

Karate Dream Festival 2026 International Championship

Kata Competition Rules

1. Participation limit (Individual): None (WKO and non-WKO organization members can participate)
2. Participation limit (Group): There is no restriction on the Kyu/Dan, age, or gender of the competitor.
The members forming the group must be from the same Branch/Dojo.
There is no restriction on the Kyu/Dan, age, or gender within the group.
If more than one member is absent on tournament day, no substitutes will be accepted, and the group will be disqualified.
(WKO and non-WKO organization members can participate)
3. How to Judge:
 1. Five (5) referees, including the Main Referee, shall judge by the tournament system
***The standard will be based on the WKO Kata DVD**
 2. Judgement by three (3) or more out of the five referees shall be effective, and there should be no judgment of draw
4. Type of Bout (Individual)
 - 1st Round to Semi-Finals
 1. The Main Referee, standing in the center of the two competitors, shall give them his commands, "SHOMEN NI REI," "SHUSHIN NI REI" and "OTAGAI NI REI".
 2. The competitors will perform the Kata simultaneously. The Main Referee will call the name of Kata, "HAJIME," "NAORE" and "YASUME".
 3. When both competitors finish their Kata, the Main Referee shall make them face the front at the center of the mat and shall ask the corner referees for their decision by stating "HANTEI WO TORIMASU" (take decision) and "HANTEI".
 5. The Main Referee shall decide the winner, and give the commands "SHOMEN NI REI"(bow to the front), "SHUSHIN NI REI (Bow to Main Referee) ", and "OTAGAI NI REI"(bow to each other). Then he shall instruct the competitors to leave the competition mat.
 - Finals
 1. The Main Referee, standing in the center of the two competitors, shall give them his commands, "SHOMEN NI REI," "SHUSHIN NI REI" and "OTAGAI NI REI".
 2. After bowing, the competitor of "SHIRO"(White) shall take the posture of SEIZA (sitting in a comfortable position is allowed) at JOGAI, while the competitor of "AKA"(Red) shall declare the name of his/her KATA and perform his/her own KATA. There will be no calling of "HAJIME," "NAORE" and "YASUME".
 3. When the competitor of "red"(Aka) finishes the Kata, the competitor of "white"(Shiro) shall then perform KATA in the same manner at the center of the competition mat. The competitor of "red" shall be seated in Seiza (sitting in a comfortable position is allowed) form on the outside of the mat.
 4. When both competitors finish their Kata, the Main Referee shall make them face the front at the center of the mat and shall ask the corner referees for their decision by stating "HANTEI WO TORIMASU" (take decision) and "HANTEI"
 5. The Main Referee shall decide the winner, and give the commands "SHOMEN NI REI"(bow to the front), "SHUSHIN NI REI"(Bow to Main Referee), and "OTAGAI NI REI"(bow to each other). Then he shall instruct the competitors to leave the competition mat
5. Type of Bout (Group)
 - 1st Round to Final
 1. Each team shall stand in a vertical line, facing the front side of the competition mat. The Main Referee, standing in the center of the two teams shall give them his commands, "SHOMEN NI REI", "SHUSHIN NI REI" and "OTAGAI NI REI".
 2. After bowing, the team of "SHIRO" (White) shall take the posture of SEIZA (sitting in a comfortable position is allowed) at JOGAI, while the team of "AKA" (Red) shall form a triangle formation facing the front side of the competition mat, standing on the start lines marked at each angle of the triangle, with the vertical angle facing the front side. The team leader shall give the call "MOKUSO"(*depending on the Kata) and declare the name of their KATA. The team shall perform their Kata by the commands "YOI" and "HAJIME" of the team leader.
When the performance comes to an end, the team leader shall give the commands "NAORE" and "YASUME" and await the command from the Main Referee in the posture of "FUDO DACHI".
 3. When the team of "red"(Aka) finishes their Kata, the team of "white"(Shiro) shall then perform their Kata in the same manner on the competition mat. The members of "red" shall be seated in Seiza (sitting in a comfortable position is allowed) form on the outside of the mat.
 4. When both teams finish their Kata, each team shall stand in a vertical line facing the front side of the competition mat. The Main Referee shall ask the corner referees for their decision by stating "HANTEI WO TORIMASU" (take a decision) and "HANTEI".
 5. The Main Referee shall decide on the winning team, and give the commands "SHOMEN NI REI"(bow to the front),

"SHUSHIN NI REI" (Bow to the Main Referee), and "OTAGAI NI REI" (bow to each other). Then he shall instruct both teams to leave the competition mat.

6. Kata Competition Judging Criteria *The standard will be based on the WKO Kata DVD

① Judging Points

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| 1. Accuracy | Accuracy of standing, posture, eyes, TSUKI, UKE, KERI & attacking point |
| 2. Stability | Balance of power in movement, turning, footwork, jumping & lying |
| 3. Movement | Flexibility of body & free, energetic movement |
| 4. Adequacy of power | Power saving, sharp technique with explosive powerfulness in finishing technique |
| 5. Technical flexibility | Technique with an adequate sense of speed & rhythm |
| 6. Breath Control | Breath properly controlled according to the speed of movements and demonstration of spiritual energy |
| 7. Continued preparedness | Spiritual preparedness toward the opponent's attack after finishing a certain technique |
| 8. Synchronization (Group Kata) | Performance of the 3 members should be synchronized in movements, expressed accents, sense of speed and rhythm, without gaps in timing |

② Criteria for GENTEN (penalty)

1. Error in Kata (movement, etc.)
2. Temporary pausing/stopping

③ Judging Standard

1. In case of Genten 1, the loser may come back to win, according to the evaluation of judging points.
2. In case of Genten 2, if the opponent has no Genten 1, then the competitor shall lose on a decision.
3. If the two competitors get no Genten, then the victory shall be decided according to the judging points.

④ Disqualification

1. If the competitor cannot continue due to oblivion of Kata or making a mistake/mistakes, they shall be disqualified.