



WKF
World Ranking Rules
(JAN 2022)



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WKF WORLD RANKING RULES

1. General Regulations

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

2. WKF World Ranking

- 2.1 The WKF World Ranking indicates the position of athletes according to the points obtained at WKF Official Events and is applicable only to the individual categories defined in **SECTION 1** – Article 4. The point system for each discipline is defined under **SECTION 1** – Article 2 & Article 3.

2.2. WKF Official Events

WKF Official Events are published on the WKF Official Sports Activities Calendar on a yearly basis; a document, which is approved by the WKF EC and available on the WKF [website](#). The different events that count for ranking purposes are specified under **SECTION 1** – Article 1.

Should a WKF Official Event (e.g. Continental Championships) decide to change its dates once the WKF Official Sports Activities Calendar has been approved by the WKF EC and the new dates enter into conflict with any other event that is already approved and published on the WKF Official Sport Activities Calendar, then the points obtained by athletes at this event will not count for ranking purposes and the Official Event may be removed from the WKF Official Sports Activities Calendar.

3. WKF Standings for Specific Events

3.1 Standing

This is defined as a specific ranking indicating the position of an athlete according to specific events within a defined period (e.g., a qualification period).



3.2 **Karate 1 – Premier League Standing**

For the Karate 1 Premier League Standing, the applicable criteria are as follows:

- (1) All points from all Premier League Events count towards the Karate 1 Premier League Standing, starting from 0 at the beginning of each season.
- (2) The Karate 1 Premier League season starts each calendar year with the first event after 1st January and finishes with the last event before 31st December of the same calendar year.
- (3) After the final Karate 1 Premier League Event of a season has concluded, those competitors ranked 1st on the Karate 1 Premier League Standing, in each individual category, will be pronounced the Grand Winners, providing they have participated in at least four events held in two different continents during the season.
- (4) Points decay will be as indicated in **SECTION 1** – Article 1.
- (5) Should there remain a tie and a position in the Karate 1 Premier League Standing is still to be determined, then the following criteria will be applicable (with reference to the current season):
 - Highest number of Premier Leagues won. If still tied, then:
 - Highest number of Silver Medals
 - Highest number of Bronze Medals
 - Total number of bouts won
 - Greatest point difference between points scored in favor and points scored against
 - Highest number of points in favor
 - Least number of points against



WKF EVENTS

1. WKF Official Events, Event Factor and Points Decay

		<u>Points</u>			
		<u>WKF Official Event</u>	<u>Event Factor</u>	<u>1st Year</u>	<u>2nd Year</u>
<u>Continental Championships</u>		World Championships	12	100%	50%
		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% (*)
<u>Karate 1</u>		Premier League	6	100%	50%
		Series A	5	100%	50%
		Youth League	4	100%	50%

(*)NOTE: Should any of the Continental Federations be unable to host a Continental Championships on a yearly basis, NO points decay will be applicable during the second year; that is, the year between Championships.

1.1 Addition of New Points

The addition of new points to the WKF World Ranking, from a given event, will be applicable the day after this event has taken place.

1.2 Points Decay

Points decay in the WKF World Ranking, from a given event, will be applicable one year after an event has taken place.

*NOTE: The event end date is the last day of competition of the entire event.



2. Points by Place

A diagram of how athletes progress through a Kumite & Kata competition is illustrated on the next few pages and a table indicating the different positions an athlete can finish in, with the corresponding points awarded, can be found below:

Competition Type	Youth League	Series A	Continental Champ.	World Champ.	Premier League
Components	Single Elimination				Round Robin (R-r)
Factor	4	5	6	12	6
1 st place	100	100	100	100	100
2 nd place	70	70	70	70	70
3 rd places	40	40	40	40	40
5 th places	30	30	30	30	30
7 th places	20	20	20	20	20
9 th -15 th place/ 9 th places R-r	10	10	10	10	10
Quarterfinalists not in repechage *	20	20	20	20	
Participation *	5	5	5	5	5
3 Participation per year ***		300			
Round Robin (R-r) Group Winners**	1 st Place				30
	2 nd Place				20
	3 rd Place				10
	4 th Place				5

Notes

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

Points for byes (walk-overs) only count if the athlete wins a subsequent match in the same category in the same competition.

