



WORLD KARATE FEDERATION

For enforcement as of 1st January 2024

*Note: Updated as of 26th August 2024,
according to communication to all NFs
regarding the 2025 conditions and requirements*

CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF REFEREES ATTENDING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND KARATE 1 EVENTS 2024

Karate World Cup (Team World Championships) 2024

- a) The WKF will assume the flight ticket and the full board accommodation (with part of it covered by the LOC as per the OC rules) in the HQ hotel for the full RC Commission.
- b) In addition to the RC Commission members, the WKF will appoint 25 referees, complying with the established requirements, and will assume their full board accommodation (with part of it covered by the LOC as per the OC rules) in the HQ hotel. Criteria to be considered for the appointment of these 25 Referees will be:
 - Highest WKF license Kumite Referee-A and Kata Judge-A
 - Compliance with the Referees' requirements for attending a WKF World Championships, including one extra Premier League
 - Activity attendance according to the WKF Referee Ranking
 - Universality (Continental Federations)

**See Annex 1*

- c) NFs will be allowed to register a maximum of two (2) referees per NF that comply with the overall established annual requirements (see below), regardless of those nationalities already included with those appointed by the WKF under points a) and b) above.

World Championships for Cadets, Juniors and U21 in 2024

- Referees' registration will follow the current conditions.
- A referee course for WKF qualified referees will take place.



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KARATE 1 events

- Referees' registration will be adjusted to the specific frame of the different Karate 1 events, to enhance the experience of Referees and offer better conditions and opportunities of Refereeing at the said events. This is currently not always the case due to the high attendance at certain events where the number of Referees is significantly higher as the actually required number, leading to very limited officiating time for Referees present at these events.

Therefore, online registration of Referees will be structured in separate registrations as follows:

For Premier League events:

- Referees with a WKF License: limited to 60
- Referee Commission members
- Referees ranked within the top 25 of the WKF Referee Ranking on the opening date of registration for each event.

Note: only Referees with a WKF Kata Judge-A and/or Kumite Referee-A License are entitled to officiate at Premier League events.

For Series A and Youth League events:

- Referees with WKF and/or Continental License: limited respectively to
 - 72 in Series A and
 - 96 in Youth League.
- Referee Commission members
- Referees ranked within the top 25 of the WKF Referee Ranking on the opening date of registration for each event.
- NF Referees without WKF and/or Continental License

General

Taking into account the overall situation and adequate conditions for a successful event at the highest level, additional registration requests may be considered on a case-by-case basis.



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Annual requirements for registering as a referee in Cadet, Junior & U21 World Championships)

Minimum participation requirements in K1 events:

- 1 Premier League.
For the members of the RC and those wishing to be eligible list of 25 WKF appointed Referees, the minimum requirement will be of 2 Premier Leagues.
- 1 Series A
- 2 Youth League

In at least 3 Continents.

Requirements for the WKF referee license renewal

- Participate annually in at least one Karate 1 event.

Participate in at least one World Championships during the period of validity of the license..

WKF Referee Courses

There will continue to be two (2) separate Referee Courses per year, that will be included in the WKF Calendar:

1) Course for Referees at a Karate 1 event

- a. Referees *without WKF license*
- b. Referees who have their *WKF license expired* due to the lack of attendance at K1 events in the previous season.

The event at which the course will be held, shall serve as *confirmation event*.

This annual Referee Course will take place, preferably between February and July and preferably at the occasion of a YL event.

2) Course for Referees at World Championships (Cadet, Junior and World Championships 2024)

- a. Referees already having a WKF license and want to upgrade to a higher license.
- b. Referees who have a WKF License expired due to the lack of attendance at K1 events in the previous season (2023).
- c. Referees whose license expires between the 1st of January 2023 and 31st of December 2024.



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ANNEX 1

Details & methodology for the selection by the WKF of 25 Officials for refereeing in the upcoming Karate World Cup 2024 (Team World Senior Championships)

The WKF, additionally to the full Referee Commission, will appoint 25 Referees, complying with the established requirements, and will assume their full board accommodation:

Requirements:

1. Highest WKF license Kumite Referee-A and Kata Judge-A

All selected referees must be WKF qualified with the highest licenses in Kata and Kumite.

2. Compliance with the Referees' requirements for attending a WKF World Championships, including one extra Premier League

The selected referees must have attended on the relevant year a minimum of two (2) Premier Leagues, two (2) Youth Leagues and one (1) Series-A, in at least three (3) continents.

3. Activity attendance according to the WKF Referee Ranking

The 25 referees will be selected among the list of the 40 first in the Referees Ranking, taking into consideration the breakdown between Continental Federations as per point 5 below and compliant with point 2 above.

4. Universality (Continental Federations)

The breakdown of the 25 Referees between Continental Federations will be as follows:

EKF: 10 Officials (40%)

AKF: 6 Officials (~25%)

UFAK: 4 Officials (~15%)

PKF: 4 Officials (~15%)

OKF: 1 Official (~5%)



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5. Methodology for the selection of the 25 referees

The preliminary selection of the 25 referees will be made within a deadline of six (6) months before the relevant World Championships. Those selected will receive an appointment letter from the WKF and will have to answer accepting the appointment and the conditions associated, including the commitment to fulfil the requirements in place - as per point 2 above - before the date of the Championships.

The selection will be made taking the number of referees specified in point 4 above for each of the 5 Continents, continent by continent, using the top 40 referees in the ranking list by the date of the selection. There will be no limitation in the number of referees selected for a specific citizenship.

Those referees initially selected that for whatever reasons excuse themselves from attending the World Championships will be replaced by the next in the ranking from the same Continent.

When the substitution line is exhausted, then the replacement will be made using the Ranking list irrespective of the Continent, starting with the best ranked and following the same path.

Once the selection of the 25 has been made, and the 25 confirmations have been received, the NFs will be informed of the names of the 25 list, in order to be able to make their respective appointment of the referee there are entitled to appoint per NF.