



O.N.A.K.A.I.

Official National Amateur Karate Association of Ireland

National Governing Body for Karate in Ireland

O.N.A.K.A.I. Squad Selection Policy for EKF and WKF Events

1. Preamble

- 1.1 This is O.N.A.K.A.I.'s Squad Selection Policy for EKF and WKF Events which outlines the mechanism for the selection of Athletes within the sport of karate.
- 1.2 The rules, processes and mechanisms described below will lead to a nomination of Karate Athletes to the EKF and WKF Events.
- 1.3 Athletes so selected and ratified by O.N.A.K.A.I. will represent Ireland at the EKF and WKF Events

2. Definitions

“Candidate”	Shall mean the individual karate athlete (karateka) who has regularly attended National Squad Training sessions and is seeking nomination for the specific event.
“Coaching Panel”	Panel of coaches headed by the Performance Lead, National Kata and National Kumite Coaches
“Event”	Kata and Kumite events at the advertised EKF and WKF Competitions.
“Qualification Period”	Period between 1 st January to 31 December in any one year



ADOPTED 09/07/2021



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“Qualifying competitions”	Shall mean the competitions determined and published by the O.N.A.K.A.I. for the Qualification period, annually.
“Trial competitions “	Shall mean the competitions published by O.N.A.K.A.I. as listed at 6. from which the Coaching Panel will make its recommendations to the Executive for ratification in accordance with these procedures
“Trial Bouts”	bouts as per the O.N.A.K.A.I. Selection Criteria which will be used where necessary to decide between karateka with the similar national credentials and to preserve transparency.
“Recommendation”	Shall mean the recommendation by the Coaching Panel to the O.N.A.K.A.I. Executive for a candidate to compete at the qualification tournament.

3. Eligibility

3.1 In order to be eligible for Recommendation Candidate must be:

- an Irish citizen and hold an Irish passport.
- a WKF NF member
- attend regular National Squad Sessions
- be medically fit and possess a high level of physical fitness.
- have competed at the minimum on National Level in the past 12 months.
- have notified the Coaching Panel in writing of their intention to partake in the Selection Process.
- Commit to anti-doping by completing the SI online awareness course.



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4. Fitness to Perform

- 4.1 Each Candidate must be fit to perform at the time of nomination. Athletes will be required to undergo a 'fit to perform' assessment with the Coaching Panel,
- 4.2 Any Candidate injured at the time of nomination must provide a report from a Medical Professional stating that they will be fit to perform by the time of Event.
- 4.3 Each Candidate must be eligible to compete within the weight categories as set by the WKF at the time of Recommendation. The WKF weight categories are as follows.

WKF Categories Senior	WKF Categories Senior
Men	Women
-60kg	-50kg
-67kg	-55kg
-75kg	-61kg
-84kg	-68kg
+84kg	+68kg

5. Withdrawals / Removals

- 5.1 Each Candidate shall inform the Coaching panel immediately in writing should he/she wish to withdraw from the Recommendation process.
- 5.2 A Candidate may be removed from the Recommendation process should they become in breach of the Athlete Agreement and/or Code of Conduct.



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- 5.3 Candidates who are injured at the time of Recommendation and are unable to provide a report from a relevant medical expert confirming their suitability and fitness to perform by the time of the Qualifying Event will be removed from the Recommendation Process.
- 5.4 A Candidate who fails weight check following the Recommendation for the relevant weight categories set by the WKF will be removed from the process.
- 5.5 A Candidate must not disclose results of any Recommendation until after the Appeal period has lapsed. Failure to comply may lead to Candidate being removed from the process.

6. Trial Competitions to be reviewed on annual basis for seniors and juniors

7. Recommendation Procedure

- 7.1 The Coaching panel shall always refer to the O.N.A.K.A.I. Selection assessment applicable to the particular EKF/WKF Event, as attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 7.2 The minimum standard required for a Candidate to seek Recommendation and Nomination is attendance at National Kata and Kumite Squad sessions.
- 7.3 Candidates will be considered for Recommendation based on this policy, O.N.A.K.A.I. selection assessment and including but not limited to the following:
 - Attendance at high ranking National and International events
 - Junior Candidates attending high ranking National and International events who will become eligible for Senior events in time for Selection process.
- 7.4 The Coaching Panel shall submit its recommendations to the O.N.A.K.A.I. Executive.
- 7.5 On receipt of the Recommendation from the Coaching Panel O.N.A.K.A.I. Executive shall ratify the Recommendation and inform the Coaching Panel of their decision
- 7.6 The Coaching Panel shall inform the Candidates following Recommendation and Ratification in line with the Timeline, as set out below.

8. Communications

O.N.A.K.A.I. is responsible for the announcement of the selection of athletes for the Events.



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Nominated Athletes shall not announce their nomination through social media or any other media channels prior to the announcement being made by O.N.A.K.A.I.

9. Appeals

1. A Candidate may submit an Appeal following Ratification by the O.N.A.K.A.I. Executive of the Recommendations made to the Executive by the Coaching Panel.
2. A Candidate must submit any such Appeal within 24 hours of having been notified that he/she was not successful in selection for the Short List. A Candidate will have a further 72 hours to submit any supplementary documentation for consideration by the Appeal Subcommittee.
3. An Appeals Subcommittee shall be set up by the Executive as any appeal arises and shall deal with any such Appeal within 3 days of receipt of an Appeal.
4. A candidate will make an appeal according to the O.N.A.K.A.I. Selections Appeals procedure and form, as per Appendix 2

10. Amendments

The selection criteria may be amended if approved by the Executive and all parties involved will be notified in advance.

Any amendments to these procedures shall be published on our website.



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