



**QUALIFICATION AND  
COMPETITION SYSTEM  
(PHASE 2 – FINAL PHASE)  
WKF INDIVIDUAL WORLD SENIOR  
CHAMPIONSHIPS  
2025**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL OUTLINE

### 1.1 Purpose and Application

*WKF Individual World Senior Championships (IWSCH)* has a 2-year qualification period along with a quota allocation system with a total of 32 quotas per category. The IWSCH Competition System is composed of 2 Phases, the Group Phase (Round-robin - Rr) and Elimination Phase with no repechage. Each category will have 1 gold, 1 silver and 2 bronze awarded.

This document describes the format of Phase 2 (Final Phase) of the WKF Individual World Championships where 32 Competitors are allocated for each category, but with maximum one competitor per country. This Phase consist of Round-robin competition followed by elimination.

Exempt from this are competitors in Para-karate where up to 3 Competitors per country is allowed and there is no Round-robin competition before going into eliminations.

This document is issued to summarize the format of the competition event, and do not supersede or replace the WKF Competition and Ranking Rules.

### 1.2 Competition Days – Kumite, Kata & Para-karate

Phase	Days	Tatamis
Group Phase, Quarterfinals, Semi-finals	2 days	4 tatamis
Medal bouts	1 day	1 tatami
Para-Karate World Championships	1 day	4 tatamis
<b>Total</b>	4 days	

### 1.3 Modalities, Categories & Divisions – Kumite, Kata & Para-karate

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

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PARAKARATE					
Visually Impaired		Intellectually Impaired		Wheelchair User	
Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
K10	K10	K21	K21	K30	K30
		K22	K22		

## 2. ALLOCATION SYSTEM

### 2.1 General

All allocations and potential substitutes for places based on results from previous World Championships, Continental Championship, IWSCH Standing, and host nation; NF will be given an exact response-date to confirm willingness to participate with a deadline for responding that should ideally be 6 weeks or more before the event.

### 2.2 Allocation - Kumite & Kata

Allocation is done in two steps. Request for confirmation of attendance is done as one block per category according to the allocation criteria order (1 to 4).

#### Step 1:

	<b>Allocation Criteria Order</b>	<b>Competitors</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Current World Senior Championship</b>	<b>1</b>	World Champion
<b>2</b>	<b>Continental Championships</b>	<b>14</b>	Gold, Silver, highest bronze (3 AKF/ 3 EKF/3 PKF/3 UFAK) Gold & Silver (2 OKF)
<b>3</b>	<b>IWSCH Standing</b>	<b>8</b>	First place
<b>4</b>	<b>NF Host</b>	<b>1</b>	Highest ranked NF host Competitor in the IWSCh Standing.

#### Step 2:

	<b>Allocation Criteria Order</b>	<b>Competitors</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>IWSCH Qualification Tournament</b>	<b>6</b>	6 qualified
<b>6</b>	<b>Universality Places</b>	<b>2</b>	Continental Distribution Ratio Criteria

## 2.2.1 IWSCH Standing

The standing is defined as a specific ranking indicating the position of an Competitor according to specific events within a defined period (Qualification period).

Events that are included in the IWSch Standing are as follow:

- Karate 1 – Premier League
- Continental Championships (CCh)
- The points gained from the previous ISWCH at the beginning of qualification period

Points from both Continental championships will be counted in IWSch standing and the last (most recent) CCh within the qualification period will count towards the Quota distribution.

## 2.2.2 IWSCH Qualification Tournament

The WKF Qualification Tournament is a closed tournament for National Federations that awards 6 quota per category to attend the Individual World Senior Championships. National Federations may register 1 Competitor per category in which they do not already have a qualified Competitor via another allocation criteria, specifically, the current world champion, continental championships, ISWCH Standing and NF Host.

## 2.2.3 Universality Places

### Continental Distribution Ratio Criteria

- By continent, in proportional application with respect to Continental Championships participation
- Allocation of places to Continental Federations, considering participation in the Continental Championships.
- Places distribution criteria considering the number of anticipated Countries in Continental Championships / Number of Affiliated Countries in Continental Federations proportionality ratio.
- For this ratio, the last Continental Championships prior to the Qualification Phase will be used.
- Allocation of these Continental Federations places to the Competitors with the most points in the IWSCH Standing, with independence of the continent and category.

## 2.3 Substitution – Kumite & Kata

Potential substitute Competitors will be requested to confirm their willingness to compete should their participation be required in parallel with the confirmation of the original allocations.

### Step 1:

Allocation Criteria Order		Substitution
1	<b>Current World Senior Championships</b>	First: Silver Medallist Second: Bronze Medallist who lost against the Gold Medallist Third: Bronze Medallist who lost against the Silver Medallist Fourth: Following the event result.
2	<b>Continental Championships</b>	<b>AKF EKF PKF UFAK</b> First: Bronze Medallist who lost against the Silver Medallist Second: Following the event result.
		<b>OKF</b> First: Bronze Medallist who lost against the Gold Medallist Second: Bronze Medallist who lost against the Silver Medallist. Third: Following the event result.
3	<b>IWSCH Standing</b>	Next best classified Competitor in the IWSCH Standing, not qualified by World Senior Championships or Continental Championships, only if there isn't other qualified Competitor from the same country
4	<b>NF Host</b>	Next classified NF host Competitor in the IWSCH Standing per category. If the host Competitor qualifies by IWSCH Standing, this place is substituted by the next best classified Competitor in the IWSCH Standing.

