



2nd SOUTHERN AFRICA WUKF OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

COMPETITION ARRANGEMENTS AND ADJUSTED RULES

COMPETITION APPOINTMENTS

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| Tournament Director = | Willem Burger |
| Chief Referees = | Willem Burger and Alta Venter |
| Referee Commission = | Willem Burger; Georg Schurz; Bernd Grahl; Hendré Beukes |

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT DEADLINE

Wednesday 24 September 2025 11.59pm SAST

FEES

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| First Category | = N\$300 |
| Second Category | = N\$300 |
| Additional Categories | = N\$150 |
| Teams | = N\$150 per team member per category |

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday – 9 October 2025

- Welcoming of Federation Heads and dignitaries

Friday – 10 October 2025

- Registration confirmation
- Referee course and examination
- Coaches meeting
- Federation Heads and Dignitaries dinner

Saturday – 11 October 2025

- Opening Ceremony – Official march-on
- All Kata events
- All Kumite events

ONE NEW CATEGORY WILL BE INTRODUCED: NOODLE SANBON KUMITE

What is Noodle Sanbon Kumite

Noodle Sanbon Kumite is kumite using noodles instead of gloves. Noodle Sanbon Kumite is kumite adjusted for Karate Kids and Grades below 8th Kyu. A pool noodle is cut (30 cm) into 2 red (aka) and two white (shiro) pieces. Karateka do kumite holding these pieces in their hands. Karateka compete for Ippons and Wazaris **using Sanbon kumite rules**. Only adjustment to the rules is that **any kick, chudan or jodan**, scores an ippon. Time of each bout is 1 minute and 30 seconds.

Who may compete in this division

- Children 4 – 9 years may compete in this event.
- 10Kyu – 9th Kyu – Karateka who are not comfortable doing Nihon or Sanbon kumite, may do this event

ADJUSTED RULES

We have adjusted some of the WUKF rules to be more aligned with the Southern Africa socio-economic conditions. Here is a summary of the rules with emphasis on the most important rules that must be complied to.

Compulsory for 2nd Southern Africa WUKF Open Championship

- Mitts for all Kumite categories. Competitors must use bubble mitts, with or without thumb protector.
- For Junior, Senior and Veteran elite (red, which is after purple, brown and black belt) categories: the competitors must have the correct colour mitts, depending on being Aka or Shiro. The rest will only be required to have one pair of mitts (red or white).
- Gum shields must be worn for all Kumite. Except when a child wears a helmet. Gum shields may be any colour (preferably white or clear), except red.
- White or red belts for Kumite, according to side. A limited number of belts will be provided, please do not remove them from the floor. Correct length would not be guaranteed.
- As far as possible, competitors in Elite categories should strive to wear the correct Karate-Gi and belt length, to set an example to younger competitors.
- Only White Karate-Gi are allowed. Black is permitted for Kobudo.
- Kalava or maui (sacred red-yellow cotton thread tied on wrist) must be covered/taped to prevent injury.

NO CONTACT ALLOWED TO THE HEAD, NECK OR THROAT FOR NIHON KUMITE WHEN NO HELMET IS WORN.

Optional for the 2nd Southern Africa WUKF Open Championship

- Body protectors (Children Nihon Kumite or Noodle Sanbon). May be worn inside or over karate-gi jacket.
- Helmets (Children Nihon Kumite).
- Groin protectors (for all male Kumite). We will be flexible on this as not all competitors are likely to have a groin protector. **It is highly recommended to wear a groin protector.** Injuries incurred due to a competitor not wearing a groin protector will not necessarily result in a penalty for the opponent.
- Chest protectors for females **from age 13 years** (from Mini cadets), must be white. It is a breast protector and not a body protector. **It is highly recommended to wear a breast protector.** A white t-shirt to be worn over the breast protector.

