



WKF
World Ranking Rules
(Valid as of 20.10.2017)

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WKF World Ranking Rules

1. General Dispositions

- 1.1 These rules regulate general policy, calculating method and operation of the WKF World Ranking.
- 1.2 Modification of WKF World Ranking Rules shall be approved by the WKF EC through proposal from WKF World Ranking Commission to WKF President.

2. WKF World Ranking

2.1 WKF World Ranking indicates the position obtained by athletes at WKF official events only in individual categories. Ranking will be available according to the different age/weight categories criteria of Kata and Kumite disciplines. Rankings will be based on the point system defined under SECTION 1.

2.2 WKF Official Events

WKF Official Events are written on WKF Official Sports Activities Calendar, which is approved by WKF EC, and which are also specified on SECTION 1.

Should an Official Event (e.g. Continental Championships), decide to make a change of dates once the Official Calendar is approved by the WKF and the new dates proposed enter in conflict with any other event that is already part of the approved Official Calendar, then the points obtained in this Official Event will not count for ranking purposes and the Official Event may be removed from the WKF Official Calendar.

3. WKF Standings for specific events

Standing definition: Document based on the WKF World ranking indicating the position of an athlete according to an specific criteria and moment in time.

3.1 Olympic Standings

In the case of the Olympic Standings, the applicable criteria and publication are defined by the Qualification Systems in force for each of the Olympic events where Karate is taking place (Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 and Olympic Games Tokyo 2020). Olympic Standings may be issued and referred from time to time for qualification process of YOG 2018 and Tokyo 2020.

3.2 Karate 1 – Premier League Standing

In the case of Karate 1 – Premier League Standing, the applicable criteria is the following:

- (1) All Premier League Events points count for the Karate 1- Premier League

Standing.

- (2) The Karate 1 – Premier League season starts each year on 1st of January and finishes on 31st December of the same calendar year.
- (3) After completion of the last event of the Karate 1 – Premier League Event, the competitor ranked 1st on the Karate 1 – Premier League Standing and having participated in at least four events held in two different continents during the same season will be the Grand Winner of each individual category.
- (4) The points decay will be as indicated in SECTION 1.

SECTION 1: WKF EVENTS

1. WKF Official Events, Event Factor and Points Decay

		Points Decay		
WKF Official Event		Event Factor	1 st year	2 nd year
World Championships		12	100%	50%
Continental Championships	African Championships	6	100%	50% (*)
	Asian Championships	6	100%	50% (*)
	European Championships	6	100%	50% (*)
	Pan American Championships	6	100%	50% (*)
	Oceania Championships	6	100%	50% (*)
	Karate 1 – Premier League	6	100%	50%
	Karate 1 – Series A	3	100%	50%
	Karate 1 – Youth League	3	100%	50%

(*) NOTE: Should any of the Continental Federations not be able to host a Continental Championships on a yearly basis, NO Points Decay will be applicable on the second year.

- Addition of new Points to the ranking:
 - The addition of new Points to the ranking will be applicable on the first day of the following month after end date of the event where the points have been obtained.
Example:

Competition End Date:	06.01.2017
Addition of new Points:	01.02.2017

- The Points Decay will apply as follows:
 - The Points Decay will be applicable one year after completion of the event where the points have been obtained. The day of application will be the last day of the month when the competition has been completed.
Example:

Competition End Date:	06.01.2017
Points Decay application:	31.01.2018

2. Points by Place obtained

1 st place	100
2 nd place	70
3 rd places	40
5 th places	30
7 th places	20
9 th places	10
11 th – 13 th places	5
15 th – 33 rd places	3
Bout won (per bout)	10
Participation*	5

**NOTE: Participation points are only obtained once the competitor has participated in at least one bout of the competition.*

3. Points calculating system

- a. Participation: 5 per event
- b. Bout(s) won: 10 per bout won
- c. Place: As above 2
- d. Total points per event: $(a+b+c) \times \text{Event Factor}$

*Example

Won 3rd place at World Championships after winning 5 bouts:

$(\text{Participation} + \text{Bouts won} + \text{Place}) \times \text{Event Factor} = \text{Points}$			
$(5$	$+$	(5×10)	$+ 40) \times 12 = 1,140 \text{ points}$

4. Categories

4.1. Age categories

The age of an athlete is defined by the first day of competition of the entire event.

