



FAQs
Frequently Asked Questions
(June 2020)

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Foreword

The following Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) have been put together to assist with the interpretation of certain WKF regulations, namely the WKF World Ranking Rules, as well as any documentation related to Olympic events.

As the number of individual questions has recently increased, we highly recommend following these steps:

1. Check if the question that you would like to ask can already be answered by any of the documents published on the [WKF website](#).

You can find the most updated version of the WKF Competition and Ranking Rules [here](#).

In addition, all documentation related to Tokyo 2020 can be found in the section dedicated to [Olympic events](#).

2. Contact your National Federation, indicating your question clearly.

Should your National Federation need further assistance to answer your question, then your National Federation can always address an [e-mail](#) to the WKF.

Please note that emails from individuals will not be answered.

Enclosed, you will know find a list of the most Frequently Asked Questions received from different National Federations along with the corresponding answers.

World Ranking Rules

1. Can points be merged between age categories?

No, points can only be awarded to athletes **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.**

2. Can points be transferred from U21 Kumite into Senior Kumite?

No, points cannot be transferred from U21 Kumite to Senior Kumite.

3. As one of the best Kumite Junior athletes this year, will my points be reset to zero when I turn 18?

No, 50% of the points you obtained as a Junior athlete will be transferred to the corresponding Senior category and will remain on your Senior profile for the duration of one year.

4. How and when are points transferred between age categories?

When an athlete changes category, from either:

- Cadet Kumite to Junior Kumite
- Junior Kumite to Senior Kumite
- Cadet Kata to Senior Kata
- Cadet Kata to Junior Kata

50% of those points obtained in the Cadet/Junior Kumite or Cadet Kata category respectively, will be dragged into the Junior/Senior category of WKF World Ranking. This will occur on the first day of the month **after** the athlete has turned 16 or 18 years old and these dragged points will remain on the athlete's profile for one year.

With regards to the transition between the different weight categories in Kumite, the system automatically drags these points across as follows:

Junior to Senior

MALE CATEGORIES		FEMALE CATEGORIES	
Junior	Senior	Junior	Senior
-55 kg	-60 kg	-48 kg	-50 kg
-61 kg	-67 kg	-53 kg	-55 kg
-68 kg	-75 kg	-59 kg	-61 kg
-76 kg	-84 kg	+59 kg	-68 kg
+76 kg	+84 kg	Manual request	+68 kg

Cadet to Junior

MALE CATEGORIES		FEMALE CATEGORIES	
Cadet	Junior	Cadet	Junior
-52kg	-55 kg	-47 kg	-48 kg
-57 kg	-61 kg	-54 kg	-53 kg
-63 kg	-68 kg	+54 kg	-59 kg
-70 kg	-76 kg	Manual request	+59 kg
+70 kg	+76 kg		

In either of these two cases, if an athlete has competed in two different Junior or Cadet weight categories, the transition of 50% of the points will be done category by category. For example:

- 500 points obtained in Male Junior -61 kg → 250 points in Male Senior -60 kg
- 250 points obtained in Male Junior -68 kg → 125 points in Male Senior -67 kg
- 300 points obtained in Female Cadet -47kg → 150 points in Female Junior -48 kg
- 75 points obtained in Female Cadet -54kg → 35.7 points in Female Junior -53 kg

If after the automatic transition, specific changes to weight categories are required, the National Federation to which the athlete belongs can proceed with an official request addressed to wkf@wkf.net. In these cases, points will only be updated in the system on the first day of the month after the request has been received.

5. What happens if I have competed in two different Junior weight categories? How are points transferred, especially if I am only going to compete in one Senior weight category?

If a Junior athlete has competed in two different Junior weight categories, 50% of the points from each of the categories are transferred into each corresponding Senior category. Points are never accumulated from both Junior categories into one Senior weight category. However, if an athlete confirms their Senior weight category, following an official request addressed to

wkf@wkf.net, the greater number of the two sets of transition points can be transferred to the confirmed Senior weight category.

For example, Athlete X has been competing in both Female Junior -59kg and +59kg. 50% of her Junior points (75) in -59kg are transitioned into Senior -61kg and 50% of her Junior points (457.5) in +59kg are transitioned into Senior -68kg.

