



WORLD KARATE FEDERATION

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

3rd September 2019

WKF COMPETITION RULES BULLETIN No.1 – 2019

Dear fellow karateka,

This is the first bulletin from the WKF Competition Rules Commission. The objective of this bulletin is to communicate any issue of the rules that require further clarification, changes of procedures that may not be reflected in the rules, and any intermediate regulation pending inclusion in the biannual revision of the rules themselves. The intent is to keep athletes, coaches and officials informed of what are the current practice or change of procedures that cannot readily be understood by the rules alone.



Gunnar Nordahl
Chairman
WKF Competition Rules Commission

BULLETIN ITEM 01/2019 – ENCOURAGING ACTIVITY AND BREAKING CLINCHES WITHOUT STOPPING THE BOUT

Referees will be instructed to informally urge the Contestants to commence activity by gesturing (same as is customary for making the Contestants stepping on to the mat or stepping forward on the mat) and break-up of clinches (using the same gesture as is customary for making the Competitors step back on the mat), both without actually stopping the time - this being in line with practices in other combat sports.

BULLETIN ITEM 02/2019 – PROCEDURE FOR INCONCLUSIVE VIDEO REVIEW

When a coach raises the card for the video review and the review does not make it possible to see if the protest is valid or not, the reviewer will not show a card for Yes or No, but stand up and show the sign that was previously used for MINAI and the card would be returned to the coach

If one coach shows the card for video review and the other coach wants a review of the same instance, the second coach must raise his card before the review starts in order not to lose his right to request video review for that instance.



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BULLETIN ITEM 03/2019 – RELIGIOUSLY MANDATED HEADWEAR

In the Competition Rules (both for Kumite & Kata) the section for COACHES, the reference in pt.1 to attire for coaches, it is stated the female coaches may wear WKF approved religiously mandated headwear.

The word “female” should be removed to ensure gender equity in the next revision of the competition rules 1.1.2021, but the change is approved to be allowed with immediate effect.

BULLETIN ITEM 04/2019 – RANDOM ORDER OF PERFORMANCE IN KATA COMPETITION AFTER INITIAL ROUND

Effective from the forthcoming Premier League in Tokyo September 6-8, 2019, the WKF has decided that the electronic kata judging system should randomly determine the order of performance within the group after the initial round up to, but excluding, the medal bouts.

This is merely a change of process and will not require any rule change.