



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. WKF 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 under 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

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

Competition End Date: 06.01.2017
 Addition of new Points: 01.02.2017

- Points Decay to the WKF Ranking 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

(*) NOTE: The date of completion of the event is the last day of competition of the entire event.

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

NOTES:

- Participation points are only obtained once the competitor has participated in at least one bout of the competition.
- A bout won by “bye” (No opponent has been assigned by draw in the first round) will give no points to the winning competitor. If the competitor has won a bout by “bye”, then the competitor will get only 5 points for participation.
- A bout won by “KIKEN” (An opponent has been assigned to the bout, but the bout does not take place or does not come to an end), will give 10 points to the winning competitor.

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: Points obtained by an athlete that has achieved 3rd place at the World Championships after winning 5 bouts.*

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

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

5.2. Continuity of competitors in the WKF Ranking:

- a. Athletes not participating in any event during two consecutive years will be removed from the WKF 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 WKF 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 athletes **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 WKF Ranking for each category, including only those points obtained by age category. The same principle applies for weight categories.

5.4. Change of age category: Kumite (Junior to Senior)

When an athlete changes age category from Kumite Junior to Kumite Senior, 50% of his/her points obtained in the Junior category of the WKF Ranking will be dragged to his/her Senior category of WKF Ranking.

In order to determine the Senior weight category in which the points need to be dragged and make effective its implementation into the Senior WKF Ranking, the NF of the athlete needs to communicate in written to WKF the Senior weight category at least three months before the athlete turns 18 years old.*

Only after official confirmation of the request, the decayed points will be dragged into the Kumite Senior weight category the first day of the month in which the athlete turns 18 years old.

These dragged points will remain in the athlete profile until he/she turns 19 years old, moment in which all points dragged from the Junior category into the Senior category of the WKF Ranking will be completely decayed and erased from the athlete profile.

This principle only applies to age changes from Kumite Junior to Kumite Senior age categories.

* IMPORTANT NOTE: Should the change not be requested three months prior to the 18th birthday of the athlete, the points will only be dragged the first day of the month after the athlete has turned 18 years old.

5.4. Change of age category: Kata (Cadet to Senior)

When an athlete changes age category from Kata Cadet to Kata Senior, 50% of his/her points obtained in the Cadet category of the WKF Ranking will be dragged to his/her Kata Senior category of the WKF Ranking.

In order to make effective the implementation of points into the Senior WKF Ranking, the NF of the athlete needs to communicate in written this request at least three months before the athlete turns 16 years old*.

Only after official confirmation of the request, the decayed points will be dragged into the Kata Senior category the first day of the month in which the athlete turns 16 years old.

These dragged points will remain in the athlete profile until he/she turns 17 years old, moment in which all points dragged from the Kata Cadet category into the Kata Senior category of the WKF Ranking will be completely decayed and erased from the athlete profile.

This principle only applies to age changes from Kata Cadet to Kata Senior Kata age categories.

* IMPORTANT NOTE: Should the change not be requested three months prior to the 16th birthday of the athlete, the points will be dragged the first day of the month after the athlete has turned 16 years old.

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

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 an athlete changes nationality or NF according to the regulations in force, his/her points in the applicable WKF Ranking category will be transferred.

SECTION 2: OLYMPIC EVENTS

2.1. Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018

2.1.1. Buenos Aires 2018 Olympic Standing

Following the requirements of the Qualification System in force of the Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 an Olympic Standing with the name “Buenos Aires 2018 Olympic Standing” will display the position of the top 50 athletes by Olympic weight category,

The “Buenos Aires 2018 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 “Buenos Aires 2018 Olympic Standing”. Points Decay will not be applied to these events:

- **2017**
 - UFAK Junior Championships (02-04 June, Yaoundé / CAMEROON)
 - PKF Junior Championships (23-26 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 into Olympic Categories

The merge of WKF weight categories into Olympic weight categories in the Youth Olympic Games of Buenos Aires 2018 is the following:

WKF Categories Junior	Youth Olympic Games Categories
Men	
-55 kg	-61kg
-61kg	
-68kg	-68kg
-76kg	+68kg
+76kg	

WKF Categories Junior	Youth Olympic Games Categories
Women	
-48 kg	-53kg
-53kg	
-59kg	-59kg
+59kg	+59kg

When two WKF weight categories are merged into a single Olympic weight category, the best ranked athletes from each WKF weight category in the WKF Ranking will be displayed in their corresponding Olympic Standing.

The positions of the Olympic Standing will be distributed as follows:

- **Positions 1 and 2 will be assigned by rank.**
The two best ranked athletes per WKF weight category in the WKF Ranking will be assigned this position. Should two WKF weight categories be merged for Olympic purposes, then the only the top ranked athlete of each WKF weight category that has been merged will obtain a position.
- **The rest of positions (from position 3 onwards) will be assigned by points.**
Athletes will be displayed according to the highest points obtained in the WKF Ranking, regardless of their ranking in the WKF Weight category.

Should an athlete have competed in two different weight categories, the points will be summed and the ranking applicable will be that of the WKF weight category where the athlete has competed for the first time within the qualification period.

BUENOS AIRES 2018 - OLYMPIC STANDING

Kumite -61 kg.