We cannot accumulate these transition points, but, as she has officially confirmed in writing, via her National Federation, that her Senior category will be -61kg and she hasn't yet competed in any other Senior weight category, we can transition her greater number of transition points (457.5) into her Senior -61kg category.

6. How does registration for the Premier League work?

Premier League registration is determined by an athlete's position on the WKF World Rankings the day on which registration opens for that event.

For example, after the World Ranking update on 1st May, Athlete X's new points now position her within the top 200 athletes in her category. Can she now register for this month's Premier League?

No, as the registration period for this Premier League opened on 8th April, the positions on the WKF World Rankings on that day determine which athletes can register. As her name was not within the top 200 athletes in her category on 8th April, she is not eligible to register for this event.

7. Can I use my transition points to register for a Senior event if I turn 18 the same month that its registration period opens?

For those Junior athletes who would like to participate in a Senior event, where the registration period opens during the same month that the athlete turns 18, three months written notice must be given to the WKF.

8. Why have additional points now been introduced to those pool quarter-finalists who do not make it through to the final or repechage?

An additional 20 points will now be awarded to those athletes who make it as far as the pool quarter finals, but who lose at this stage and do not make it through to the repechage. These

“progression” points have been introduced to reward those athletes who get as far as the pool quarter finals and when considering the pools alone, these athletes would technically be in 7th place – thus, 20 points (based on place points).

NOTE – this will not be introduced at Senior events until after the Tokyo Olympic Games.

Olympic Games - Tokyo 2020

1. Which WKF events count towards the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing?

Only points obtained at the following events count towards the “Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing”:

2018

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
10-14 July	AKF Senior Championships	Amman (Jordan)
31 August - 2 September	UFAK Senior Championships	Kigali (Rwanda)
14-16 September	Premier League	Berlin (Germany)
20-23 September	Series A	Santiago (Chile)
12-14 October	Premier League	Tokyo (Japan)
6-11 November	WKF Senior World Championships	Madrid (Spain)
7-9 December	Series A	Shanghai (China)

2019

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
25-27 January	Premier League	Paris (France)
15-17 February	Premier League	Dubai (UAE)
2-4 March	Series A	Salzburg (Austria)
18-23 March	PKF Senior Championships	Panama (Panama)
28-31 March	EKF Senior Championships	Guadalajara (Spain)
11-12 April	OKF Senior Championships	Sydney (Australia)
19-21 April	Premier League	Rabat (Morocco)
17-19 May	Series A	Istanbul (Turkey)
7-9 June	Premier League	Shanghai (China)
21-23 June	Series A	Montreal (Canada)
15-21 July	AKF Senior Championships	Tashkent (Uzbekistan)
16-18 August	UFAK Senior Championships	Gaborone (Botswana)
6-8 September	Premier League	Tokyo (Japan)
20-22 September	Series A	Santiago (Chile)
4-6 October	Premier League	Moscow (Russia)
29-30 November - 1 December	Premier League	Madrid (Spain)

2020

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
10-12 January	Series A	Santiago (Chile)
24-26 January	Premier League	Paris (France)
7-9 February	UFAK Senior Championships	Tangier (Morocco)
14-16 February	Premier League	Dubai (UAE)
28 February - 1 March	Premier League	Salzburg (Austria)

2021

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
9-11 April	Premier League	Rabat (Morocco)
12-16 May	EKF Senior Championships	Gothenburg (Sweden)

NOTE

- *The above events scheduled for 2021 are replacing events that could not take place in 2020 due to the outbreak of COVID-19. Confirmation of the above events will be made in the last quarter of 2020 when the Official WKF Sports Activities Calendar for 2021 will be approved and duly communicated.*
- *Only points obtained at the last Continental Championships within the qualification period will count towards the Olympic Standing.*

2. When was the first Olympic Standing for Tokyo 2020 released?

The Olympic Standing for Tokyo 2020 started from zero on 1st July 2018.

3. How often is the Olympic Standing for Tokyo 2020 updated?

As like the WKF World Ranking, the Olympic Standing currently updates on the first day of each calendar month. From 1st January 2020, the Olympic Standing will update after every WKF Official Event.

