



**FAQs**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**  
(May 2019)

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## Foreword

The following Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) have been put together to assist with the interpretation of certain WKF Regulations, namely the WKF World Ranking Rules, as well as any documentation related to Olympic events.

As the number of individual questions has recently increased, we highly recommend following these steps:

1. Check if the question that you would like to ask can already be answered by any of the documents published on the [WKF website](#).

You can find the most updated version of the WKF Competition and Ranking Rules [here](#).

In addition, all documentation related to Tokyo 2020 can be found in the section dedicated to [Olympic events](#).

2. Contact your National Federation, clearly indicating your question.

Should your National Federation need further assistance to answer your question, then your National Federation can always address an [e-mail](#) to the WKF.

Please note that emails from individuals will not be answered.

Enclosed, you will know find a list of the most Frequently Asked Questions received from different National Federations along with the corresponding answers.

## World Ranking Rules

### 1. Can points be merged between age categories?

No, points can only be awarded to athletes **ONCE PER EVENT AND CATEGORY**, in the WKF World Ranking category in which the athlete has competed respectively. A competitor can compete in two different age categories, for example, U21 and Senior, but this athlete will have a separate WKF World Ranking for each age category. **The same principle applies to weight categories.**

### 2. Can points be transferred from Cadet Kumite to Junior Kumite?

No, points cannot be transferred from Cadet Kumite to Junior Kumite.

### 3. Can points be transferred from U21 Kumite into Senior Kumite?

No, points cannot be transferred from U21 Kumite to Senior Kumite.

### 4. As one of the best Kumite Junior athletes this year, will my points be reset to zero when I turn 18?

No, 50% of the points you obtained as a Junior athlete will be transferred to the corresponding Senior category and will remain on your Senior profile for the duration of one year.

### 5. How and when are points transferred from Junior Kumite to Senior Kumite and from Cadet Kata to Senior Kata?

When an athlete changes category, from either Junior Kumite to Senior Kumite or Cadet Kata to Senior Kata, 50% of those points obtained in the Junior Kumite or Cadet Kata category respectively, will be dragged into the Senior category of WKF World Ranking. This will occur on the first day of the month **after** the athlete has turned 18 years old and these dragged points will remain on the athlete's profile for one year.

This principle only applies to transitions from the Kumite Junior to the Kumite Senior category and from the Kata Cadet to the Kata Senior category.

With regards to the transition between the different Junior and Senior weight categories in Kumite, the system automatically drags these points across as follows:

| MALE CATEGORIES |        | FEMALE CATEGORIES |        |
|-----------------|--------|-------------------|--------|
| Junior          | Senior | Junior            | Senior |
| -55 kg          |        | -48 kg            | -50 kg |
| -61 kg          | -60 kg | -53 kg            | -55 kg |
| -68 kg          | -67 kg | -59 kg            | -61 kg |
| -76 kg          | -75 kg | +59 kg            | -68 kg |
| +76 kg          | -84 kg | Manual request    | +68 kg |
| Manual request  | +84 kg |                   |        |

If an athlete has competed in two different Junior weight categories, the transition of 50% of the points will be done category by category. For example:

500 points obtained in Junior -61 kg → 250 points in Senior -60 kg

250 points obtained in Junior -68 kg → 125 points in Senior -67 kg

If after the automatic transition, specific changes to weight categories are required, the National Federation to which the athlete belongs can proceed with an official request addressed to [wkf@wkf.net](mailto:wkf@wkf.net). In these cases, points will only be updated in the system on the first day of the month after the request has been received.

## 6. How does registration for the Premier League work?

Premier League registration is determined by an athlete's position on the WKF World Rankings the day on which registration opens for that event.

For example, after the World Ranking update on 1<sup>st</sup> May, Athlete X's new points now position her within the top 100 athletes in her category. Can she now register for this month's Premier League?

No, as the registration period for this Premier League opened on 8<sup>th</sup> April, the positions on the WKF World Rankings on that day determine which athletes can register. As her name was not within the top 100 athletes in her category on 8<sup>th</sup> April, she is not eligible to register for this event.

## 7. Can I use my transition points to register for a Senior event if I turn 18 the same month that its registration period opens?