- Cadet → 14/15 years old
- Junior → 16/17 years old
- U – 21 → 18/19/20 years old
- Senior → +16 years old (Kata)
- Senior → +18 years old (Kumite)

4.2. Weight categories

Cadet (14/15 years old)

- Female Kata
- Male Kata
- Female Kumite -47kg
- Female Kumite -54kg
- Female Kumite +54kg
- Male Kumite -52kg
- Male Kumite -57kg
- Male Kumite -63kg
- Male Kumite -70kg
- Male Kumite +70kg

Junior (16/17 years old)

- Female Kata
- Male Kata
- Female Kumite -48kg
- Female Kumite -53kg
- Female Kumite -59kg
- Female Kumite +59kg
- Male Kumite -55kg
- Male Kumite -61kg
- Male Kumite -68kg
- Male Kumite -76kg
- Male Kumite +76kg

Under 21 (18/19/20 years old)

- Female Kata
- Male Kata
- Female Kumite -50kg
- Female Kumite -55kg
- Female Kumite -61kg
- Female Kumite -68kg
- Female Kumite +68kg
- Male Kumite -60kg
- Male Kumite -67kg
- Male Kumite -75kg
- Male Kumite -84kg
- Male Kumite +84kg

Senior (16+ Kata years old/ 18+ Kumite years old)

- Female Kata
- Male Kata
- Female Kumite -50kg
- Female Kumite -55kg
- Female Kumite -61kg
- Female Kumite -68kg
- Female Kumite +68kg
- Male Kumite -60kg
- Male Kumite -67kg
- Male Kumite -75kg
- Male Kumite -84kg
- Male Kumite +84kg

5. Other General Rules

5.1. Competitors will appear in the Ranking only when they have received points in at least one event.

5.2. Continuity of competitors in the Ranking:

- a. Competitors not participating in any event during two consecutive years will be removed from the ranking.
- b. On the day of his/her birthday, when a competitor changes age category, he/she will be removed from the corresponding Ranking (this will be applicable only for the Junior, Cadet, and U21 Rankings). In case an athlete needs a proof of his/her status on the Ranking of a specific date (within the 2 precedent years of his/her request), he/she shall send a written request to the WKF to receive it.

5.3. Points will be awarded to the competitors **ONLY ONCE** per event and category in the Ranking category of the competition in which they have competed respectively. A competitor can compete in two different age categories, for example U21 and Senior, but he/she will have a separate ranking for each category, including only those points obtained by category. The same principle applies for weight categories.

5.4. Change of age category (Junior to Senior)

When an athlete changes age category from Junior to Senior, 50% of his/her points obtained in the Junior category will be dragged to his/her ranking of Senior category. The dragged points will remain for a period of 1 year after category change, starting to count on the 18th birthday of the athlete. After this 1 year period, all points dragged from the Junior category into the Senior category will be completely decayed from the athlete profile. This principle only applies to age changes from Junior to Senior age category.

5.5. Points obtained at Karate 1 Senior events (Premier League and Series A) will be included in the Senior Ranking of a competitor.

5.6. All other Rules and conditions including change of nationality or change of representing NF are subject to the clauses related to these aspects as per [WKF Organising Rules](#). In case a competitor changes nationality or NF according to the regulations in force, his/her points in the applicable ranking category will be transferred.

SECTION 2: OLYMPIC EVENTS

2.1. Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018

2.1.1. Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 Standing

According to the “Qualification System Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018” an Olympic Standing with the name “Buenos Aires 2018 Standing” and it will display the points and classification related to the top 50 ranked athletes by Olympic category will be issued.

This Olympic standing will only display those athletes that are born:

Between January 1st 2001 and June 29th 2002.

Countries not allowed to compete in the Youth Olympic Games will not be listed in the Buenos Aires 2018 Standings.

2.1.2. Events

Only points obtained at following events are added to the Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 Standing. Points Decay will not be applied to these events:

- **2017**
 - UFAK Junior Championships (19-21 May , Yaoundé / CAMEROON)
 - PKF Junior Championships (24-26 August, B. Aires / ARGENTINA)
 - WKF Youth Cup (1-2 July, Umag /CROATIA)
 - WKF World Junior Championships (25-29 October, Tenerife/SPAIN)
- **2018**
 - EKF Junior Championships (2-4 February, Sochi / RUSSIA)
 - AKF Junior Championships (10-13 May, Okinawa / JAPAN)
 - OKF Junior Championships (18-20 May, Auckland / NEW ZEALAND)
 - Youth League (26-27 May, Sofia / BULGARIA)

2.1.3. Merge of points from WKF weight categories to Olympic Categories

When two WKF categories are combined to configure a single Olympic weight category, the points obtained by athletes in those two different WKF weight categories will be merged into the single Olympic weight category.