Allowed Equipment

- Sport glasses, spectacles (only for Kata), contact lenses or medical devices are worn at own risk during Kata and Kumite. Indemnity forms must be signed, and your own Doctor must approve all devices (sport glasses, medical devices). Fill in the “Medical report” form on or before Thursday (9 October 2025) and hand it to the Referee Commission before the start of the event.
- Specially designed sport glasses may be worn with special permission and on completion of an indemnity form.
- Red or white shin protectors (Nihon and Sanbon Kumite). May only wear shin protectors.
- White instep protectors on the feet (Nihon and Sanbon Kumite). Red instep allowed for AKA.

Forbidden Equipment

- Spectacles (glass or hard plastic) for Kumite.
- Instep and shin protectors for Ippon Kumite
- Material mitts are not allowed as they are hard and do not provide sufficient protection.
- Blue mitts or blue shin protectors or insteps will NOT be allowed at all.
- The instep and shin protector must be separate, in two pieces, not one piece.
- Other world karate bodies’ logos on any equipment (mitts, Karate-Gi, protectors) must be removed or coloured over with a marker pen to ensure that it is not visible.
- Body protectors (except for Children Nihon Kumite).
- T-shirts (except for Females & Inclusive categories: white only).

Coaches

One coach for every 10 athletes per Federation will be allowed. Only coaches who attend the official course/s will be accredited to coach at the Championship. Coaches must wear a tracksuit. A tracksuit top may however be substituted with a golf or t-shirt or a neat Federation/National/Provincia or clear non branded T-shirt. Coaches must have an identification card, to be handed to the officials before each kumite match. The match will **not** be postponed to give the Coach 2 minutes to change into the correct uniform, (Art 4.16), but s/he must still change before being allowed to coach.

Draw Sheets

- The Repechage Drawsheet System will be implemented for all Kumite categories.
- The points system will be used for all Kata and Kobudo categories.
- Only the Chief Table Official or Tournament Director may make changes to the Drawsheets.

Number of rounds in Kata categories

- 13 Competitors or more: 3 rounds: 1st round Elimination, 2nd round Semi-finals and 3rd round Finals.
- 12 or less Competitors: only rounds 2 and 3 (Semi-finals and finals) will be done. Kihapp might call it 1st and 2nd round.
- There will be a maximum of 6 Competitors in round 3 (finals).
- There will be 2 rounds of kata for everybody, even if less than 6 competitors.

Combined categories

- Where categories have been combined, for example senior ladies white to purple, all competitors will be given the option to repeat a kata in each round and/or tie.
- Where 12- and 13-year-olds are combined (although highly unlikely), they will do **Shobu Sanbon**.

Team kata

- For team kata events, kata may be repeated. For the **final round** Team Kata will be done with Tokui Kata of registered style. May repeat in the event of a TIE.

Kata arrangements

- The jury table judges will inform all competitors at the start of each category as to the number of rounds taking place. Do not rely on the number of entries per category as they appear at present, as it might change.
- Prepare TIE Katas for Elite categories, others may repeat katas in the event of a TIE.
- The Competitor must **clearly** announce the Kata name.
- The Centre Referee repeat the Kata name to the TO and search for the abbreviation on the list.
- Communicate and confirm the Kata name with the TO. Check if it is a valid Kata for the registered style, round and category or else assist the competitor to change and choose the correct Kata.
- The Centre Referee repeat the Kata name, the TO confirms and then the Competitor starts.
- We will **not** follow rule 69.7: *“If all the competitors who compete in a tie situation are disqualified, each competitor must perform an imposed kata from the Shitei list of their Kata style.”* If there is a TIE, another Kata must be done, one competitor at a time, (not together). Points must be given. If there is another TIE, **flags will be used based on the last Kata.**
- The TOs will need to break the tie on Kihapp manually if resolved with flags.
TOs will award the winner the **highest score in the range** and the loser the **lowest score in the range** (so, if the range is 5-7, the winner will score 7 and the loser will score 5). This will break the tie on Kihapp and move Kihapp on to the next screen. The original score will be used for the grand total.

