

The 7th World Karate Championship in Weight Categories

WORLD KARATE ORGANIZATION

**The World Karate Championship in Weight Categories
Competition Rules**

NPO WORLD KARATE ORGANIZATION

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WKO Competition Rules

(The World Karate Championship in Weight Categories)

Judging Criteria

1. The five referees including the main referee shall judge the competition. However, the final decision rests with the Head Judge.
2. In case of “IPPON”, “Waza-Ari”, “Hansoku”, “Jogai” and “Hantei”, etc, the decision is valid if three out of the five referees support it. The decision is not valid if only two referees or only the main referee support it. However, any of the five referees has the right to make a protest against a decision.
3. The weighing shall be done with the attendance of referees before the competition starts.
4. If there is a weight difference of more than 7kg between the weight in the application and the weight checked before the competition, the competitor may be disqualified.
5. In case a competitor cannot continue the bout due to his opponent’s “YUKO WAZA (effective attack)”, “HANSOKU WAZA (foul attack)”, etc., the tournament doctor may give a “doctor’s stop” after consulting with the five referees or the head judge.
 - a) In case of “HANSOKU WAZA”, the competitor who made the foul attack loses the bout.
 - b) In case of “YUKO WAZA”, the damaged competitor loses the bout, due to the reason that he is unable to continue the bout.
6. The Tournament schedule is to be strictly followed, but in case of an unavoidable situation, the Tournament Executive Committee Chairman may, after consultation with the Judging Panel Chairman and the Head Judge, decide to change the tournament schedule.

Kumite Rules

1. Time for bouts
 - a) Male – From the 1st round to the Final, the main bout is 3 minutes, the extension will be 2 minutes, and the final extension will be 2 minutes.
 - b) Female – From the 1st round to the Final, the main bout is 2 minutes, the extension will be 2 minutes, and the final extension will be 2 minutes.
2. Victory is awarded to the competitor who has scored one full point (IPPON) or the one who has won by decision (including ‘Waza-ari’ - half point) or the one whose opponent has been charged with a foul, or whose opponent has been disqualified.
3. Competitors enter onto the competition mat from the opposite sides to each other and stand outside of the two lines in red and in white in the center of the fighting area, taking postures of “FUDODACHI”, facing to the front.

Looking at them from the front (official seats), the competitor for “AKA” – Red should stand on the left side (the one whose entry number is smaller) and the competitor for “SHIRO” – White should be on the right side (the one whose entry number is bigger).
4. The bout starts with the Main Referee’s command “HAJIME” and ends with the Main Referee’s command “YAME”.
5. In case of any accident during the fight, the Main Referee may stop the bout.

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6. When the Main Referee makes the sign of “Time”, the bout shall stop for a moment, and when he makes the sign of “Zokkou” (continue) the bout shall start again.

IPPON-GACHI (FULL POINT VICTORY)

- a) When a thrust (TSUKI), a kick (KERI), or an elbow strike (HIJI UCHI) etc., excluding actions listed as fouls, vigorously downs the opponent for three or more seconds.
- b) If the opponent has lost his will to fight for three or more seconds.
- c) When having obtained two WAZA-ARIs (half-points), which results in one IPPON (full-point).

WAZA-ARI (Half-point)

- a) When a thrust (TSUKI), a kick (KERI), an elbow strike (HIJI UCHI), etc., excluding actions listed as fouls, downs the opponent and within three seconds he stands up and resumes the fight.
- b) If the opponent has lost his will to fight but resumes the fight within three seconds.
- c) If the opponent has received so much damage that he loses his balance, but not that he falls down.
- d) After either downing the opponent with foot sweeps (ASHI-BARAI) or dodging the opponent’s DOMAWASHI-KAITEN-GERI (rolling kick), a well-focused GEDAN ZUKI (downward punch) follows immediately.