For example:

→ **1st Round - Bye:** No bout takes place and the athlete only gets 5 participation points.



→ **2nd Round:** A bout takes place.

- a. Athlete wins: Total points assigned: 5 participation points
+ 10 points for 2nd Round win
+ 10 points for 1st Round win
x place points
- b. Athlete loses: Total points assigned: 5 participation points
x place points

- For a bout won by “KIKEN” (an opponent is assigned to a bout that does not take place or does not come to an end), 10 points will be awarded to the winning competitor.

** In Round robin, the first place in each group will receive a total of 30 points regardless of the number of points obtained previously. On the other hand, 2nd, 3rd, 4th places will receive a minimum number of points, 20, 10, 5, respectively, unless the total achieved were higher.

For example,

If Athlete A is in 4th place because of a win in the 1st and loses the rest, he would receive 10 points for Bouts Won. 5 points minimum is not added in addition to the 10 points.

If Athlete B ties in 3rd place with a tie in the 1st bout, loss in the 2nd & 3rd bout, consequently, earns 0 points, he would be awarded the minimum 10 points.

*** A bonus that will only have value in the WKF Ranking to facilitate the possible participation in the Premier League. The 300 additional points will be cancelled at the end of each year and will not be considered for the standing of qualification for WKF tournaments or games.



3. Competition Format

Diagram 1: Kumite – Single Elimination

Winner progression and Repechage line

Sample of Winner Repechage Line, being Gold (Pool Winner A) and Silver Pool (Winner D)