4. Why are the first 4 quota places via the Olympic Standing awarded by rank?

Quota places are awarded by rank during the first stage of qualification given that, in some Olympic categories, two WKF categories have been merged together. Therefore, allocating quota based on the final ranking per WKF category allows for equal opportunity in both merged WKF categories. Rank is also important given that NOCs are limited to one participant per Olympic category. In the example below, two athletes from the same NOC are within the top 4 (each from a different WKF category) - the best positioned athlete (with the most points) would not receive the quota place because he is ranked second in his WKF category, whereas the other athlete (with less points) is ranked first in his WKF category and therefore, receives the quota place.

MALE -67KG							
STANDING	NAME	WKF ID	COUNTRY	CONTINENT	WORLD RANK	CATEGORY	TOTAL POINTS
1	Athlete1	BEL1	BEL	EKF	1	M-60kg	5000
2	Athlete2	AUS1	AUS	OKF	2	M-60kg	4500
3	Athlete3	AUS2	AUS	OKF	1	M-67kg	4300
4	Athlete4	PAN1	PAN	PKF	2	M-67kg	4200
5	Athlete5	TPE1	TPE	AKF		M-60kg	4000

The term "positioned" is used in the other qualification phases because allocation then does not differentiated between WKF categories where they have been merged into one Olympic category - the quota place just goes to next highest positioned athlete on the Olympic Standing, irrespective of their WKF category.

5. Are points awarded for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing at Continental Games?

Points are not awarded at Continental Games and therefore do not determine positions on the Olympic Standing.

6. Are Continental Games part of the Qualification System for Tokyo 2020?

The following Continental Games are part of the Qualification System for Tokyo 2020 as defined under Continental Representation:

European Games 2019, Minsk (Belarus) 21st – 30th June

Pan-American Games 2019, Lima (Peru) 26th July – 11th August

7. How does qualification by Continental Representation work?

At this stage of qualification, a total of twelve (12) quota places will be available, always respecting the maximum of ten (10) qualification places per gender per event.

The quota places available to each continent are as follows:

Continental Federation	Acronym	Number of quota places
African Karate Federation	UFAK	3 (at least 2 different NOCs)
Asian Karate Federation	AKF	2
European Karate Federation	EKF	2
Oceania Karate Federation	OKF	2
Pan-American Karate Federation	PKF	3 (at least 2 different NOCs)

The following sequence will be applied for the allocation of quota:

- Selection 1 - OKF: 2 athletes (one per gender)
- Selection 2 - UFAK: 2 athletes (one per gender)
- Selection 3 - PKF: 2 athletes (one per gender)
- Selection 4 - AKF: 2 athletes (one per gender)
- Selection 5 - EKF: 2 athletes (one per gender)
- Selection 6 - UFAK: 1 athlete (man or woman)
- Selection 7 - PKF: 1 athlete (man or woman depending on Selection 6)

The following Continental Games will serve as qualification events for the above quota:

- European Games, 14th-30th June 2019, Minsk (Belarus)
- Pan-American Games, 26th July-11th August 2019, Lima (Peru)

The highest positioned male and female athlete, among all gold medalists across all events at each of the Continental Games, on the Olympic Standing as of May 2021, not yet qualified through the Olympic Standing or the Qualification Tournament, will obtain one (1) quota place each, respecting the maximum quota per NOC.

In the event that all gold medalists are already qualified but the quota per continent has not been filled, then the place will be allocated to the next best positioned silver medalist from the Continental Games. The process will be continued down to the bronze medalists. Should the place still be available after bronze medalists, then the allocation will be based on Olympic Standing as of May 2021, respecting the maximum quota per NOC.

If Continental Games are not approved as a qualification event for a specific continent, then the highest positioned athlete not yet qualified on the Olympic Standing as of May 2021 from

that specific continent, will obtain the quota place, respecting the maximum quota per NOC.

The process to resolve any ties in Continental Representation can be found in the WKF [World Ranking Rules](#).

8. Why are all the points I obtained at a Karate1 event last year not fully displayed on the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing?

Points obtained at those Karate1 events taking place between the start of the qualification period (1st July 2018) and the final stage of qualification (from 6th April 2019) will be automatically decayed by 50%.

Unlike the World Ranking, where after a 12-month period, points are then decayed by 50%, for the Olympic Standing, all points on display will always be final.

As such, the Olympic Standing will always show the most accurate picture of Olympic qualification possibilities, so as to avoid any ulterior shifts in positions.

