



**Australian Karate Federation  
Rules of the National and State  
Referee Commissions**

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### **Mission**

To ensure that all AKF Officials allow no unfair advantage to any competitor in accordance with WKF Rules.

### **Structure**

#### **NRC Composition**

The NRC is made up 5-7 member positions including that of NRC chairperson.

#### **NRC Selection**

The selection process is conducted by the Executive Committee of the AKF on a four yearly basis. Suitably qualified persons are invited to submit an expression of interest for an NRC position. Expressions of interest will be considered and appointed by the Executive Committee.

#### **NRC Qualifications**

To be considered for an NRC position candidates must hold a minimum international (WKF/OKF) qualification in both Kata and Kumite. The chairperson must hold a minimum WKF Referee licence. NRC members must also be a member of an AKF organisation.

#### **State RC Composition**

SRC Chairperson must hold a minimum OKF qualification in both Kata and Kumite.

SRC members must have minimum National qualification in both Kata and Kumite.

## **Accountabilities**

### **NRC Accountabilities**

- Abide by AKF code of ethics and behaviour
- Conduct NRC meetings prior to National level events
- Conduct an annual meeting for NRC & SRCs
- Review and maintain Referee & Judge policies and procedures
- Maintain a current national level register of qualified Referees and Judges
- Provide a high standard of seminar based education and development to ensure advancement of referee and judge capability and knowledge
- Ensure rules and policies are adhered to by SRCs
- Examine and accredit applicants for upgrades to national level.
- Ensure international applicant adhere to the NRCs criteria for international upgrade.

### **SRC Accountabilities**

- SRC must follow policies and procedures of the NRC
- Maintain and provide a list of all active judges, referees and table official to the NRC secretary by 30 June each year.
- Prepare annual report for NRC/SRC annual meeting.
- Follow and use NRC Kata and Kumite power point examination and adhere to prescribed pass mark as outlined by NRC.

## **OFFICIALS CODE OF ETHICS & BEHAVIOUR**

- Act honestly and with the utmost integrity, showing neither unfair bias nor undue harshness to any competitor regardless of Nation, State, Style or Origin, age or gender.
- Be consistent, objective and courteous to athletes, coaches and other officials, both on and off the competition area.
- Maintain objectivity in dealing with all athletes and ensure that no competitor receives an unfair advantage in any decision through personal relationship with the official.
- Ensure that behaviour is both decorous and sportsmanlike at all times whilst in official dress representing the Federation
- Maintain a level of technical expertise sufficient to ensure accreditation appropriate to the position held within the A.K.F. Regularly attend clinics and seminars to ensure personal and professional development is maintained.
- Ensure that the competitors in his/her charge comply with the compulsory safety equipment standards and that the competition area is devoid of hazards.
- Ensure that in the case of junior competitors that any modified rules of competition are strictly adhered to.
- Support and encourage the ideal of good sportsmanship at all times.
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- AKF accredited referees and judges are not permitted to officiate in official AKF uniform at non-endorsed/sanctioned local, state or national events. Participation at such events in AKF uniform will result in the suspension of that official's AKF license.

## **Commendations**

- For 10years of service officials will receive an AKF pin.
- Awards will be presented at the Annual AKF referee dinner at the national Championships.

## **Referee Courses and Exams**

### **National**

The NRC will conduct no less than two referee seminars per year. These will be held prior to the Australian Open Championships and the National Championships. The venue for such course should have sufficient seating for 50 people, have access to a data projector and services such as tea/coffee etc.

The NRC will devise the questions for national and state exams. These exams will be conducted by PowerPoint presentation.

The NRC secretary will circulate application forms to all national licenced members and the state secretary's' no later than one month prior to the seminar date.

The NRC secretary will also arrange Badges, Ties and Certificate for applicants.

Kata examination procedures:

- a) First part; theory questions, candidates will pass this part by having met the requirements as set by the NRC Exam paper.
- b) Second part; technical part with Karate Gi, the candidates have to perform one Kata and answer the questions concerning Kata performance.
- c) Third part; practical during the Championship as a Kata Judge.

The final examination result will be the summation of the three parts and those achieving or exceeding the pass mark will receive their respective qualifications.

Kumite examination procedures:

- a) First part; theory questions, candidates will pass this part by having met the required pass mark as set out by the NRC.
- b) Second part; practical during the competition, each Judge candidate will be evaluated at least two times as a Judge and at least one time as a Referee. The final examination result will be the summation of both parts and those achieving or exceeding the pass mark will receive their respective qualifications.