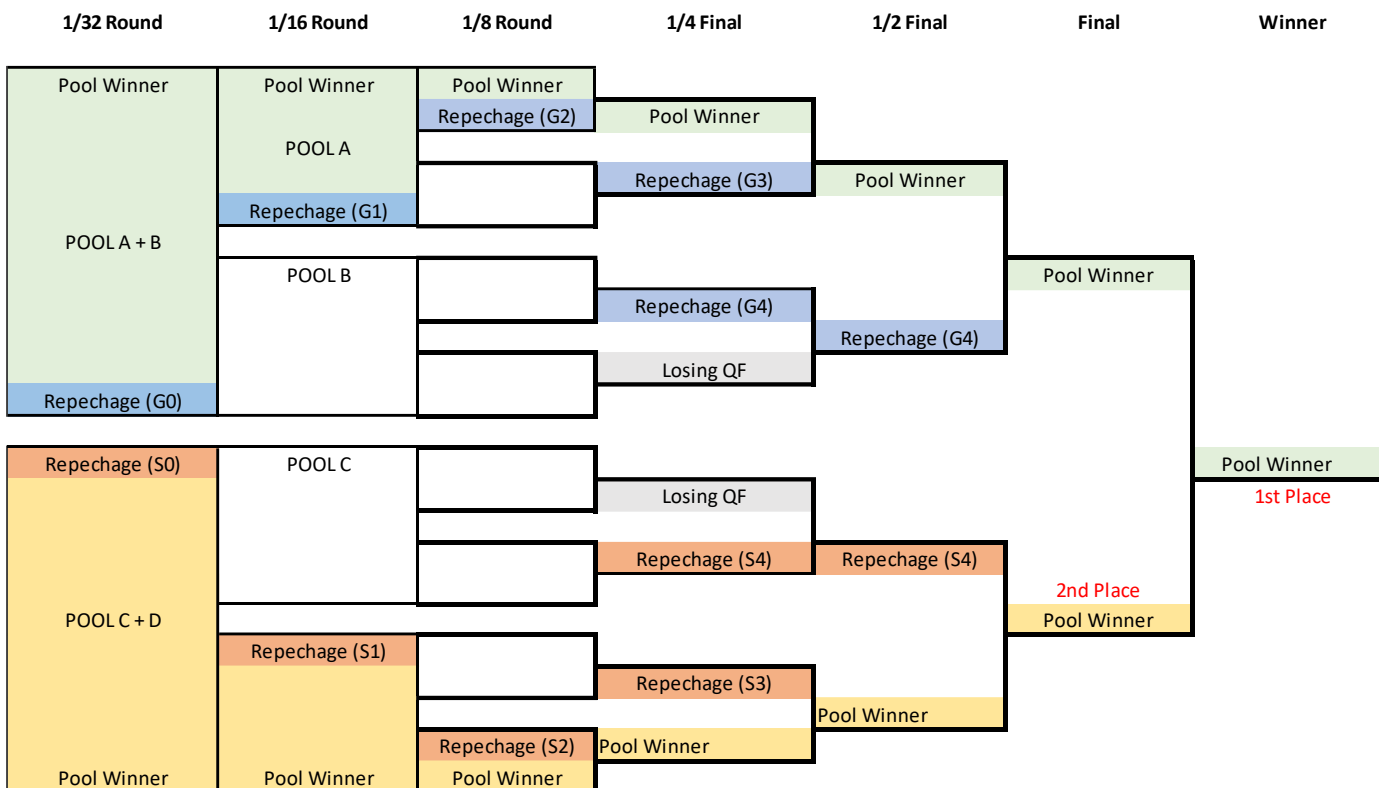




Diagram 2: Kumite – Single Elimination Repechage

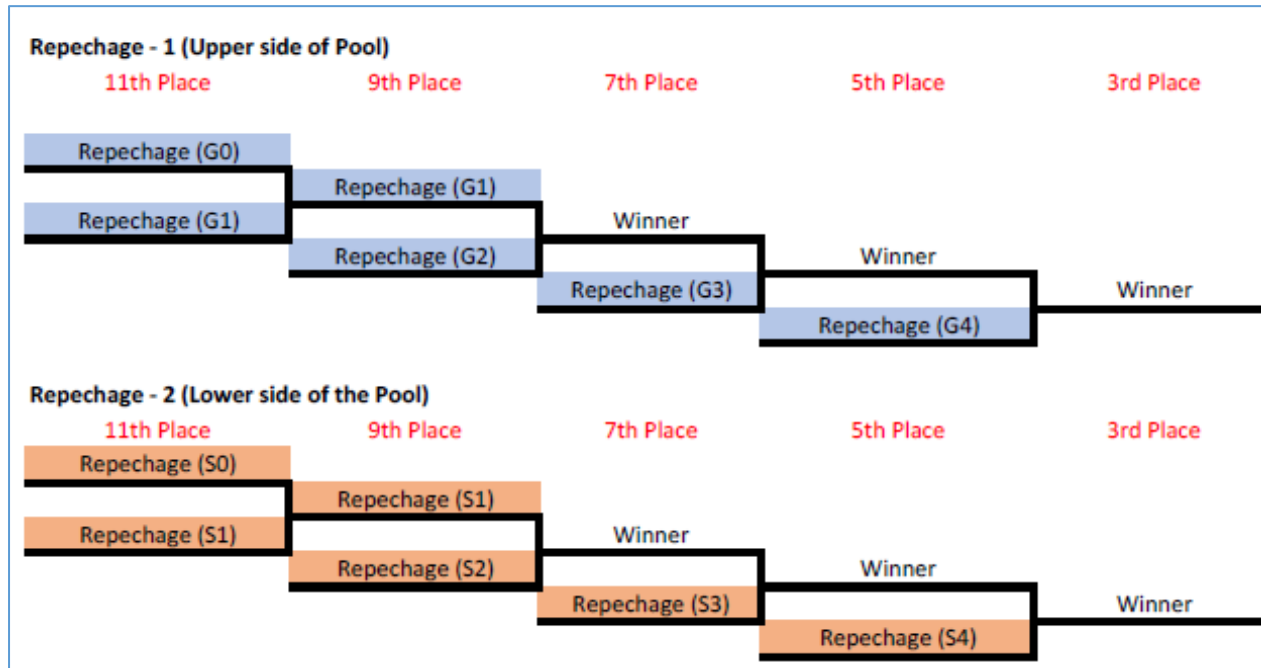




Diagram 3: Kata Single Elimination

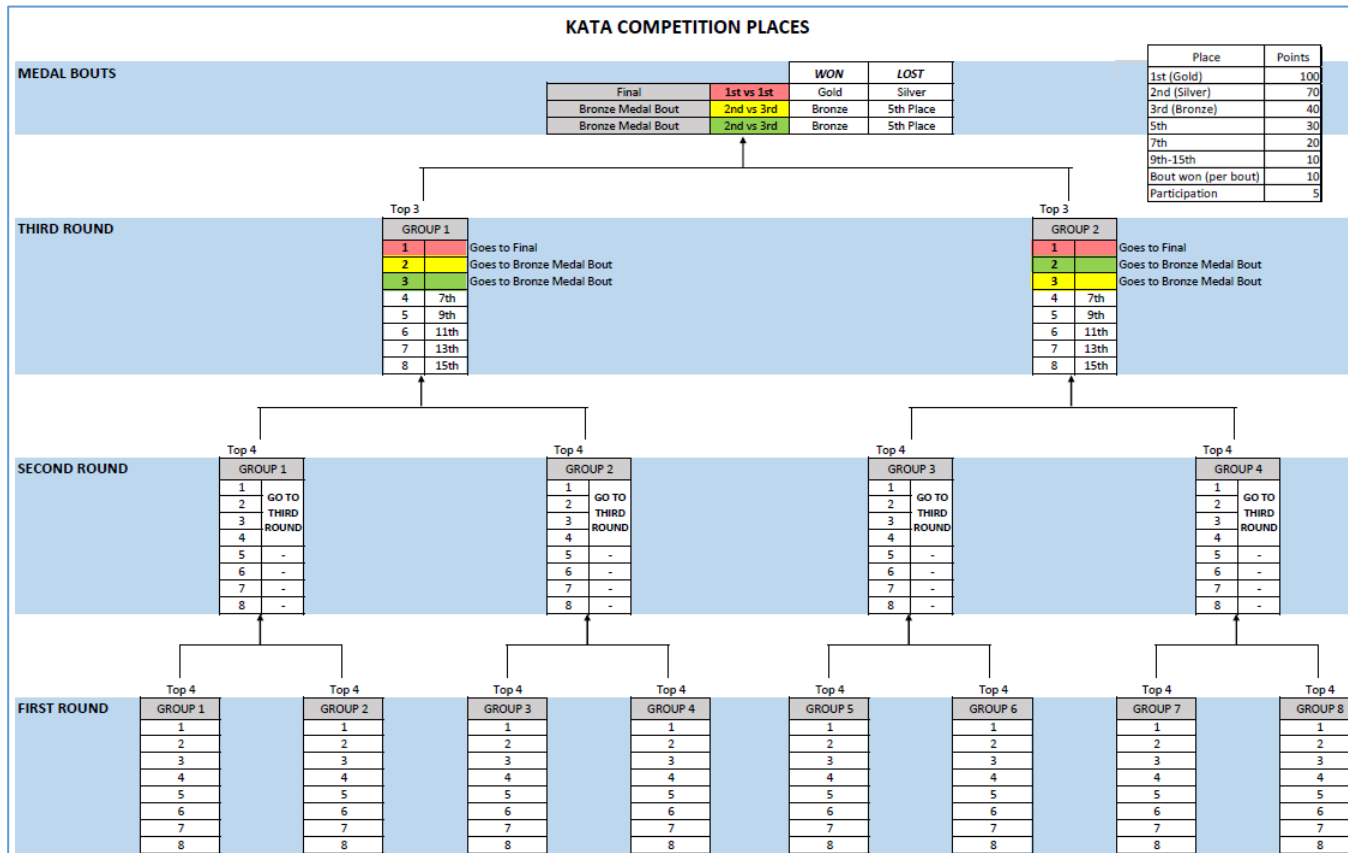




Diagram 4: Round Robin

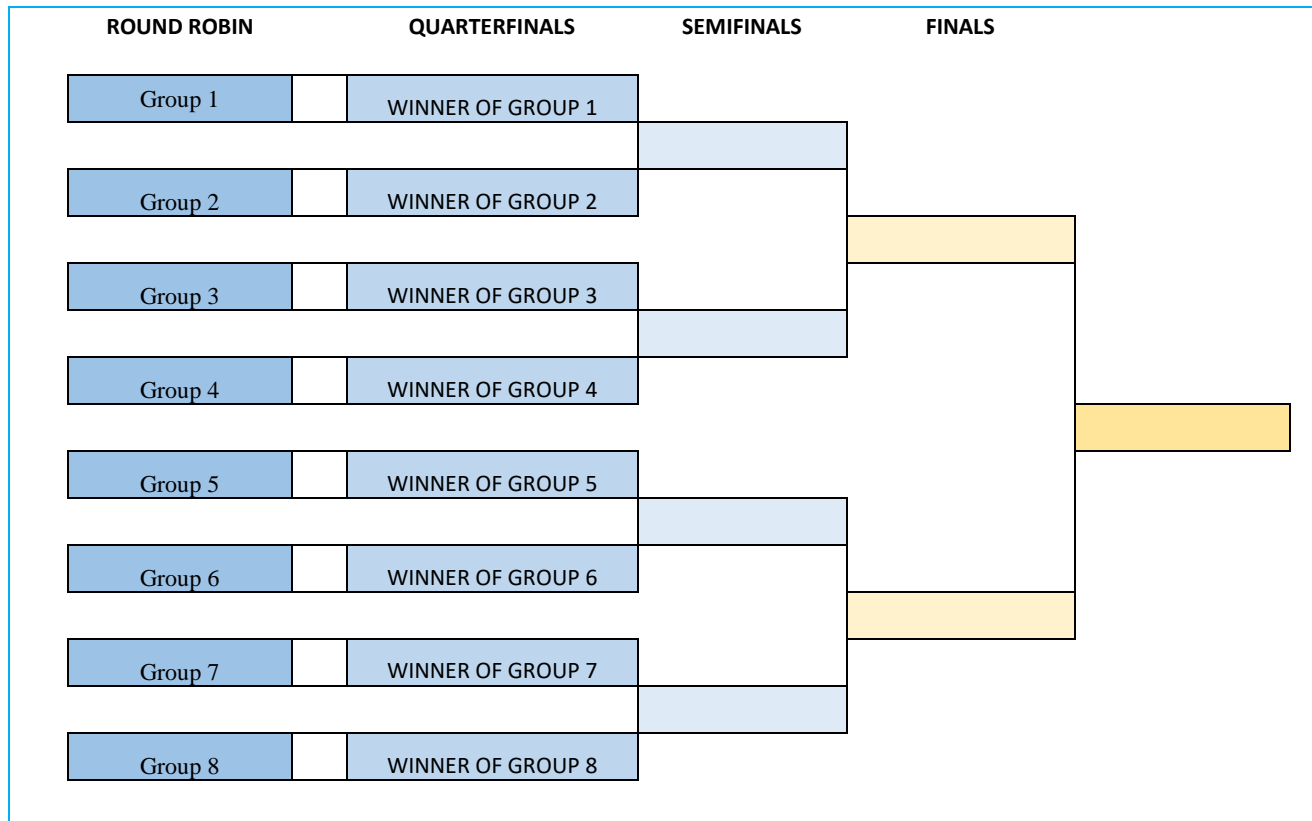




Diagram 5: Round Robin Group Assignment Chart

Round Robin (R-r)									
Athlete / Category	Athlete / Group								
8 GROUPS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
SEED	6	3	7	2	5	4	8	1	
32	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
31	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3
30	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	3
29	4	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	3
28	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	4	3
27	4	3	4	3	3	3	4	4	3
26	3	3	4	3	3	3	4	4	3
25	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	3
24	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
6 GROUPS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
SEED	6	3		2	5	4		1	
23	4	4		4	4	4		3	
22	4	4		3	4	4		3	
21	4	4		3	4	3		3	
20	4	3		3	4	3		3	
19	4	3		3	3	3		3	
18	3	3		3	3	3		3	
5 GROUPS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
SEED	5	3		2		4		1	