For those Junior athletes who would like to participate in a Senior event, where the registration period opens during the same month that the athlete turns 18, three months written notice must be given to the WKF.

## Olympic Games - Tokyo 2020

### 1. Which WKF events count towards the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing?

Only points obtained at the following events count towards the “Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing”:

#### 2018

| DATE                    | EVENT                          | LOCATION         |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 10-14 July              | AKF Senior Championships       | Amman (Jordan)   |
| 31 August - 2 September | UFAK Senior Championships      | Kigali (Rwanda)  |
| 14-16 September         | Premier League                 | Berlin (Germany) |
| 20-23 September         | Series A                       | Santiago (Chile) |
| 12-14 October           | Premier League                 | Tokyo (Japan)    |
| 6-11 November           | WKF Senior World Championships | Madrid (Spain)   |
| 7-9 December            | Series A                       | Shanghai (China) |

#### 2019

| DATE                        | EVENT                     | LOCATION              |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 25-27 January               | Premier League (PL1)      | Paris (France)        |
| 15-17 February              | Premier League (PL2)      | Dubai (UAE)           |
| 2-4 March                   | Series A (SA1)            | Salzburg (Austria)    |
| 18-23 March                 | PKF Senior Championships  | Panama (Panama)       |
| 28-31 March                 | EKF Senior Championships  | Guadalajara (Spain)   |
| 11-12 April                 | OKF Senior Championships  | Sydney (Australia)    |
| 19-21 April                 | Premier League (PL3)      | Rabat (Morocco)       |
| 17-19 May                   | Series A (SA2)            | Istanbul (Turkey)     |
| 7-9 June                    | Premier League (PL4)      | Shanghai (China)      |
| 21-23 June                  | Series A (SA3)            | Montreal (Canada)     |
| 15-21 July                  | AKF Senior Championships  | Tashkent (Uzbekistan) |
| 16-18 August                | UFAK Senior Championships | Gaborone (Botswana)   |
| 6-8 September               | Premier League (PL5)      | Tokyo (Japan)         |
| 20-22 September             | Series A (SA4)            | Santiago (Chile)      |
| 4-6 October                 | Premier League (PL6)      | Moscow (Russia)       |
| 29-30 November - 1 December | Premier League (PL7)      | Madrid (Spain)        |

#### 2020

Official Events will be published once the competition calendar for next year is approved by the WKF EC.

NOTE: Only points obtained at the last Continental Championships within the qualification period will count towards the Olympic Standing.

## **2. When was the first Olympic Standing for Tokyo 2020 released?**

The Olympic Standing for Tokyo 2020 started from zero on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018.

## **3. How often is the Olympic Standing for Tokyo 2020 updated?**

As like the WKF World Ranking, the Olympic Standing currently updates on the first day of each calendar month. From 1st January 2020, the Olympic Standing will update after every WKF Official Event.

## **4. Are points awarded for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing at Continental Games?**

Points are not awarded at Continental Games and therefore do not determine positions on the Olympic Standing.

## **5. Are Continental Games part of the Qualification System for Tokyo 2020?**

The following Continental Games are part of the Qualification System for Tokyo 2020 as defined under Continental Representation:

European Games 2019, Minsk (Belarus) 21st – 30th June

Pan-American Games 2019, Lima (Peru) 26th July – 11th August

## **6. Why are all the points I obtained at a Karate 1 event last year not fully displayed on the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing?**

Points obtained in those Karate 1 events taking place between the start of the qualification period (1st July 2018) and one year before the final publication of the Olympic Standing (6th April 2019) will be automatically decayed by 50%.

Unlike the World Ranking, where after a 12-month period, points are then decayed by 50%, for the Olympic Standing, all points on display will always be final.

As such, the Olympic Standing will always show the most accurate picture of Olympic qualification possibilities, so as to avoid any ulterior shifts in positions.

For the World Senior Championships 2018 and for the last Senior Continental Championships held within the qualification period, no points decay will be applicable.

Alternatively, points may not be displayed if you have a duplicate profile, having registered at a competition with a different WKF ID. In such cases, an online request can be made to merge points from multiple profiles onto the same WKF ID.

