



# WORLD KARATE FEDERATION

December 2024

## WKF SCIENTIFIC COMMISSION RULES

---

### 1. Purpose and Objectives

The World Karate Federation (WKF) Scientific Commission is dedicated to advancing scientific research that supports and enhances the understanding, practice, and societal impact of Karate. The Commission will promote research that evidences the physical, mental, and social benefits of Karate, with particular attention to historically underserved populations, including women, individuals with disabilities, children, and the elderly.

### 2. Composition and Leadership

The Commission shall consist of a Chairperson and up to 5 (five) appointed members, with an emphasis on achieving gender balance. Each member should possess expertise relevant to sports science, medicine, or a closely related field. The Chairperson role will be held by the Chairperson of the WKF Medical Commission (MC); however, in instances where the MC Chairperson is unavailable with other responsibilities, the Chairperson's duties may be delegated to another qualified Commission member for a designated period.

The quorum necessary for the Scientific Commission meetings to be valid shall be at least the Chair plus 2 (two) members of the Commission.

To enhance the expertise and reach of the Commission, temporary members may be co-opted as needed for specific projects, subject to approval by the WKF President and in alignment with the Commission's research priorities.

### 3. Meetings and Governance

The Commission shall convene a minimum of 2 (two) times per year, with 1 (one) in-person meeting held concurrently with the WKF World Championships where the WKF Commissions' meetings take place, enabling members to leverage their participation across multiple WKF Commissions effectively. Additional meetings may be conducted virtually.

### 4. Expenses

Members have to be supported by their respective National Federation. They shall also be active members of the NF attending regularly the World and Continental Championships as part of their NF delegation, consistent with WKF policies.

Members having other external resources, as may be the support and/or funding of institutions (such as universities and Olympic Committees, amongst others) may also be considered for inclusion in the Scientific Commission, provided that they can commit to covering their own expenses through the said institutions.



# WORLD KARATE FEDERATION

## **5. Research Dissemination and Advocacy**

Members of the Science and Research Commission are expected to actively disseminate research findings through recognized scientific platforms, including conferences, journals, and symposia. This outreach aims to underscore the benefits of Karate across diverse demographic groups and highlight its relevance as a means of physical, mental, and social enrichment.

Particular emphasis will be placed on studies involving populations of special interest, such as women, individuals with disabilities, children, and the elderly, to demonstrate Karate's inclusive and adaptive potential.

## **6. Annual Reporting and Strategic Alignment**

The Chairperson shall present an annual report to the WKF Executive Committee, detailing the progress, outcomes, and strategic impact of current and completed projects. This report will be articulated in a clear, non-technical format, enabling the Executive Committee to align WKF's strategic objectives with the research findings and implement promotional initiatives to support the global Karate community.

## **7. Facilitation of Research Activities**

The WKF will leverage its extensive network and communication channels, including collaborations with National Federations, to facilitate access to appropriate study populations and resources required for the Commission's research projects. This partnership aims to enhance the breadth, validity, and impact of research conducted under the auspices of the Science and Research Commission.

## **8. Amendments and Review**

The rules governing the WKF Scientific Commission shall be subject to periodic review to ensure alignment with the evolving needs of the WKF and the global Karate community. Amendments may be proposed by the Chairperson and require approval from the WKF Executive Committee.