17	4	3		3		4		3	
4 GROUPS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
SEED		3		2		4		1	
16		4		4		4		4	
15		4		4		4		3	
14		4		3		4		3	
13		3		3		4		3	
12		3		3		3		3	
3 GROUPS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
SEED		3		2				1	
11		4		4				3	
10		4		3				3	
9		3		3				3	
2 GROUPS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
SEED				2				1	
8				4				4	
7				4				3	
6				3				3	
1 GROUP	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
SEED								1	
5								5	
4								4	
3								3	

NOTES

PER GROUP: always maximum 4 athletes and minimum 3 athletes

In all the categories with eight groups, the first of each group will qualify.

With **6 groups**, the first of each group and the two best seconds with the **highest WKF Ranking across** groups will qualify.

With **5 groups**, the first of each group and the three best seconds with the **highest WKF Ranking** will qualify.

With **4 groups**, the 1st and 2nd of each group will qualify.

With **3 groups**, the 1st and 2nd of each group, as well as the best two 3^{rds} with the **highest WKF Ranking** will qualify.

With **two groups**, the semifinals will be between first of Group A - with the second of Group B & the first of Group B - with the second of Group A.

With **only 1 group**, the **finals** after R-r will be between the 1st and the 2nd of the group and only one 3rd place medal will be awarded

With **4 athletes**, there will be three bouts per athlete, and with **3 athlete**, 2 bouts per athlete.



4. Points Calculating System

4.1 Kumite & Kata

Round Robin	
a. Participation:	5 per event
b. Round Robin Group Winner	30
c. Bouts / Rounds won*	10 per win
d. Place:	As defined in Article 2.1
e. Total points per event:	<u>$(a + b + c + d) \times \text{Event Factor}$</u>

For example, the points obtained by an athlete who achieved 1st place at the Premier League.

Event	(Participation	+R-r group winner	+ Bout / round won	+ Place)	x Event Factor	= Total Points
Premier League	(5	+ 30	+ (3 x 10)	+100)	x 6	= 990

Single Elimination	
a. Participation:	5 per event
b. Bouts/Rounds Won*	10 per bout won
c. Qualification to Medal Round	10
d. Place:	As defined in Article 2.1
e. Total points per event:	<u>$(a + b + c + d) \times \text{Event Factor}$</u>

For example, the points obtained by an athlete who achieved 1st place at the Series A.

Event	(Participation	+ Bouts/ Rounds Won	+ Place)	x Event Factor	= Total Points