## **Referee & Judge Accreditation Policy**

### **KUMITE ACCREDITATION**

#### **STATE JUDGE – ‘B’**

1. 15 years of age or over
2. 1st Kyu or higher.
3. Pass the theory and practical tests prescribed by the National Referee Commission
4. Officials under 18yrs may only officiate children, cadet and junior divisions. Officials under 16yrs may only officiate children and cadet divisions.

#### **STATE JUDGE – ‘A’**

1. 16 years of age or over
2. 1st Kyu or higher.
3. Complete 2 A.K.F state endorsed tournaments
4. Pass the theory and practical tests prescribed by the N.R.C.
5. Officials under 18yrs may only officiate children, cadet and junior divisions.

#### **STATE REFEREE – ‘B’**

1. 17 years of age or over
2. 1<sup>st</sup> Dan or higher.
3. Complete 2 A.K.F state endorsed tournaments.
4. Pass the theory and practical tests prescribed by the N.R.C.
5. Officials under 18yrs may only officiate children, cadet and junior divisions.

#### **STATE REFEREE – ‘A’**

1. 18 years of age or over
2. 1<sup>st</sup> Dan or higher.
3. Complete 2 A.K.F state endorsed tournaments.
4. Pass the theory and practical tests prescribed by the N.R.C..

If age appropriate ‘A / B’ grade Referee/Judge to be determined by the SRC  
S.R.C Chairman must be on panel for upgrading or a nominated representative from the NRC.  
A minimum of 12 months is required between all state and national upgrades

NATIONAL JUDGE – ‘B’

1. 19yrs of age or over
2. 1<sup>st</sup> Dan or higher
3. Complete 3 A.K.F state or 1 national endorsed tournaments
4. Attain endorsement from the SRC
5. Pass the theory and practical tests prescribed by the National Referee Commission.

NATIONAL JUDGE – ‘A’

1. 19yrs of age or over
2. 1st Dan or higher
3. Complete 3 A.K.F state or 1 national endorsed tournaments
4. Attain endorsement from the SRC
5. Pass the theory and practical tests prescribed by the National Referee Commission.

NATIONAL REFEREE – ‘B’

1. 20yrs of age or over
2. 1st Dan or higher
3. Complete 3 A.K.F state or 1 national endorsed tournaments
4. Attain endorsement from the SRC
5. Pass the theory and practical tests prescribed by the National Referee Commission.

NATIONAL REFEREE – ‘A’

20yrs of age or over

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Dan or higher
2. Complete 3 A.K.F state or 1 national endorsed tournaments
3. Attain endorsement from the SRC
4. Pass the theory and practical tests prescribed by the National Referee Commission.

If age appropriate ‘A / B’ grade Referee/Judge to be determined by the NRC.

N.R.C Chairman must be on panel for upgrading or a nominated representative from the NRC.

A minimum of 12 months is required between all state and national upgrades

## KATA ACCREDITATION

### STATE KATA JUDGE 'C'

1. 15 years of age or over
2. 1st Kyu or higher.
3. Pass the theory and practical tests prescribed by the National Referee Commission
4. Perform a kata and answer relevant questions.
5. Judge C's may only officiate up to quarter finals (subject to the discretion of the Tatami Manager)
6. Officials under 18yrs may only officiate children, cadet and junior divisions. Officials under 16yrs may only officiate children and cadet divisions.

### STATE KATA JUDGE 'B'

1. 17 years of age or over
2. 1st Dan or higher.
3. Complete 2 A.K.F state endorsed tournaments
4. Pass the theory and practical tests prescribed by the National Referee Commission
5. Perform a kata and answer relevant questions
6. Officials under 18yrs may only officiate children, cadet and junior divisions.

### STATE KATA JUDGE 'A'

1. 18 years of age or over
2. 1st Dan or higher.
3. Complete 2 A.K.F state endorsed tournaments
4. Pass the theory and practical tests prescribed by the National Referee Commission
5. Perform a kata and answer relevant questions

If age appropriate B / C grade State Judge to be determined by the SRC.

S.R.C Chairman must be on panel for upgrading or a nominated representative from the NRC.