Allocation Criteria Order		Substitution
5	<b>IWSCH Qualification Tournament</b>	First: Competitor who lost the final bout of the Qualification Phase from the qualified substituted Competitors. Second: The Competitor with more points during the qualification bout among all the runner-ups in qualification bouts.
6	<b>Universality Places</b>	Next best classified Competitor, from the same Continental Federation in the IWSCH Standing, not qualified by any other criteria, only if there isn't other qualified Competitor from the same country. If none, the place will be taken by the next Continental Federation by distribution ratio.

### 2.3 Allocation – Para-karate

Allocation tables do not apply to para-karate where each country is permitted to register up to 3 entries per category.

### 2.3 Substitution – Para-karate

Substitution for para-karate do not need to follow this process as each country can substitute any Competitor up to the deadline given for registering for participation, as long as the number of Competitors registered by the country for that category is no more than 3 entries per category.



### 3. COMPETITION SYSTEM

#### 3.1 The Draw

For the draw the 8 highest World Ranking Competitors will be seeded.

### 4. GROUP PHASE (R-R)

#### 4.1 Group Composition – Kumite & Kata

A maximum participation of 32 Competitors with the number of Groups depends on the final participation. Each group will always have maximum 4 Competitors and minimum 3 Competitors.

Competitor/ Category	Competitor / Group								Notes
<b>8 Groups</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Participation: 24-32 Competitors</b>
<b>Seed</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Number of Groups: 8 Groups</b>
32	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	The group winner passes to the Elimination Phase.
31	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	
30	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	3	
29	4	3	4	3	4	4	4	3	
28	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	
27	4	3	4	3	3	3	4	3	
26	3	3	4	3	3	3	4	3	
25	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	
24	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	

**Chart 2:** The Group Phase (Round Robin) participant composition chart showing how many participants are required for each group.

## 4.2 Bout Order – Kumite & Kata

Depending on the number of Groups, in each tatami two *Sub-Groups (SubG)* will compete. The bouts order:

A: 4 COMPETITORS B: 4 COMPETITORS			A: 4 COMPETITORS B: 3 COMPETITORS			A: 3 COMPETITORS B: 3 COMPETITORS		
Sub G	1 <sup>st</sup> Bout	2 <sup>nd</sup> Bout	Sub G	1 <sup>st</sup> Bout	2 <sup>nd</sup> Bout	Sub G	1 <sup>st</sup> Bout	2 <sup>nd</sup> Bout
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Round</b>			<b>1<sup>st</sup> Round</b>			<b>1<sup>st</sup> Round</b>		
A	1-2	3-4	A	1-2	3-4	A	1-2	
B	1-2	3-4	B	1-2		B	1-2	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Round</b>			<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Round</b>			<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Round</b>		
A	2-3	1-4	A	2-3	1-4	A	1-3	
B	2-3	1-4	B	1-3		B	1-3	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Round</b>			<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Round</b>			<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Round</b>		
A	1-3	2-4	A	1-3	2-4	A	2-3	
B	1-3	2-4	B	2-3		B	2-3	

**Chart 3:** The Goup of 8 is divided into 2 subgroups of A and B.

## 4.3 Victory Points per Bout - Kumite

The Competitors will receive the following number of points per bouts:

- 3 Points in the case of winning.
- 1 point in the case of draw with result different to 0-0.
- 0 points in the case of draw with result 0-0, or a loss

## 4.4 Result & Tiebreaker - Kumite

The Competitor with the greatest number of **victory** points when the Group Phase concludes will be the Group Winner.

In the case of draw between two or more Competitors, the Group Winner will be defined following the following criteria in order of precedence:

- 1) Bout result between the Competitors in tie.
- 2) Largest number of points scored in all bouts.
- 3) Least number of points against in all bouts.
- 4) Largest number of Ippon scored in all bouts.
- 5) Least number of Ippon against in all bouts.
- 6) Largest number of Waza-ari scored in all bouts.
- 7) Least number of Waza-ari against in all bouts.
- 8) The highest ranking in the WKF Ranking.

9) Result of an extra bout allowing Hantei.

#### 4.5 Video Review Cards - Kumite

- Competitors will have **one VR card** for the Group Phase.
- Competitors will have **one VR card** for the Quarterfinals.
- Competitors will have **one VR card** for the Semi-Finals.
- Competitors will have **one VR card** for the Medal-Bouts.

#### 4.6 Victory Points per Bout – Kata

- 3 victory points in the case of victory.
- 0 victory points in the case of a loss.

#### 4.7 Results & Tiebreaker – Kata

The Competitor with the greatest number of **victory** points when the Group Phase concludes will be the Group Winner.

In the case of draw between two or more Competitors, the Group Winner will be defined following the following criteria in order of precedence:

- 1) Winner of the bout between the competitors in tie..
- 2) Sum of all votes received in all bouts.
- 3) Highest World Ranking.
- 4) Extra bout doing a new kata.

It is possible to repeat a kata from the Round-robin in the subsequent performances, but the same kata may never be performed twice in a row.

## 5. ELIMINATION PHASE

### 5.1 Qualification to Elimination Phase

After the Group Phase, the group winners pass to Elimination Phase where each Competitor has 1 bout per round, and the winners move on while the losers are eliminated. In total, there are 3 rounds, the Quarterfinals, Semi-finals, and Finals.

### 5.2 Elimination Brackets

#### 8 Groups