Series A	(5	+ (7 x 10)	+ 100)	x 5	= 875

NOTE:* A bye will not be considered as a bout won, with the exception of that stated under **SECTION 1 – Article 2.1, Notes.**



5. Age and Weight Categories

An athlete's age is defined by the first day of competition of an entire event. The different weight categories across age categories are as follows:

Individual Categories							
Senior (Age: Kata+16/Kumite+18)				U21 (Age: 18/19/20)			
Individual Kata		Individual Kumite		Individual Kata		Individual Kumite	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
		-60kg	-50kg			-60kg	-50kg
		-67kg	-55kg			-67kg	-55kg
		-75kg	-61kg			-75kg	-61kg
		-84kg	-68kg			-84kg	-68kg
		+84kg	+68kg			+84kg	+68kg
Junior (Age: 16/17)				Cadet (Age 14/15)			
Individual Kata		Individual Kumite		Individual Kata		Individual Kumite	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
		-55kg	-48kg			-52kg	-47kg
		-61kg	-53kg			-57kg	-54kg
		-68kg	-59kg			-63kg	+54kg
		-76kg	+59kg			-70kg	
		+76kg				+70kg	

6. Senior Weight Category Changes

A competitor may change weight category directly with copy to their National Federation, or through the National Federation to the WKF.

