



## WORLD KARATE FEDERATION

Member of:  
Global Association of International Sport Federations (GAISF)  
International World Games Association (IWGA)

12<sup>th</sup> December 2019

# WKF COMPETITION RULES BULLETIN No.2 – 2019

**New version approved by the WKF Executive Committee for implementation 1.1.2020**

Dear fellow karateka,

Coming this 1.1.2020 we will issue a new revision of the competition rules. This is a break from the pattern of allowing minimum two years between revisions but given that many practices have already come into play, we have found it better that there is only one place to look for what is to be enforced.



The WKF Competition rules have over the years grown organically to a point where an outsider will find the mixture of rules, explanations and enclosures rather confusing. The time has come for a major rework rather than more patchwork. However, until we have celebrated the Tokyo 2020 Games the changes we can do are minimal, but coming 2021 it is our intention to present a complete new version of the rules with the aim of making each rule self-explanatory without having to refer to explanations and with simplified language.

For ease of navigating this intermediate revision, becoming effective 1.1.2020, I have in these pages below highlighted the changes that will now be part of the actual competition rules. As always, your input is always welcomed.

Gunnar Nordahl  
*Chairman*  
*WKF Competition Rules Commission*



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## KUMITE & KATA ARTICLE 2 – OFFICIAL DRESS: Changes in attire

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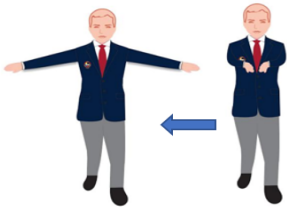
- Equal access to use of religiously mandated headwear for both genders (officials and coaches)
- Female officials may wear discreet earrings

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## KUMITE ARTICLE 9 – WARNING AND PENALTIES: Introduction of signals used without stopping the match

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- Introduction of signals for action and break-up without stopping the bout:

	TSUZUKETE	Fight on	Resumption of fighting ordered when an unauthorised interruption occurs or when the Referee gives an informal order to commence fighting due to lack of activity
	WAKARETE	Separate	The Referee motions for the Competitors to separate from a clinch, or standing chest to chest, by separating his hands with a motion with the palms outward while giving the verbal order.

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## KUMITE APPENDIX 11 – VIDEO REVIEW: Changes to the Video Rules

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- Dealing with instances where action is not visible on the video, the following paragraph is to be added to point 6 of the Video Rules.:
  - When a coach raises the card for the video review, and the review does not make it possible to see if the protest is valid or not, the reviewer will not show a card for Yes or No, but stand up and show the sign that was previously used for MIENAI (covering both eyes with the tip of the fingers) and the card will be returned to the coach.



MIENAI

- In dealing with a second video request for the same incident by the other coach, the following paragraph is to be added to point 6 of the Video Rules:
  - If one coach shows the card for video review and the other coach wants a review of the same instance, the second coach must raise his card before the review starts in order

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not to lose his right to request video review for that instance. The video review is considered started when the Referee makes the gesture.

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## **KUMITE APPENDIX 14 – ROUND-ROBIN COMPETITION: Correction to calculation of points in round robin competition**

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- It is possible for a contestant to be disqualified from a bout and continue the competition. In this case, his opponent wins that bout by either by 4-0 or for any score obtained exceeding 4 points (i.e. 5-0, 6-0 etc.) and the other results remain
- In case a contestant is injured and cannot resume the competition, the results of all bouts (completed, current and pending) are declared NIL (results nullified), and its points forfeited unless it is the last bout of the round robin elimination, in which case all results and points remains unchanged

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## **KATA ARTICLE 3 - ORGANISATION OF KATA COMPETITION: Order of performance**

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- The electronic kata judging system should randomly determine the order of performance within the group after the initial round up to, but excluding, the medal bouts.
- 5 kata required to win for 97-192 competitors and 32 groups and 6 kata to win for 193 or more competitors

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## **KATA ARTICLE 4 - THE JUDGING PANEL: Nationality of judges**

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- For medal bouts, none of the judges may have the same nationality as the competitors.

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## **KATA ARTICLE 5 – CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION: Ties resolved by electronic system**

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- Ties resolved by the electronic system according to the following criteria:

Step 1:	Compare TECHNICAL scores before the multiplication factor (70%). The Highest win.
Step 2:	Compare TECHNICAL scores, comparing the lowest score not excluded. The highest win.
Step 3:	Compare TECHNICAL scores, comparing the highest score not excluded. The highest win.
Step 4:	Compare ATHLETIC scores, comparing the lowest score not excluded. The highest win.
Step 5:	Compare ATHLETIC scores, comparing the highest score not excluded. The highest win.
Step 6:	Compare TECHNICAL scores, comparing the highest score among the lowest scores excluded. The highest win.
Step 7:	Compare TECHNICAL scores, comparing the lowest score among the highest scores excluded. The highest win.
Step 8:	Compare TECHNICAL scores, comparing the lowest score among the lowest scores excluded. The highest win.

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Step 9:	Compare ATHLETIC scores, comparing the highest score among the lowest scores excluded. The highest win.
Step 10:	Compare ATHLETIC scores, comparing the lowest score among the highest scores excluded. The highest win.
Step 11:	Compare ATHLETIC scores, comparing the lowest score among the lowest scores excluded. The highest win.
Step 12:	Compare TECHNICAL scores, comparing the highest score among the highest scores excluded. The highest win.
Step 13:	Compare ATHLETIC CRITERIA, comparing the highest score among the highest scores excluded. The highest win.
Step 14:	When all the criteria are considered in the previous cases do not determine the winner the tie will be resolved by electronic coin toss.