For the World Senior Championships 2018 and for the last Senior Continental Championships held within the qualification period, no points decay will be applicable.

Alternatively, points may not be displayed if you have a duplicate profile, having registered at a competition with a different WKF ID. In such cases, an online request can be made to merge points from multiple profiles onto the same WKF ID.

9. What happens if there is more than one Senior Continental Championships during the qualification period? Do they both count towards the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standings?

No, only the last Senior Continental Championship held within the qualification period is taken into account for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing.

Should more than one Senior Continental Championships be held in a particular continent during the qualification period, all results from previous Continental Championship will be replaced by the results obtained in the last.

In this way, if an athlete does not participate in the last Senior Continental Championships held within the qualification period, any points obtained at a previous Continental Championship held within the qualification period will still be deleted.

10. Why are my transition points not included in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standings?

The purpose of transition points is to give those athletes who have just turned 18 easier access to Senior competitions. The Tokyo 2020 Olympic Standing only takes points obtained in Senior competitions into account. Therefore, no transition points obtained in Junior Kumite or Cadet Kata competitions will be considered.

11. How does the reallocation of quota work in the case of injury?

The procedure of reallocation of quota in case of injury is the following:

(1) Before the Sport Entries Deadline – DATE TBC

Any allocated quota by name which remains unused by a NOC in case of injury, will go straight back to the WKF for reallocation, in accordance with the Qualification System in force.

(2) After the Sport Entries Deadline – DATE TBC

Given that the Late Athlete Replacement policy does not apply to Karate because quota is allocated by name, reallocation will follow the same principle as described above.

(3) Less than 48 hours before the start of competition

No athlete replacements will be allowed. In the event that there are less than 8 competitors, the rules defined by ORIS for this scenario, will be applicable.

NOTE: The same reallocation procedure will be applicable in the event of doping.

12. Why do I appear under a different weight category in the Olympic Standings?

At the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, there will be a total of six Kumite weight categories (3 male and 3 female). For this reason, in the following four cases (Female -55kg and +61kg as well as Male -67kg and +75kg), as indicated in the tables below, two WKF Kumite categories have been combined into a single Olympic weight category:

<u>WKF Senior</u> <u>Categories</u>	<u>Olympic Games</u> <u>Categories</u>	<u>WKF Senior</u> <u>Categories</u>	<u>Olympic Games</u> <u>Categories</u>
Women		Men	
-50kg	-55kg	-60kg	-67kg
-55kg		-67kg	
-61kg	-61kg	-75kg	-75kg
-68kg		-84kg	
+68kg	+61kg	+84kg	+75kg

13. What happens if I have competed in both WKF weight categories merged for Olympic purposes, during the qualification period?

During the first phase of qualification (Qualification by Olympic Standing), all those athletes who have competed in both WKF weight categories merged for Olympic purposes will appear twice, with their points separately indicated and corresponding to each individual WKF weight category, on the relevant Olympic Standing.

Following qualification by Olympic Standing and the Qualification Tournament in Paris, points from both WKF weight categories are then accumulated for the third phase of qualification (Qualification by Continental Representation).

14. What will be the format for the Kumite competition at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games?

The competition system used for Kumite at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games of Tokyo 2020 will be a Round Robin system and is described under Appendix 14 of the [WKF Competition Rules](#).

15. What will be the format of the Kata competition at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games?

The competition system used for Kata at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games of Tokyo 2020 will be as described under Appendix 15 of the [WKF Competition Rules](#).

16. Will the pools at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games be seeded?

Yes, the Kumite and Kata pools will be seeded as follows:

Pool A → athletes positioned 1st and 4th on the Olympic Standing, as per May 2021.

Pool B → athletes positioned 2nd and 3rd on the Olympic Standing, as per May 2021.

Where two WKF Kumite weight categories have been merged for Olympic purposes, the seeding in each pool will be as per the example below:

Olympic Weight Category: Male -67kg	
Pool A	Pool B
WKF weight category -60kg #1	WKF weight category -67kg #1
WKF weight category -67kg #2	WKF weight category -60kg #2

17. What is the coach level required to participate at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games?

In order to be eligible to participate at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, coaches must have the “Certified Kumite Coach” or “Certified Kata Coach” license, at the time of registration in the Tokyo 2020 Entries System.