Criteria of HANTEI (decision)

- a) In case there is no IPPON nor disqualification, the decision supported by three out of the five referees (one Main Referee, four corner referees) is valid.
- b) In case of one of the competitors having a WAZA-ARI, the WAZA-ARI will be the first priority for a decision.
- c) In case of no WAZA-ARI, the amount of damages will be the first priority for a decision.
- d) In case of no damages, the amount of techniques (punches, kicks), including YUKO-UCHI (point-giving techniques, but not enough for being a WAZA-ARI), will be the first priority for a decision.
- e) In case of same amount of techniques, including YUKO-UCHI, the referees shall look at the fighter who is moving forward and backward, who is fighting most aggressively, and this shall be the first priority for a decision. (This applies to the final extension where a champion has to be decided.)
- f) In case of either the competitor having obtained CHUI (warning) or GENTEN (penalty), the referees shall follow the criteria stated in “JUDGING CRITERION”)

JOGAI (Stepping outside competition area)

- a) It will be judged as JOGAI if one of the competitors has stepped outside the area line completely with his both feet.
- b) The Main Referee will, after stopping the bout by giving the command “YAME” (stop), the bout becomes “JOGAI”.

HANSOKU (Fouls):

- a) Attacks with techniques using hands or elbows (such as Ken, Shuto, Nukite, Elbow strike, etc.) to the opponent’s face or neck. Attack with the HIJI-UCHI-OROSHI technique to the shoulder or collarbone. Even a slight touch may result in HANSOKU. However, making feints to the face is allowed.
- b) Attacks to groin and lower abdomen.
- c) ZU-TSUKI (Head Bat)
- d) TSUKAMI (Grabbing) (For whatever reason, to grab the opponent’s dogi or to clinch hands with each

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other is not allowed.)

- e) KAKE (Hooking) (Grabbing or hooking the opponent's neck, head, shoulders, etc.)
- f) OSHI (Pushing) (No pushing is allowed with open hands, closed hands or with the body. Basically it will be considered as HANSOKU even if you push only with one hand)
- g) To Attack whilst leaning the head or body against the opponent.
- h) KAKAEKOMI (hugging and holding) (The person who puts his arms around the other one first will be given a foul)
- i) Attacks from the back
- j) To attack an opponent who is already down.
- k) KAKENIGE (run-away attack) (pretending to attack whilst actually running away from the opponent)
- l) KANSETSU-GERI, NAGE-WAZA (throwing the opponent)
- m) Running away by repeating JOGAI (stepping outside area)
- n) Any actions that may be considered as bad attitudes towards the contest
- o) Any other actions that the referees may regard as fouls.

MITOMEZU (No count)

The case where IPPON (one full point), WAZA-ARI (one half point) or HASOKU (fouls), etc. is not approved.

CHUI (warning) & GENTEN (Penalty)

- a) A foul is charged with one warning "CHUI ICHI".
- b) When any action is considered as a deliberate or malicious foul, or when severe damages have occurred from a foul, a GENTEN ICHI (first penalty) may be given to such a foul at the first time.
- c) CHUI NI (two warnings) results in GENTEN ICHI (first penalty), and GENTEN NI (two penalties) results in SHIKKAKU (disqualification).

SHIKKAKU (Disqualification)

The following cases result in SHIKKAKU (Disqualification);

- a) When failing to obey the referee's instructions during the bout.
- b) If being late for a bout or failing to appear.
- c) If facing each other for more than one minute without engaging in fight, this shall be regarded as lacking the will to fight and both competitors shall be disqualified.
- d) Any actions considered as sheer violence, seriously deliberate fouls and deliberate bad attitude towards the competition.
- e) In case of GENTEN-NI (two penalties).
- f) When the total number of TAMESHIWARI is 0 (zero), or when TAMESHIWARI is deliberately given up.

Giving up Competition

Anyone who fails to take part in the bout as scheduled without any good reason shall be fined no more than 150,000 Japanese Yen. The following circumstances are exceptions;

- a) When the Tournament doctor has, after medical examination, made the decision that the competitor can not continue the competition.
- b) In case of any unforeseen misfortune to anyone closely related to the competitor (such as his family members, etc.) which happens immediately before or during the bout, permission to leave the competition area will be given after consultation between the Head Judge and Chairman of the Tournament Executive Committee.

Additional point for CHUI & SHIKKAKU

The competitor who received the HANSOKU attack, must not appeal or exaggerate the HANSOKU attack, in a way that can be seen as unnatural or unrelated to the actual attack. In a case where the appeal action is recognized, the relevant competitor may be given a CHUI ICHI.

TAMESHIWARI (Breaking) RULES

There will be no TAMESHIWARI at the 7th World Karate Championship in Weight Categories in Poland.