Standing	Name	NOC	Rank	Points	WKF Weight
1	Athlete	GER	1	1100	-61
2	Athlete	FRA	1	1000	-55
3	Athlete	JPN	2	950	-61
4	Athlete	POR	2	890	-55
5	Athlete	BRA	5	880	-55/-61 *
6	Athlete	ITA	3	870	-61
7	Athlete	ESP	3	850	-55
8	Athlete	TUR	4	850	-61
50	Athlete	NOC	50	425	-55

Note:

- * The athlete has competed in two different weight categories obtaining the following results: (-55 kg.= 480 points/WKF Rank 5) + (-61 kg. = 400 points WKF Rank 8)
- * The athlete marked displays Rank Nr. 5 since the first weight category the athlete participated in a competition within the qualification period was -55 kg.

2.1.4. Resolution of ties

a) In order to define positions 1 and 2 in the Olympic Standing, should the athletes have the same ranking position in the WKF Ranking, then the position in the Olympic Standing will be decided according to following criteria:

- Total Points in the WKF Ranking.
- Best position in last World Championship.
- Best position in the last Continental Championship they have participated within the qualification period.
- Total points difference between points scored in favor and points scored against the athlete by opponents (regardless of the category) in the last Continental Championships.

b) In order to define the rest of positions (from position 3 onwards) in the Olympic Standing, should more than two athletes have the same points in the WKF World Ranking, then Olympic Standing will be decided according to following criteria:

- Best ranking
- Best position in last World Championship.
- Best position in the last Continental Championship they have participated within the qualification period.
- Total points difference between points scored in favor and points scored against the athlete by opponents (regardless of the category) in the last Continental Championships.

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

Following the requirements of the Qualification System in force for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, an Olympic Standing with the name “Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing” will display the position of the top 50 athletes by Olympic weight category.

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 “Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing”, the following exceptions of points decay will be applicable:

- For the World Senior Championships 2018, no points decay will be applicable.
- For the Senior Continental Championships held within the qualification period, no points decay will be applicable. Should a second Senior Continental Championships be held in a particular continent during the qualification period, all results from the first Continental Championship held within the qualification period will be replaced with the results of the second.

The points obtained in the Karate 1 events taking place within the qualification period will be displayed in the “Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing” as of 6th of April 2020 as follows:

- 50% of points decay will be applicable for those events taking place between start of the qualification period (02.07.2018) one year before publication of the last Olympic Standing (06.04.2019)
- No decay will be applicable for all those Karate 1 events taking place from (06.04.2019 to 06.04.2020), which is the last year period of qualification.

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

The merge of WKF weight categories into Olympic weight categories in the Olympic Games of Tokyo 2020 is the following:

WKF Categories Senior	Olympic Games Categories
Men	
-60kg	-67kg
-67kg	
-75kg	-75kg
-84kg	+75kg
+84kg	

WKF Categories Senior	Olympic Games Categories
Women	
-50kg	-55kg
-55kg	
-61kg	-61kg
-68kg	+61kg
+68kg	

The positions of the Olympic Standing will be distributed as follows:

- **Positions 1 to 4, will be determined by rank,**
The four best ranked athletes per WKF weight category in the WKF Ranking will be assigned these positions. Should two WKF weight categories be merged for Olympic purposes, then the only the two best ranked athletes of each WKF weight category that has been merged will obtain a position.

- **The rest of positions (from position 5 onwards), will be assigned by points.**

Athletes will be displayed according to the highest points obtained in the WKF Ranking, regardless of their ranking in the WKF Weight category.

Should an athlete have competed in two different weight categories, the points will be summed and the ranking applicable will be that of the WKF weight category where the athlete has competed for the first time within the qualification period.

TOKYO 2020 - OLYMPIC STANDING

Kumite -67 kg.

Standing	Name	NOC	Rank	Points	WKF Weight
1	Athlete	GER	1	1100	-60
2	Athlete	FRA	1	1000	-67
3	Athlete	JPN	2	950	-67
4	Athlete	POR	2	890	-60
5	Athlete	BRA	5	1300	-60/-67 *
6	Athlete	ITA	3	870	-60
7	Athlete	ESP	3	850	-60
8	Athlete	TUR	4	850	-67
100	Athlete	NOC	50	425	-60

Note:

- * The athlete has competed in two different weight categories obtaining the following results: (-60 kg.= 800 points/WKF Rank 5) + (-67 kg. = 500 points WKF Rank 8)
- * The athlete marked displays Rank Nr. 5 since the first weight category the athlete participated in a competition within the qualification period was -60 kg.

2.2.4. Resolution of ties

In order to define positions 1 to 4 in the Olympic Standing, should the athletes have the same ranking position in the WKF Ranking, then the position in the Olympic Standing will be decided according to following criteria:

- Total Points in the WKF Ranking
- Best position in last World Championship.
- Best position in the last Continental Championship they have participated within the qualification period.
- Total points difference between points scored in favor and points scored against

the athlete by opponents (regardless of the category) in the last Continental Championships.

In order to define the rest of positions (from position 5 onwards) in the Olympic Standing, should more than two athletes have the same points in the WKF World Ranking, then Olympic Standing will be decided according to following criteria:

- Best ranking
- Best position in last World Championship.
- Best position in the last Continental Championship they have participated within the qualification period.
- 2019 Premier League best standings 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.*