This entails 50% of the category's points being transferred to the new category for the duration of 1 year, while the original category completely loses all its points. This change must be communicated between January 1st to 31st (transitional note: in 2022 the deadline will be until 28th February) with the athlete's details (full name, country, athletes code, and the desired weight category) to the WKF.

Restoring Original Weight Category

The athlete may restore their original senior weight category if it is communicated



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between the initial request in January (transitional note: in 2022 the deadline will be until 28th February) and June 30th (transitional note: in 2022 the deadline will be until 31st July). In this case, the original points are restored including the corresponding point decay.

The points earned through any participation in the Karate 1 circuit in the new weight category will be eliminated. If the Continental Championships were earned in the original category, the points are transferred to the original / restored category.

Consequently, there will be points in two different weight categories.

For example, an Athlete changes from the original category -55kg to new category -61kg, competes in -61kg at the AKF Championships, and finally, restores original category -55kg.

There would be one profile with original category -55kg (previous points restored, new points eliminated) and one profile with -61kg (AKF Championship or series A).

All requests will be updated at the beginning of the following month.

This procedure is not to be applied to athletes whose junior categories points have automatically transitioned to the senior category at 50% for 1 year.

7. Nationality

Nationality changes or changes to an athlete's representative NF are subject to the corresponding clauses in the WKF Organising Rules. In the event that an athlete changes nationality or NF, according to the regulations in force, all points from the applicable WKF World Ranking category will be transferred to the athlete's new nationality.

However, if when an athlete changes nationality, this change is from one different continent to another, points will be transferred to the athlete's new nationality, with the exception of any points awarded at continental competitions of the athlete's previous nationality. These will be removed from the total number of points on the athlete's new profile.



8. Continental Championships

At Continental Championships, National Federations will be limited to the points of one competitor per category counting towards the WKF World Ranking and any applicable Standing in force at the time. National Federations will be required to indicate the name of this competitor during the registration phase, **prior** to the event, via the online registration process.

9. Maternity

Any athlete who becomes pregnant can request their ranking points to be frozen for a maximum period of 15 months. In order to implement this freeze, the National Federation must send written confirmation to the WKF, along with a medical certificate, confirming that the athlete will now cease competition due to pregnancy. Points will be frozen according to the WKF Ranking on the 1st of the month following the date of the received request. They will be frozen for a maximum of 15 months – of which a maximum of 6 can be after the birth. If an athlete wishes to return to competition before the end of this 15-month period, the National Federation must send written confirmation of this, two months prior to the athlete's first event back. In accordance with the above, points will be unfrozen on the first of the month following their first event back or on the first of the month following the completion of this 15-month maternity period.

10. Other General Rules

10.1. Athletes will appear in the WKF World Ranking only when they have received points in at least one WKF Official Event.

10.2. Continuity of competitors in the WKF World Ranking

Athletes, who do not participate in a WKF Official Event for two consecutive years will be removed from the WKF World Ranking.

Athletes will be removed from the Cadet, Junior and U21 Rankings on the first day of the month following the applicable birthday (16th, 18th and 21st).

In the event of an athlete needing proof of WKF World Ranking status on a specific date (within the two years preceding the request), a written request should be sent to



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the WKF.

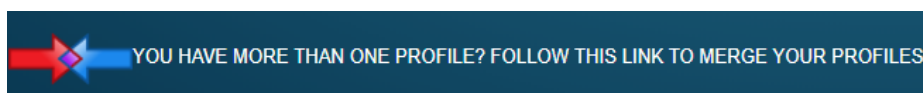
10.3. Points will be awarded to athletes **ONLY ONCE PER EVENT AND CATEGORY**, in the WKF World Ranking category in which the athlete has competed respectively. A competitor can compete in two different age categories, for example, U21 and Senior, but this athlete will have a separate WKF World Ranking for each age category. The same principle applies to weight categories.

10.4. For those U21 athletes also competing at Senior events, points obtained at any Senior event (Karate 1 as well as Continental and World Championships) will be included in the Senior WKF World Ranking of the athlete.

10.5. Athletes with Two Different WKF IDs

Should an athlete be registered at a competition with a different WKF ID from the one already assigned to the athlete in the WKF World Ranking, the points obtained at the given competition will be assigned to the WKF ID that the athlete has competed under according to **SECTION 1** above.