Standard Actions of Referees

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Requests to Referees

1. The most important for a referee is to respect the life of the competitors and give it the highest priority during the bout. In case of any accident during the bout, a referee shall have the capacity to stay calm, and to see clearly the situation in order to take quick and appropriate measurements.
2. A referee must not put his own ego in judgments, but must have the capacity to make fair judgments.
3. A referee must give necessary signs and actions clearly and speedily.

KUMITE (fighting)

Opening of Bout

1. Both competitors will be called to enter the competition mat by a tournament staff.
2. The Main Referee shall stand in the center between both competitors, and give the command “SHOMEN NI REI” (Bow to the front), “SHUSHIN NI REI” (Face and bow to the Main Referee), “OTAGAI NI REI” (Face and bow to each other), and after that, the bout will start with the commands “KAMAETE” (take fighting position) and “HAJIME” (start).

During the Bout

1. The corner referees shall show IPPON, WAZA-ARI, HANSOKU and JOGAI by blowing the whistle and showing those judgments with flags. The Main Referee shall give the command “YAME” (stop) and instruct both competitors to go back to their initial positions, and show the judgment result both verbally and physically.
2. The signals to be given by the corner referees both by whistles and flags, and commands and actions to be given by the Main Referee are as follows:

a) IPPON

Corner Referee – Shall raise diagonally upwards the flag of the competitor who got the IPPON, and at the same time shall strongly blow a single, long and loud blast on the whistle.

Main Referee – Shall stop the bout by the command “YAME”, state the color of the raised flags and count them, including himself in the count, state the technique that resulted in IPPON, and raise diagonally upwards his arm on the side of the standing winner, and declare “IPPON”.

b) WAZA-ARI

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Corner Referee – Shall raise horizontally the flag of the competitor who took the WAZA-ARI and blow a single, long and loud blast of the whistle.

Main Referee – Stop the bout by the command “YAME”, state the colors of the raised flags and count them, including himself, state the technique that resulted in WAZA-ARI, and raise the hand of the same side as the winner is standing, horizontally to the side and declare “WAZA-ARI”.

c) **From WAZA-ARI to IPPON**

After the action of WAZA-ARI is made, if the competitor does not stand up within three seconds nor regain his will to fight within three seconds,

Corner Referee – Shall change the flag position from WAZA-ARI position to IPPON position, and at the same time shall blow a loud and long blast on the whistle.

Main Referee - After judgment of the majority of the referees, including himself, shall change to the statement “IPPON”. If only two or less referees give an IPPON, it will not be recognized, and the decision remains “WAZA-ARI.”

d) **HANSOKU**

Corner Referee – Shall wave the flag of the competitor who made a foul, diagonally downwards, and at the same time blow continuously, “pi-pi-pi”, on the whistle.

Main Referee – In case of the foul equal to “CHUI”, after giving the command “YAME”, shall state the color of the waved flag, count the number of the flags, state the action that resulted in HANSOKU, point at the competitor who got the CHUI with the forefinger and shall declare “CHUI ICHI”. The same action should be taken in case of GENTEN ICHI.

(In case of directly giving a GENTEN ICHI or SHIKKAKU at one foul, the Main Referee must consult with the Corner Referees first.)

e) **TSUKAMI-AI, KAKAEKOMI-AI (Grabbing and Clinching each other)**

Corner Referee – Shall wave both flags diagonally downwards, and at the same time shall blow the whistle continuously, with the sound “pi-pi-pi”

Main Referee – Shall stop the bout by giving the command “YAME”, separate both competitors, and start the bout again by the command “ZOKKOU”(continue). Depending on the way of grabbing, both competitors may be given a CHUI ICHI each.

f) **JOGAI (out of bounds)**

Corner Referee – Shall lower the flag diagonally touching the floor of the side which the competitor did JOGAI, and at the same time give whistle blow continuously, sounding “pi,pi,pi”.

Main Referee – Shall immediately give the command “YAME” and bring the competitors back to the center of the mat, and start the bout again with the command “ZOKKOU”.

g) **FUMEI (unclear)**

Corner Referee – Shall cross two flags in front of his face, and blow a single and long blast on the whistle.

Main Referee – Shall let the bout go on without any interruption.

h) **MITOMEZU (no count)**

Corner Referee – Shall cross flags and wave them back and forth and at the same time shall give a single, long whistle blow.

