



WORLD KARATE FEDERATION

REFEREE COMMISSION

Information to all WKF Candidates, Referees and Judges

1. Kata & Kumite Candidates must be at least 25 years old and be a min. 2nd WKF Dan Grade. The National Federations may nominate their country's citizens as candidates to the WKF Referee course. Candidates must be qualified National Kumite Referee-A or National Kata Judge-A and must be registered Online through the WKF software provider at least **60 days before** the start of the Course or face a fine or other penalties as decided by the Executive Committee.
2. Provided that an official keeps his/her license up to date, attends the annual WKF World Championships (providing compliance with the regulations established for that year) at least once every two years, attends the pre-championships briefing and lecture, and officiates satisfactorily then they will not be expected to undergo another practical examination, although they must sit and pass the theory examination which will be presented prior to the Championships Briefing, once in every four years.
3. **All Judges and Referees must renew (pay) their licences every four years.** All current officials are required to be paid up to date with the WKF Treasury. Officials that do not pay the license renewal by the end of the year that the payment is due will not be able to officiate as WKF Judges/Referees until the payment is satisfied. Officials of countries in debt to WKF may not participate in WKF Championships or courses.
4. WKF Referees and Judges officiating in a WKF event cannot perform another function in that event unless authorized by WKF and are strictly warned against interacting with coaches and contestants during competitions in progress. Regardless of the place or circumstances, WKF Referees and Judges are not either allowed to appear in photos/videos together with coaches and contestants when wearing the official uniform. Referees and Judges violating this vital norm of conduct and Fair Play may face suspension from all WKF official events for a period to be determined.
Referees and Judges are also strictly advised to not publish content on any social media platforms with information that violates the privacy and integrity of other WKF members and the discretion of internal information. Referees and Judges violating this norm of privacy will face suspension from future appointments.
The terms Referees and Judges in this paragraph refers to all National, Continental and World Referees and Judges. Furthermore, WKF events in this paragraph refer not only to official WKF events but also to all events under the WKF umbrella.
5. Referees & Judges officiating in a WKF event must not have the nationality of either of the participants during Kumite bouts and Kata medal bouts. All Officials must in principle have residence in the country they represent and be exclusively affiliated through the NF of their country of residence. Exceptions to this must be approved by the NF in which the individual has citizenship and will be subject to the final approval of WKF EC.

UNIFORM

Referees and Judges must wear the official uniform designated by the Executive Committee. This Uniform must be worn at all Briefings, Courses and Competitions.

The official uniform will be as follows:

- A single-breasted navy-blue blazer (Colour code 19-4023 TPX).
- Plain light-grey trousers without turn-ups (Colour code Pantone 18-0201 TPX).
- A white shirt with short sleeves.
- An official tie, worn without tiepin.
- Plain dark blue or black socks and black slip-on shoes for use on the Tatami.
- A black whistle with a discreet white cord.
- Referees and Judges may wear a hairclip, a plain wedding band, discreet earrings and a religiously mandated headwear that is WKF approved.

For Female Officials the following additional specifications are made:

Hair must be worn off the shoulders.

Make-up must be discreet.

Heels of more than 6 cm may not be worn with the uniform.

Games and multisport events

For Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games, Continental Games, and other multisport events where a cross-sport uniform is provided for Referees at the cost of the LOC with the feel & look of the specific event, the official uniform for Referees might be substituted by that common uniform, provided that it is requested in writing to the WKF by the event organiser and formally approved by the WKF.

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