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WKF ELECTORAL GUIDE

2026 CONGRESS

Election of the WKF Executive Committee Members

2026-2030

Date: 13 October 2026

Place: Bielsko-Biala, Poland

This document shall serve as a reference guide to all WKF National Federation members and is based on the WKF Statutes provisions and any WKF Executive Committee resolutions (jointly, the "WKF Documents"), as in force from time to time. In case of discrepancy between any contents of this guide and the WKF Documents, the WKF Documents shall prevail.

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1. PRELIMINARY FRAMEWORK

1.1 Roles to be elected

- The office for the 17 (seventeen) elected members of the Executive Committee ("EC") has a duration of 4 (four) years.
- These members are elected by the whole Congress. So, the election will determine the **17 (seventeen) elected members** of the EC for a 4-year term.
- The Executive Committee has the faculty to establish the distribution of the 17 (seventeen) positions across the 5 (five) Continental Federations, which currently is as follows:
    - **Asian Karate Federation (AKF):** 4 members
    - **European Karate Federation (EKF):** 6 members
    - **Oceania Karate Federation (OKF):** 1 member
    - **Pan American Karate Federation (PKF):** 3 members
    - **African Karate Federation (UFAK):** 3 members

1.2 Eligible for Candidating

1.2.1 Incompatibilities

- Elective offices are incompatible with active roles as an Athlete, Coach, or Referee (these terms as defined under the WKF Statutes).
- Members of the EC cannot simultaneously be appointed to the Refereeing, Technical, Medical, Organising, or Disciplinary & Legal Commissions.
- The following persons cannot be elected:

  a. Employees of the National Federation ("NF") members of the WKF, for the duration of their work contract plus 2 (two) years after its termination.

  b. Individuals who are hired to perform a specific work for the WKF, either individually or as active partners or board members of a company, for the duration of the work plus 2 (two) years after its fulfillment.

c. Merchants or manufacturers of sports items and their shareholders, partners, administrators and members of the board of sports companies and any kind of commercial company which activity is within the realm of commerce, or manufacture, of any kind of sports items or services pertaining to sports.

1.2.2 National Limits

- Any NF cannot have simultaneously more than **1 (one) EC member** (excluding the President, permanent continental offices, co-opted members or former Presidents).

1.2.3 Candidate Verification

- All candidates must be officially put forward by the NF of their own country, except those EC members presenting themselves for re-election.
- Candidates must hold the citizenship of the country of their NF.
- Candidatures must be received at WKF Headquarters via email (wkf@wkf.net) or registered post no later than **13 June 2026** (4 months prior to Congress).
- Candidates must stand by the WKF Ethics & Principles and not attempt to procure votes by offering incentives to any voting members.
- The validated list of candidates will be sent to the NFs no later than 13 July (3 months prior to Congress).

1.3 Eligible for Voting

- **WKF National Federations members** will have 1 (one) vote at the Congress, provided that they enjoy full effective membership rights, i.e.:
    - Having performed sporting activity in 2025 and 2026; and
    - Having completed payment of 2025 and 2026 at the opening of the Congress.

- Provisionally affiliated NFs enjoy all rights except voting rights. Nevertheless, upon ratification by the Congress, the affiliation is considered as permanent and confers the right to vote with immediate effect after the decision.

- **Executive Bureau Members** will have the right to vote in the Congress in the manner and moment as established at the same Congress.

2. CONGRESS VENUE SETUP

2.1 Seating Arrangement

- **National Federations:** seating is unassigned and therefore NF delegates can seat on a first-come first-served basis.
- **Electoral Council and Scrutineers:** will be seated in front and facing the Congress.
- **Executive Committee:** will be seated in front and facing the Congress.

2.2 Electronic Voting System

- A verified secure electronic secret voting system shall be used exclusively for the election of the EC elected members.
- For that purposes, voting kits (e-voting keypads & e-voting smart cards) shall be distributed at the Congress among the attending National Federations with voting rights.
- In case of any technical issues that would not allow for the electronic voting system to work adequately, a transparent ballot box shall be made available for secret voting by paper ballot.

3. CONGRESS PROCEDURES

3.1 Credential and Proxy Verification

- **Verification Commission:** A 3-person commission will verify all credentials before the official opening of the Congress. This Commission will be supported by Legal Counsel, as well as one staff member of the HQ.
- **Proxy Framework:**
  - No proxy is required if the NF is directly represented by its President.
  - In those cases where the NF President does not attend the Congress and his NF grants a proxy, the representative must hold the citizenship of the country of this NF.
  - It is strictly forbidden for a NF to give a proxy to another NF.
- **Contestation:** Contested credentials will be formally submitted by the General Secretary to the Disciplinary and Legal Commission, Betting & Ethics.

3.2 Access to Congress

- Verification of the physical presence of NFs delegates, starting at 14.00h.
- Maximum representation allowance of 2 (two) delegates and 1 (one) standalone interpreter per NF.
- Verification of fulfilment of full effective membership requirements (see 1.3 above).
- Allocation of Congress documents, which also include the following for NFs with voting rights:
  - voting cards (YES/NO/ABSTAIN).
  - electronic voting system kit (see 2.2 above).

4. ELECTION PROCEDURES

4.1 Voting

- **Secret Ballot** will apply for the election of EC members.

- **Roll Call:** NFs with voting rights will be called by Continent in alphabetical order and handed out the electronic voting system devices.
- **Executive Bureau Voting:** Executive Bureau members will be handed out their voting devices last.
- After termination of the roll call, the voting will proceed.

4.2 Vote Counting

- **The electronic voting procedure** will be supervised by the scrutineers.
- **The electronic voting system** will provide the count for the ballots, that will be verified by the Electoral Council.
- **Abstentions:** Blank, spoiled, or uncast votes are omitted from the majority threshold calculations.
- **Tie Breaker:** In the event of a tie between candidates, that does not allow to determine the elected positions, the President holds a deciding casting vote or may decide to repeat vote between the tied candidates.

5. FINAL PROCEDURES

5.1 Results Declaration

- **Public announcement:** The name of the succesful candidates at the elections will be announced at the Congress only after votes have been cast for candidates of all 5 (five) continents.
- Official election outcomes are recorded in the formal Congress minutes.

5.2 Office Handover

- Newly elected EC members take office at the same Congress, **immediately after the election**, while all attendance and accreditation rights of the outgoing EC members remain fully valid until the day after the close of the World Championships (19 October 2026).