.2. The Level 2 - International Classifier shall be familiar with the WKF Athlete Classification Rules and the guiding principles concerned.
- 7.3. The Level 2 - International Classifier must abide by the Classifier Code of Conduct.
- 7.4. The Level 2 - International Classifier shall officiate at any Para Karate events with impartiality in the decision made by international classification panels. The international classifier must sign and abide by the Classifier Confidentially Code.
- 7.5. The Level 2 - International Classifier shall wear the uniform designated by the WKF.
- 7.6. The International Classifier shall conduct themselves in such a way that they do not to bring discredit to the WKF.
- 7.7. Level 2 - International Classifier shall inform both of the pertinent National Federation and the WKF of any changes in his/her postal address, telephone/fax numbers, e- mail address, etc. by registering



online at the WKF web platform and he/she shall be responsible for any disadvantages due to lost contact.

- 7.8. Level 2 - International Classifiers who have been selected to officiate at any official event of the WKF shall participate in the event, unless there is a justifiable reason for their absence, and attend the Classifiers' Meeting and Training before the start of the competition.

8. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

- 8.1. In case that any Level 2 - International Classifier has committed the following infractions of the Classifiers Code of Conduct the WKF may take disciplinary measures such as warning, rebuke, suspension or revocation of qualification in accordance with the regulations on sanctions of the WKF.
- 8.2. In case of committing any behaviours bringing disgrace of the WKF such as receiving money or other valuables in connection with international classification, the pertinent International Classifier shall be disciplined by deprivation of qualification or other forms of disciplinary measures. Classifiers may not receive gifts of money or other valuables in connection with a classification decision or protest. If they are found to have received inappropriate gifts they will be open to sanctions and possible loss of certification.
- 8.3. In case of violation of the duties of Level 2 - International Classifiers prescribed in Article 7. "Duty".
- 8.4. When the limit of disciplinary measures is decided, the WKF shall notify the pertinent International Classifier and the National Federation of the result.
- 8.5. Other disciplinary measures against International Classifier's misconducts shall be taken according to the regulations on sanctions of the WKF.



9. APPENDIXES

CODE OF CONDUCT CLASSIFIERS

1. General principles

- 1.1. The role of Classifiers is to act as impartial evaluators in determining an athlete's Sport Class and Sport Class Status. The integrity of Classification in Para Karate rely on the professional conduct and behaviour of each individual Classifier.

2. The Classifier Code of Conduct includes:

- 2.1. Recognition of the need to preserve and encourage confidence in the professionalism of Classification Rules and the Classification Personnel. This confidence must be inherent within all those involved in Para Karate and within the general public;
- 2.2. Description of transparent and agreed-upon standards of practice and provide a meaningful set of guidelines for professional conduct of Classification Personnel;
- 2.3. Provision to others (including, but not limited to athletes, athletes support personnel, administrators, Organizing Committees, media, and the public) of criteria by which to assess the professional conduct of classification personnel.

3. Classifier compliance with the Classifier Code of Conduct

- 3.1. Classifiers should value and respect the Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel and:
 - 3.1.1. Treat Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel with understanding, patience and dignity;
 - 3.1.2. Perform their duties courteously, respectfully, competently, consistently and objectively for all Athletes; comply with the WKF Disciplinary and Ethics Code;
 - 3.1.3. Accept responsibility for all actions and decisions taken and be open to discussion and interaction with Athletes and Athletes Support Personnel in accordance with the IPC International Standard for Athlete Evaluation and the IPC International Standard for Protest and Appeals, and the IBSF and/or competition rules;
 - 3.1.4. Comply with the IPC International Standard for Classification Data Protection;
 - 3.1.5. Perform classification duties and related responsibilities while not being under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances;
 - 3.1.6. Maintain confidentiality of Athlete Evaluation information in accordance with the IPC International Standard for Athlete Evaluation;
 - 3.1.7. Must not assume any other role and responsibility that conflicts with their duties as Classification Personnel at a Competition.

4. Classifiers should respect the Classification Rules and:

- 4.1. Accurately and honestly represent their qualifications and abilities when applying for training and certification and when accepting classification appointments to competitions;
- 4.2. Understand the theory and practical aspects of the Classification Rules and make them widely known and understood by Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel;



- 4.3. Continuously seek self-improvement through study of the Sport, Classification Rules, mentoring lesser-experienced classifiers and developing trainee classifiers; Perform duties without yielding to any economic, political, sporting or human pressure;
- 4.4. Declare any actual, perceived or potential conflicts of interest;
- 4.5. Disclose any relationship with a team, athlete or Athlete Support Personnel that would otherwise constitute a Conflict of Interest. act as neutral evaluators in determining Sport Class and Sport Class Status for all Athletes;

5. Classifiers should respect their colleagues and:

- 5.1. Treat all discussions with colleagues as confidential information;
- 5.2. Explain and justify decisions without showing anger or resentment;
- 5.3. Treat other Classifiers with professional dignity and courtesy, recognizing that it is inappropriate and unacceptable to criticize other Classifiers, Competitions Officials or Technical Advisers in public;
- 5.4. Publicly and privately respect the decisions and decision-making process of fellow Classifiers, Competitions Officials and Technical Advisors whether you agree or not;
- 5.5. Share theoretical, technical and practical knowledge and skills with less experienced Classifiers and assist with the training and development of Classifiers in Para Karate.

6. Level 1 classifier duties

- 6.1. Organise national classification procedures and arrange documentation for international classification process;
- 6.2. Organise national level classification processes together with National Federation;
- 6.3. Communicate with national and international parties about classification processes and help to organize international level competition in local tracks;
- 6.4. Participate in the exchange of experience, competency-raising courses in training weeks or other WKF organised courses or studies.

7. Level 2 - international classifier duties

- 7.1. Organise international classification procedures and supervise national classifiers duties and work execution;
- 7.2. Organise international level classification processes together with WKF and host classifier;
- 7.3. Participate in the monitoring of the classification process and work on its improvement;
- 7.4. Improve own and other classifier knowledge through WKF organised courses or studies.

8. Consequences of Non-compliance with Classifier Code of Conduct

- 8.1. The WKF will take disciplinary action against Classifiers if a violation of the Classification Code of Conduct occurs;
- 8.2. Classifiers must acknowledge and accept that disciplinary action against them may include a variety of sanctions from verbal or written reprimands to de-certification as a classifier to the WKF.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____



CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT FOR CLASSIFIERS IN TRAINING.

As Level 2 - International Classification trainee, I understand and accept the following.

At all times during the competition, I will maintain the confidentiality of events and discussions made before, during and after the classification process to include classification information on the athlete, discussions of the classification team, protests and all other classification information that I may have access to.

I will direct all inquiries regarding classification and the classification process to the classification coordinator or a senior classifier present.

I will ensure any and all documentation that I have access to, during, or resulting from the competitions, I attend will be kept confidential. These documents will include, but not be limited to, athlete's diagnosis, medications, and treatments.

I understand failure to conduct myself in a professional manner and any breaches of confidentiality will affect my ability to attain full WKF international classification accreditation.

I have been informed of the evaluation process and understand the practical aspect of the accreditation process.

I understand that the practical evaluation will be discussed with me and that my evaluation will be used to determine my status or need for further education.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Witnessed _____