A minimum of 12 months is required between all state and national upgrades

### NATIONAL KATA JUDGE – 'B'

1. 19 years of age or over
2. 1st Dan or higher.
3. Complete 2 A.K.F state endorsed tournaments
4. Attain endorsement from the SRC
5. Pass the theory and practical tests prescribed by the National Referee Commission
6. Perform a kata and answer relevant questions

### NATIONAL KATA JUDGE – 'A'

1. 20 years of age or over
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan or higher.
3. Complete 1 A.K.F national endorsed tournament or 3 state endorsed tournaments
4. Attain endorsement from the SRC
5. Pass the theory and practical tests prescribed by the National Referee Commission
6. Perform a kata and answer relevant questions

N.R.C Chairman must be on panel for upgrading or a nominated representative from the NRC.

A minimum of 12 months is required between all state and national upgrades



## **ATTENDANCE AT CHAMPIONSHIPS & SEMINARS**

### **STATE**

1. State officials must attend a minimum of one State endorsed event per year to maintain accreditation.
2. State officials must attend a minimum of one State seminar every year.
3. Officials not meeting the minimum requirements will need to resit the relevant theory and practical tests at the next seminar.

### **NATIONAL**

1. National officials must attend a minimum of one National AKF endorsed event every two years as well as the specified minimum State level endorsed championships to maintain accreditation.
2. National officials must attend a minimum of one National seminar every two years.
3. National officials must pass theory examination as set by the NRC every two years to maintain accreditation.
4. Officials not meeting the minimum requirements will need to resit the relevant theory and practical tests at the next seminar and will not be eligible to upgrade until they pass the exam.

### **INTERNATIONAL Championships**

1. To attend International events accredited officials must attend the most recent Australian Open and National Championships and have prior endorsement by the NRC.
2. Officials not meeting minimum requirements will follow the procedures set down by the relevant International RC.

### **Oceania Upgrades**

In order to be considered for OKF upgrade or endorsement the NRC wishes to communicate the following prerequisites.

#### Kumite

1. AKF "A" Licence in Kata & Kumite
2. Participation at the most recent Australian Open
3. Participation at the most recent National championships

#### Kata

1. AKF "A" Licence in Kata & Kumite
2. Participation at the most recent Australian Open
3. Participation at the most recent National Championships

All nominations to be forwarded NRC Secretary 30 days prior to the event and addressed to the NRC Chairman. Criteria obviously, that prior support is gained from the relevant RSA Referees Council.

### **WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

In order to be considered for WKF upgrade or endorsement the NRC wishes to communicate the following prerequisites.

#### Kumite

1. OKF Referee A Licence
2. Participation at the most recent Australian Open
3. Participation at the most recent National championships
4. Consideration will also be given to participation at recognised international events.

#### Kata

1. OKF Kata Judge A License
2. Participation at the most recent Australian Open
3. Participation at the most recent National Championships
4. Consideration will also be given to participation at recognised international events.
5. Practical assessment at National Championships i.e. Performance of two kata.

All nominations to be forwarded 10 days prior to Nationals and addressed to the NRC Chairman. Criteria obviously, that prior support is gained from the relevant RSA Referees Council.

## **AKF Guidelines for Competition**

### **Children's Kata**

Please see list of compulsory kata

### **Kata**

If due to inefficient numbers of officials the RC may use a three kata Judge system using the WKF Judge 1,3 and 4 seats to judge the competition.

### **Children's Kumite**

Cadet rules will be applied to all Children's Kumite divisions within the Australian Karate Federation.

## **Kumite (Mirror System)**

If due to inefficient number the mirror system will be use as follows.

### **THE REFEREE PANEL**

The Referee Panel shall consist of one Match Supervisor (Kansa), one Referee (Shushin) and one Judge (Fukushin).