As a result, the athlete will have points divided under two different WKF IDs, having been obtained at different competitions. If the athlete wishes to merge the points into the same profile, an online request can be made by clicking on the following banner:



IMPORTANT NOTE: merged profiles will not be considered for qualification purposes or event registration (e.g. the Premier League) until the update of the World Ranking following the merger request, providing it complies with the specific qualification or registration timelines applicable.

11. COVID-19

Following the outbreak of COVID-19 and given an expected and significant period of inactivity from the last event to take place (Salzburg Premier League, 28 Feb – 1 Mar 2020) until activity can restart again, the following WKF Rankings were temporarily frozen from 2nd March 2020 until competitions resumed in 2021 for the different weight categories.



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In addition, the following changes have been made to the point transition process:

Kumite Junior to Senior transitions

50% of a Junior athlete's frozen points as per 2nd March 2020 were transitioned on first of the month following the athlete's 18th birthday. Transition points will remain on the athlete's Senior profile for 1 year following the restart of activity: 12th March 2022.

Kumite Cadet to Junior transitions

50% of a Cadet athlete's frozen points as per 2nd March 2020 were transitioned on first of the month following the athlete's 16th birthday. Transition points will remain on the athlete's Junior profile for 1 year following the restart of activity: 4th June 2022.

Kata Cadet to Senior transitions

50% of a Cadet athlete's frozen points as per 2nd March 2020 were transitioned on first of the month following the athlete's 16th birthday. Transition points will remain on the athlete's Senior profile for 1 year following the restart of activity: 12th March 2022.

Kata Cadet to Junior transitions

50% of a Cadet athlete's frozen points as per 2nd March 2020 were transitioned on first of the month following the athlete's 16th birthday. Transition points will remain on the athlete's Junior profile for 1 year following the restart of activity: 4th June 2022.



WKF PARA-KARATE KATA COMPETITION EVENTS

Introduction

Para-Karate Kata refers to a modality of Karate in which competition rules have been established to accommodate fair competitions among athletes with impairments. Para-Karate Kata is focused on developing the discipline of karate for wheelchair users, the visually impaired and intellectual impaired athletes.

This section compiles the Para-Karate Kata Competition event specific rules into one section that differ from the previously mentioned rules but does not encompass other general rules. The later can be found in previous sections within the document.

WKF Official Events and Points Decay

<u>WKF Official Event</u>	<u>Event Factor</u>	<u>Points</u>	
		<u>1st Year</u>	<u>2nd Year</u>
World Championships	12	100%	50% (*)
Continental Championships	6	100%	50% (**)

The Continental Championship points are considered for World Ranking after January 1st, 2022 at 00:00.

() World Championship point decay in 2nd year continues until the next world championship regardless of the month... i.e. WC Oct 2020 (year 1), Oct 2021 (Year 2) - WC 2022.*

*(**) Should any of the Continental Federations be unable to host a Continental Championships on a yearly basis, NO points decay will be applicable during the second year; that is, the year between Championships.*

Points Per Place

Para-Karate Kata Competition

A diagram of how athletes progress through a Para-Karate Kata Competition is illustrated on the next page and a table indicating the different positions an athlete can



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finish in, with the corresponding points awarded, can be found below

4. Points Calculation System

Para-Karate Kata Competition

a. Participation:	5 per event
b. Rounds Won	10 per round won
c. Group Winner next round	30
d. Place:	As defined in Article 3.1
e. Total points per event:	$(a+b+c+d) \times \text{Event Factor}$

For example, the points obtained by an athlete who has achieved 1st Place at the World Championships.

(Participation	Rounds Won		Group Winner	+Place)	x Event Factor	= Total Points
(5	+(3x10)		+30	+100)	x 12	= 1980

Individual Categories

An athlete's age is defined by the first day of competition of an entire event.

Para-Karate Kata Senior (Age 16+)					
Blind/Visual Impaired		Wheelchair Users		Intellectually Impaired	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female