### **7. What happens if there is more than one Senior Continental Championships during the qualification period? Do they both count towards the Olympic Standings of Tokyo 2020?**

No, only the last Senior Continental Championship held within the qualification period is taken into account for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing.

Should more than one Senior Continental Championships be held in a particular continent during the qualification period, all results from previous Continental Championship will be replaced by the results obtained in the last.

In this way, if an athlete does not participate in the last Senior Continental Championships held within the qualification period, any points obtained at a previous Continental Championship held within the qualification period will still be deleted.

### **8. Why are my transition points not included in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standings?**

The purpose of transition points is to give those athletes who have just turned 18 easier access to Senior competitions. The Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing only takes points obtained in Senior competitions into account. Therefore, no transition points obtained in Junior Kumite or Cadet Kata competitions will be considered.

### **9. How does the reallocation of quota work in the case of injury?**

The procedure of reallocation of quota in case of injury is the following:

#### **Before 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020 (Sport Entries Deadline)**

Any allocated quota by name which remains unused by a NOC in case of injury, will go straight back to the WKF for reallocation, in accordance with the Qualification System in force.

### After 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020 (Sport Entries Deadline)

Given that the Late Athlete Replacement policy does not apply to Karate because quota is allocated by name, reallocation will follow the same principle as described above.

### Less than 48 hours before the start of competition

**No** athlete replacements will be allowed.

In the event that there are less than 8 competitors, the rules defined by ORIS for this scenario, will be applicable.

NOTE: The same reallocation procedure will be applicable in the event of doping.

### 10. Why do I appear under a different weight category in the Olympic Standings?

At the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, there will be a total of six Kumite weight categories (3 male and 3 female). For this reason, in the following four cases (Female -55kg and +61kg as well as Male -67kg and +75kg), as indicated in the tables below, two WKF Kumite categories have been combined into a single Olympic weight category:

| <u>WKF Senior Categories</u> | <u>Olympic Games Categories</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Women                        |                                 |
| -50kg                        | -55kg                           |
| -55kg                        |                                 |
| -61kg                        | -61kg                           |
| -68kg                        | +61kg                           |
| +68kg                        |                                 |

| <u>WKF Senior Categories</u> | <u>Olympic Games Categories</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Men                          |                                 |
| -60kg                        | -67kg                           |
| -67kg                        |                                 |
| -75kg                        | -75kg                           |
| -84kg                        | +75kg                           |
| +84kg                        |                                 |

### 11. What happens if I have competed in both WKF weight categories merged for Olympic purposes, during the qualification period?

During the first phase of qualification (Qualification by Olympic Standing), all those athletes who have competed in both WKF weight categories merged for Olympic purposes will appear twice, with their points separately indicated and corresponding to each individual WKF weight category, on the relevant Olympic Standing.

Following qualification by Olympic Standing and the Qualification Tournament in Paris, points from both WKF weight categories are then accumulated for the third phase of qualification (Qualification by Continental Representation).

## 12. What will be the format for the Kumite competition at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games?

The competition system used for Kumite at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games of Tokyo 2020 will be a Round Robin system and is described under Appendix 14 of the [WKF Competition Rules](#).

## 13. What will be the format of the Kata competition at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games?

The competition system used for Kata at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games of Tokyo 2020 will be as described under Appendix 15 of the [WKF Competition Rules](#).

## 14. Will the pools at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games be seeded?

Yes, the Kumite and Kata pools will be seeded as follows:

Pool A → athletes positioned 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> on the Olympic Standing, as per 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

Pool B → athletes positioned 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> on the Olympic Standing, as per 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

Where two WKF Kumite weight categories have been merged for Olympic purposes, the seeding in each pool will be as per the example below:

| Olympic Weight Category: Male -67kg |                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Pool A                              | Pool B                       |
| WKF weight category -60kg #1        | WKF weight category -67kg #1 |
| WKF weight category -67kg #2        | WKF weight category -60kg #2 |

## 15. What is the coach level required to participate at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games?

In order to be eligible to participate at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, coaches must have the “Certified Kumite Coach” or “Certified Kata Coach” license, at the time of registration in the Tokyo 2020 Entries System.