Dress code for Referees, Judges, and Jury Table Judges

- The official referees' uniform is a navy-blue blazer (optional for younger Judges/Kansa) bearing two silver buttons.
- A WUKF badge.
- White short sleeve shirt.
- A red WUKF / continental tie.
- Light grey trousers
- Black socks covering 2/3rd of the Shin.
- Black soft sole shoes.
- Whistle.

Jury table judges may wear grey, black or navy (or a combination thereof), in conjunction with a white blouse or shirt.

Whilst on the Tatami; Referees, Kansa and Judges are not allowed to wear watches, rings, earrings, bracelets, pens, cell phones, tiepins, or other objects and may also not use their cell phones or congregate in groups and have conversations. Please sit on the chairs next to the tatami.

Coaches, Presidents and Spectators are not permitted to loiter around the Competition areas.

The Competitor's Uniform

- Competitors must be dressed exactly as per Article 4.4 to 4.14 and ART 5 in the WUKF rules and with above mentioned allowances. Officials will ask the Coaches to assist the Novice and Intermediate groups to get ready. Referees will be strict with the Elite groups to adhere to the WUKF and tournament rules.
- Two minutes will be given to correct the Uniform; in Kata: before the competitor enters the tatami and in a Kumite match: before Hajime. Removal of other sports organisations' logos must be done immediately. Two minutes will be given to correct the Uniform.

Match time

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Individual | Children | 1 minute 30 seconds, | effective time |
| | Mini-cadets | 2 minutes, | effective time |
| | Cadets | 2 minutes, | effective time |
| | Juniors | 3 minutes, | effective time |
| | Seniors | 3 minutes, | effective time |
| | Veterans | 2 minutes, | effective time |
| | Ippon | 2 minutes | running time |
| Rotation Nihon Team Kumite | | 4 minutes, | running time |
| Rotation Sanbon Team Kumite | | 6 minutes, | running time |
| Rotation Ippon Team Kumite | | 4 minutes, | running time |

Summary of Kata Rounds

| Category | Belt | Round 1 | Round 2 | Round 3 | Observation |
|----------------|--------------|---------|---------|------------------|---|
| Children 7yrs | Novice | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | May repeat the same kata in all rounds |
| Children 7yrs | Intermediate | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | May only repeat a kata in a tie situation |
| Children 7yrs | Elite | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | Must not repeat a kata |
| Children 8yrs | Novice | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | May repeat the same kata in all rounds |
| Children 8yrs | Intermediate | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei or Sentei | May only repeat a kata in a tie situation |
| Children 8yrs | Elite | Shitei | Sentei | Sentei | Must not repeat a kata |
| Children 9yrs | Novice | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | May repeat the same kata in all rounds |
| Children 9yrs | Intermediate | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei or Sentei | May only repeat a kata in a tie situation |
| Children 9yrs | Elite | Shitei | Sentei | Sentei | Must not repeat a kata |
| Children 10yrs | Novice | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | May repeat the same kata in all rounds |
| Children 10yrs | Intermediate | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei or Sentei | May only repeat a kata in a tie situation |
| Children 10yrs | Elite | Shitei | Sentei | Sentei | Must not repeat a kata |
| Children 11yrs | Novice | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | May repeat the same kata in all rounds |
| Children 11yrs | Intermediate | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei or Sentei | May only repeat a kata in a tie situation |
| Children 11yrs | Elite | Shitei | Sentei | Sentei | Must not repeat a kata |
| Children 12yrs | Novice | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | May repeat the same kata in all rounds |
| Children 12yrs | Intermediate | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei or Sentei | May only repeat a kata in a tie situation |
| Children 12yrs | Elite | Shitei | Sentei | Tokui | Must not repeat a kata |