### **POSITIONS**

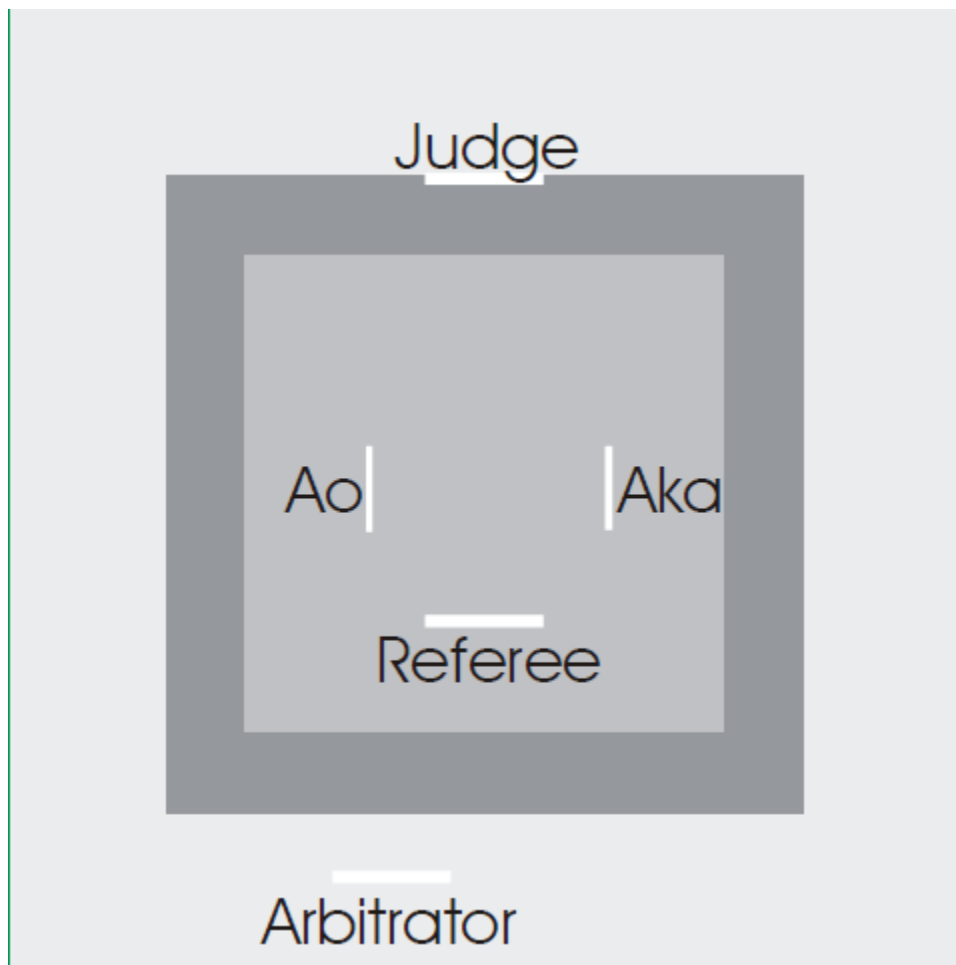
1. Before the start of a Kumite match, the Panel will line up at the edge of the match area as follows; the
2. Referee stands in the middle, on his left stands the Judge, and on his right the Match Supervisor. After the bow they will go directly to their places.
3. The Judge will be free to move within an area as shown in the diagram.
4. The Match Supervisor will be seated just outside the safety area, behind, and to the left or right of the Referee. He will be equipped with a red flag and whistle.

### **MIRROR SYSTEM PROCEDURES**

1. There will be no verbal communication between the Referee and the Judge during the bout; all communication is by gesture. The sole exception is when Shikkaku is called for.
2. The Referee shall give all commands and make all announcements.
3. When the bout is halted, and the referee and judge are in agreement the decision is given immediately.
4. When the Judge indicates a score (by discreet gesture) the referee will consider his opinion but may decline to stop the bout if he believes him to be mistaken.
5. When the Referee signals a score for a contestant and the judge signals a score for the opponent, The referee will award both scores in turn.
6. Should the Referee indicate and the Judge declines to indicate the Match Supervisor will be consulted. ( and Vica Versa)
7. Should the referee indication and the judges indication be different the Match Supervisor will be consulted. ( except as in #5)
8. When a bout ends with equal scores, or no scores, the decision will be made by Hantei. The Referee will call "Hantei" the Referee, Judge and Match Supervisor will all stand and on the referee wistle indicate a vote by raise their arm on the side of the preferred contestant with the most votes will be the winner.

### Match Supervisor

The role of the Match Supervisor is to ensure that the match or bout is conducted in accordance with the Rules of Competition. He has no vote, except in the case of were the referee/ judge has indicated and the mirror has failed to support the match supervisor may support or not support by discreet gesture. At the end of an inconclusive bout the Match supervisor will stand and vote by raising their arm on the side of the preferred contestant.



### Judge signals for mirror system

#### Points

##### 1 Point



##### 2 Points



##### 3 Points



#### Warnings

##### Category 1



##### Category 2