Main Referee – Depending on the situation, he may declare MITOMEZU

i) HANTEI-GACHI (Victory by Decision)

Corner Referee – Shall raise diagonally upwards the flag of the side of the competitor who is considered to be the winner, and at the same time shall give a loud whistle blow.

Main Referee – Shall ask the corner referees for their decision by giving the command “HANTEI O TORIMASU” (take decision), “HANTEI” (decision), declare the color of the winner, count the number of flags including himself, raise his arm diagonally upwards and shall declare the color of the winner. (In case of HIKI-WAKE (draw), the number of flags insufficient for majority decision or raised in favor of the opponent shall also be counted, even if the number is not enough for majority decision.)

j) HIKI-WAKE (draw)

Corner Referee – Shall cross the two flags in front of his knees, and at the same time gives a single and long whistle blow.

Main Referee – Shall count the number of raised flags of respective competitors, cross his arms in front of himself, diagonally downwards, and shall declare “HIKI-WAKE”. (The number of raised flags shall also be counted even if it is not enough for majority decision.)

k) SHIKKAKU (disqualified)

Corner Referee – Especially in seriously deliberate fouls, the corner referee shall request for consultation with the Main Referee.

Main Referee – Shall raise diagonally upwards his arm on the disqualified competitor’s side, and then pointing in the direction out of the competition area and declare “SHIKKAKU”.

3. In case the dogi of the competitor comes into disorder during the bout, the Main Referee may stop the bout, make the competitor go back to their initial positions, and adjust the dogi of the competitor or let him adjust it by himself.

End of Bout

1. In case of IPPON or SHIKKAKU, the Main Referee shall stop the bout and make both competitors face to the front and declare IPPON/SHIKKAKU, then shall give the commands “SHOMEN NI REI” (bow to the front), “SHUSHIN NI REI” (bow to Main Referee), “OTAGAI NI REI” (bow to each other), and instruct the competitors to leave the competition mat.
2. In case of no IPPON nor SHIKKAKU, the Corner Referees shall give the signal for ending the bout, while giving a long and loud whistle blow.

The Main Referee – Shall give the command “YAME” to stop the bout, make both competitors face to the front and request the Corner Referees for their decision by the command “HANTEI O TORIMASU”, “HANTEI”.

Corner Referees – When asked by the Main Referee for “HANTEI”, shall raise diagonally upwards the flag for the considered winner and at the same time give a single, sharp and loud whistle blow. In case the bout is considered to be a draw, shall cross both flags in front of their knees and at the same time gives a loud and sharp whistle blow.

Main Referee – Shall declare the colors of the flags and the number of raised flags including himself, and raise the arm diagonally upwards, declaring the color of the winner’s flag.

(Example 1: “AKA (red) ICHI (1), NI (2) SAN (3), SHI (4) and GO (5), AKA (red)”)

Example 2: “HIKIWAKE ICHI (1), NI (2), AKA ICHI (1), NI (2), SAN (3), “AKA (red)”)

The 7th World Karate Championship in Weight Categories will lose. **However, if he is obviously leading his opponent, there may be possibility for a draw.**

0 \geq Two Warnings (CHUI NI) (GENTEN ICHI)
One Warning \geq Three Warnings (CHUI SAN) (GENTEN NI+CHUI ICHI)
(CHUI ICHI)

- (v) **In case of a difference of three warnings, the one who has got three more warnings will lose, no matter how much he is leading the fight.**

Fighter 1 Fighter 2
0 > Three warnings (GENTEN ICHI + CHUI ICHI)

- (vi) **When one competitor has both WAZA-ARI and CHUI, the competitor will win since WAZA-ARI is basically the strongest. However, depending on the number of warnings and contents, it may be judged as down below:**

- Fighter 1 Fighter 2
a) 0 < Waza-Ari + One Warning
b) 0 < Waza-Ari + Two Warnings (GENTEN ICHI)
c) 0 \leq Waza-Ari + Three Warnings (GENTEN ICHI + CHUI ICHI)

Note: Basically the one holding a Waza-Ari is the winner, but if fighter 1 is leading the fight remarkably, it may be decided as a draw.

- d) 0 > Waza-Ari + Four Warnings (GENTEN NI)
Even if the person has a Waza-Ari, GENTEN NI will result in his disqualification.