Summary of Kata Rounds: Mini Cadets, Cadets, Juniors, Seniors and Veterans

| Category | Belt | Round 1 | Round 2 | Round 3 | Observation |
|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|
| Mini Cadets | Novice | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | May repeat the same kata in all rounds |
| Mini Cadets | Intermediate | Shitei | Shitei or Sentei | Shitei or Sentei | May only repeat a kata in a tie situation |
| Mini Cadets | Elite | Shitei | Sentei | Tokui | Must not repeat a kata |
| Cadets B | Novice | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | May repeat the same kata in all rounds |
| Cadets B | Intermediate | Shitei | Shitei or Sentei | Shitei or Sentei | May only repeat a kata in a tie situation |
| Cadets B | Elite | Shitei/Sentei | Shitei/Sentei/Tokui | Shitei/Sentei/Tokui | Must not repeat a kata |
| Cadets A | Novice | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | May repeat the same kata in all rounds |
| Cadets A | Intermediate | Shitei | Shitei or Sentei | Shitei or Sentei | May only repeat a kata in a tie situation |
| Cadets A | Elite | Shitei/Sentei | Shitei/Sentei/Tokui | Shitei/Sentei/Tokui | Must not repeat a kata |
| Juniors | Novice | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | May repeat the same kata in all rounds |
| Juniors | Intermediate | Shitei | Shitei or Sentei | Shitei or Sentei | May only repeat a kata in a tie situation |
| Juniors | Elite | Shitei/Sentei | Shitei/Sentei/Tokui | Shitei/Sentei/Tokui | Must not repeat a kata |
| Seniors | Novice | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | May repeat the same kata in all rounds |
| Seniors | Intermediate | Shitei | Shitei or Sentei | Shitei or Sentei | May only repeat a kata in a tie situation |
| Seniors | Elite | Shitei/Sentei | Shitei/Sentei/Tokui | Shitei/Sentei/Tokui | Must not repeat a kata |
| Veterans | Novice | Shitei | Shitei | Shitei | May repeat the same kata in all rounds |
| Veterans | Intermediate | Shitei | Shitei or Sentei | Shitei or Sentei | May only repeat a kata in a tie situation |
| Veterans | Elite | Shitei/Sentei | Shitei/Sentei/Tokui | Shitei/Sentei/Tokui | Must not repeat a kata |

The term “Tokui” does not restrict to, but also allows competitors to select a Kata from the Shitei or Sentei group of Kata on the Official Kata Schedule. The meaning of “Tokui” is a Kata not performed previously. “Sentei” also includes “Shitei”.

No Kihon Kata or half of a Kata is allowed.

Taiyoku Shodan is allowed for White grades(10th Kyu).

For other grades, only kata on the “Official WUKF Kata list” is permitted.

Please make sure, as far as possible, that your competitors (or with the help of a Coach) know which Kata they must perform in the different rounds and in the event of a TIE, which **style** they are entered under and which Federation they represent.

Kobudo

Kobudo categories are judged in the same way as Kata categories.

- Kihon Kata and free choice Kata will be allowed.
- The Kata may be repeated in each round.
- Tapered Bo and variations will **NOT** be allowed.
- Athletes may not roll their sleeves up and must stick to the official dress rules for competitors.
- As per the WUKF Kobudo Rules, the Uniform (Karate-Gi) and rules on how to wear it, is the same as in the general rules, with the exception being that competitors can wear a black dogi jacket with white dogi pants.
- Competitors should be using the correct specified equipment as would be required for grading etc. The weapons should be correct as per the requirements.
- Weapons will be inspected, weighed and approved before the event.

Inclusive Karate

- Any Kata on the “Official WUKF Kata list” may be performed.
- Kata may be repeated in each round. All competitors will perform at least 2 rounds of kata.
- The Rainbow adjustment system will be used in scoring the kata performance. The competitors will be classified by a member of the WUKF Inclusive Commission.
- Competitors must always, perform his/her Kata without outside assistance. Visually impaired competitors may be escorted onto and off the tatami, before and after their performance.
- The uniform is the same as in the general rules, except for the wearing of a white t-shirt under the Karate-Gi jacket by male competitors. The designated attacker’s uniform must comply to the Inclusive Combat rules.

“Together as a team, our future is brighter, and we will do the best karate in the world”



“Namibia, the best of Africa where special moments, rather than special days are remembered.”