



WORLD KARATE FEDERATION

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

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR WKF COACHES

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CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR COACHES FUNCTIONING AT WORLD KARATE FEDERATION EVENTS

1. Scope

These regulations pertain to coaches participating in official WKF events, and any other event directly sanctioned by the WKF. The function of this program is to establish a standard rather than being a fully fledged training program. The primary education of coaches will remain within the National Federations; much in the same manner as it functions today for the education of referees.

2. Application

The WKF Technical Commission is responsible for the implementation of these regulations. Any revision, change or exceptions to these rules are subject to the decision of the WKF Executive Committee.

3. Description

- 3.1 All coaches of athletes representing WKF National Federations must sign the “Accreditation Agreement for Coaches” in order to be functioning at WKF sanctioned events. The signed agreement is retained by the WKF Technical commission. Record of any dismissed protest by the coach and any sanction against the coach and his/her administered athletes.
- 3.2 The “**Accreditation Agreement for Coaches**” is both a basic work description for the coach function and the coach’s personal agreement and commitment to the standards set forth in the agreement. The signature of the Accreditation Agreement for Coaches is a requirement for holding a valid accreditation as a coach at a WKF event.
- 3.3 The Certification Program for Coaches is divided into three different levels:
 - An “**Accredited Coach**” is simply a coach that has been designated by his/her National Federation for this role, has signed off the Accreditation Agreement for Coaches, and has attended a compulsory coach briefing for accreditation. This briefing will take the candidates through the elements of the Accreditation Agreement for Coaches, the WKF rules for protests and the WKF doping regulations. No formal test is required at this level.
The “Accredited Coach” is the minimum level required to take part in the Karate 1 events.*
 - The second level, “**Certified Kumite Coach**” or “**Certified Kata Coach**”, requires the function as a coach on an international level, and passing a formal test on the rules for either Kumite or Kata (as applicable). In order to apply for the test, the applicant must have his/her Federation sign up the applicant for the test. By applying the

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National Federation certifies that the applicant has been functioning as coach for national team member(s). If the applicant passes the written exam, a diploma will be issued to the applicant with an expiry period of three years. After three years the applicant must repeat the written exam for re-certification.

The “*Certified Kumite or Kata Coach*” is the minimum level required to take part in the World Championships, whether Senior or Junior & Cadet and U21, in Kumite or Kata bouts, as it corresponds.*

- The third level, “***Certified Karate Coach***” may be awarded to coaches who have completed both the “*Certified Kumite Coach*” and “*Certified Kata Coach*” requirements, has served as a coach at WKF events for at least five years, does not have multiple rejected protests over the last two years, and has no record of breach of the Accreditation Agreement for Coaches for a period of five years. The Executive Committee will be able to make reasoned exceptions and also award directly this “***Certified Karate Coach***” level in special cases.

- 3.4 The WKF Technical Commission shall withhold the diploma from any applicant having issued multiple invalid protests within the last two years, or having any disciplinary sanction held against him/her by the WKF for the same period of time. In such cases the Technical Commission shall refer the case to the Executive Committee with their recommendation for solution.
- 3.5 The WKF Technical Commission may revoke or suspend a certification at any time for any breach of the Accreditation Agreement for Coaches. Any such action must be recorded on the back of the person’s signed Accreditation Agreement for Coaches by a representative of the Technical Commission. Any coach, previously accredited, or certified, having the accreditation removed, must pass the applicable briefing for certified accredited coach and/or written examination for certified kumite or kata coach in order to be eligible for re-certification, regardless if any exam has been passed before. A coach of previous accredited status, being re-instated as accredited, will not automatically obtain certified status by passing the written exam.
- 3.6 The Technical Commission, may upon instruction of the Executive Committee or at their own discretion, award certifications to known experienced coaches without formal testing provided that the candidate signs the Accreditation Agreement for Coaches, has the required experience for the certification and no disciplinary record with WKF.

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4. Overview of Coach Diplomas issued by WKF

LEVEL 1	ACCREDITED COACH
	Must have signed accreditation agreement
	Must attend a coach briefing on general coaching topics
	Must attend the briefing every three years for renewal if not have a higher level
	Must be accredited by national federation as coach
LEVEL 2	CERTIFIED KUMITE OR KATA COACH
	To be renewed every three years
	Must have passed theory exam for kumite/kata rules
	Coaching in world and/or continental championships without breach of accreditation agreement