Example:

		WKF World Ranking		Olympic Standing	
		WKF Categories	Points	Olympic Categories	Points
MALE	-55	25	-61	75	
	-61	50	-68	50	
	-68	50	+68	100	
	-76	50			
	+76	50			
FEMALE	-48	25	-53	50	
	-53	25	-59	75	
	-59	75	+59	100	
	+59	100			

2.1.4. Resolution of ties

In case more than two athletes have the same ranking position and same points in the WKF World Ranking, then Olympic Standing will be decided according to following criteria:

- Best position in last World Championship.
- If the athletes are tied at this point and have NOT participated in the last WCH then the best position in the last Continental Championship they participated will apply.
- Total points difference between points scored in favor and points scored against the athlete by opponents (regardless of the category) in the last World Championship.

2.1.5. Nationality

Nationality of competitors for participation in the Youth Olympic Games will be regulated by Rule 41 and Bye-law to Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter in force, described under article 2.3. of these regulations.

2.2. Tokyo Olympic Games 2020

2.2.1. Tokyo 2020 Standing

According to the “Qualification System Olympic Games Tokyo 2020”, an Olympic Standing with the name “Tokyo 2020 Standing” and it will display the points and classification related to the top 50 ranked competitors by Olympic category will be issued.

Countries not allowed to compete in the Olympic Games will not be listed in the Tokyo 2020 Standings.

2.2.2. Exception of Points Decay

For the World Senior Championships 2018, the Points Decay will not apply, taking into account it is the previous year to the Olympic Games and has impact on the qualification for Tokyo 2020.

2.2.3. Merge of points from WKF weight categories to Olympic Categories

When two WKF categories are combined to configure a single Olympic weight category, the points obtained by athletes in those two different WKF weight categories will be merged into the single Olympic weight category.

Example:

	WKF World Ranking		Olympic Standing	
	WKF Categories	Points	Olympic Categories	Points
MALE	-60	25	-67	75
	-67	50		
	-75	50	-75	50
	-84	50	+75	100
	+84	50		
FEMALE	-50	25	-55	50
	-55	25	-61	75
	-61	75	+61	100
	-68	50		
	+68	50		

2.2.4. Resolution of ties

In case more than two competitors have the same ranking position and same points in the WKF World Ranking, then Olympic Standing will be decided according to following criteria:

- Best position in last World Championship.
- If the competitors are tied at this point and have NOT participated in the last WCH then the best position in the last Continental Championship they participated will apply.
- 2019 Premier League best ranking position will qualify.

2.2.5. Nationality

Nationality of competitors for participation in the Youth Olympic Games will be regulated by Rule 41 and Bye-law to Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter in force, under article 2.3. of these regulations.

2.3. Olympic Charter Rule 41

Olympic Charter (as of August 2016):

Rule 41: "Nationality of Competitors"

1. *Any competitor in the Olympic Games must be a national of the country of the NOC which is entering such competitor.*
2. *All matters relating to the determination of the country which a competitor may represent in the Olympic Games shall be resolved by the IOC Executive Board.*

Bye-law to Rule 41:

1. *A competitor who is a national of two or more countries at the same time may represent either one of them, as he may elect. However, after having represented one country in the Olympic Games, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognized by the relevant IF, he may not represent another country unless he meets the conditions set forth in paragraph 2 below that apply to persons who have changed their nationality or acquired a new nationality*
2. *A competitor who has represented one country in the Olympic Games, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognized by the relevant IF, and who has changed his nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in the Olympic Games to represent his new country provided that at least three years have passed since the competitor last represented his former country. This period may*

be reduced or even cancelled, with the agreement of the NOCs and IF concerned, by the IOC Executive Board, which takes into account the circumstances of each case.

3. *If an associated State, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence, if a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of a change of border, if a country merges with another country, or if a new NOC is recognized by the IOC, a competitor may continue to represent the country to which he belongs or belonged. However, he may, if he prefers, elect to represent his country or be entered in the Olympic Games by his new NOC if one exists. This particular choice may be made only once.*
4. *Furthermore, in all cases in which a competitor would be eligible to participate in Olympic Games, either by representing another country than his or by having the choice as to the country which such competitor intends to represent, the IOC, Executive Board may take all decisions of a general or individual nature with regard to issues resulting from nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of any competitor, including the duration of any waiting period.*