



WORLD KARATE FEDERATION
The President

Mr. Tore Bigseth
President
Norwegian Martial Arts Federation

Madrid, 19th January 2022

Dear Mr. Bigseth,

This letter is to inform you that, further to communications led with your federation concerning the non-compliance of the Statutes of your National Federation (NF), the WKF Executive Committee has decided to provisionally disaffiliate the Norwegian Martial Arts Federation, of which you are the President as of 15th January 2022 with immediate effect, in accordance with WKF Statutes, namely:

Article 5.6 WKF Statutes

The right of provisional affiliation or disaffiliation or of the suspension of National Federations or Associations rests with the Executive Committee of the WKF, while the Congress shall decide on the permanent affiliation or disaffiliation of a National Federation or of an Association.

Article 5.14 WKF Statutes

The WKF Executive Committee may take any appropriate decisions for the protection of the sport of Karate and of the image and reputation of WKF in the country of an NF, including the provisional suspension of or provisional disaffiliation of such NF in case of termination by the latter of its affiliation or if the constitution, law or other regulations in force in the country concerned, or any act by any governmental or other body causes the activity of the NF or the making or expression of its will to be hampered.

Article 5.15

National Federations are prohibited from being affiliated with any karate organisation not recognised by WKF. They are also prohibited from having any sporting relationships with such non-recognised organisations or with any suspended WKF National Federation. Non-compliance with this prohibition would give rise to disciplinary sanctions. Illegal double affiliation would constitute just grounds for disaffiliation from WKF.

Article 5.16

Ultimately, the Executive Committee and the Congress may, respectively, at their entire discretion, reconsider the affiliation and disaffiliate, provisionally or permanently, a National Federation, in particular in case of changes in the National Federation's Statutes without WKF's approval, in case of violation of these Statutes or of the law, or for any

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other cause affecting the democracy of the sporting processes or the image and reputation of WKF or of the sport of Karate.

Article 5.17

An appeal can be presented before the Disciplinary and Legal Commission within 21 (twenty-one) days following the notification of the provisional affiliation or disaffiliation decision by the Executive Committee and/or the final affiliation or disaffiliation decision by the Congress.

Article 6.3

The affiliated National Federations are forbidden to cooperate with and/or participate in events which do not comply with the WKF sporting and competition regulations, in particular anti-doping and safety rules and standards, as well as with the WADA Code and standards.

Article 9.1 WKF Statutes

National Federations and individual persons affiliated to the WKF shall undertake to comply with the WKF Statutes, Norms, Rules, Regulations and standards, as well as with all provisions issued by the Executive Committee.

The grounds for provisional disaffiliation are as follows:

Violation of WKF Statutes:

- 1) Splitting the organization of the sport of karate into three groups of which two are dedicated to other competition rules than those of the WKF.**

Ref. Art 1.1 of the WKF Statutes stating that WKF covers all forms and styles of karate) as detailed in its Statutes Art. 1.1).

- 2) Violation of WKF Statutes Art. 5.15** which reads:

National Federations are prohibited from being affiliated with any karate organisation not recognised by WKF. They also prohibited from having any sporting relationships with such non-recognised organisations or with any suspended WKF National Federation. Non-compliance with this prohibition would give rise to disciplinary sanctions. Illegal double affiliation would constitute just grounds for disaffiliation from WKF.

According to your webpages you have given recognition to style organizations by entering into bilateral agreements between them and your federation.

- 3) Failure to abide by WKF sporting and competition regulations for Karate competitions and failure to meet WKF safety standards.**

Ref. Article 6.3 of the WKF Statutes: The affiliated National Federations are forbidden to cooperate with and/or participate in events which do not comply with the WKF sporting and competition regulations, in particular anti-doping and safety rules and standards, as well as with the WADA Code and standards.

Ref. your webpage, translated through Google (underline by WKF:

Legal knockout

NKF has approval from the Ministry of Culture to organize combat activity that allows knockout. In the official competition context, this applies to taekwondo

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(WT), karate and wushu. It is only within NKF's competitions that it is possible to achieve the King's Cup and qualify for official, international championships.

- 4) Your statutes do not conform to the WKF statutes. Receipt of the revision adopted 27 May 2018 was never acknowledged by WKF.**

Ref. WKF Statutes, Art 5.8: The affiliation will be decided after the examination of the Statutes of the National Federation and their compatibility with those of the WKF. The approval of an applicant National Federation's Statutes by the WKF Executive Committee is required for affiliation. The same applies to any subsequent change or amendment to the Statutes of a National Federation that will also have to be approved by the WKF Executive Committee.

- 5) Blatantly ignoring our inquiry for disciplinary action**, or non-action, towards your referee chairman's subversive action attempting to prevent attendance of a WKF Technical Commission Member in the Dubai World Championships.

- 6) General lack of ability to represent WKF and the sport of Karate in Norway**

Your organization's inability to assume the role of custodian for the sport of karate, inability to define corrective actions when identified as necessary, set or respect deadlines, ability to self-govern the sport, absence in international participation (i.e. congresses, online meetings for national federation etc.) unfortunately reinforces our impression of the lack of ability of your federation to represent the sport of karate in your country.

Please note that the provisional disaffiliation of the Norwegian Martial Arts Federation will be submitted for ratification of the WKF Congress at its next meeting. On that occasion, the Norwegian Martial Arts Federation will be granted the opportunity to express its view with regard to its disaffiliation of WKF, if it so wishes. Please also note that the Congress will have the entire discretion to disaffiliate the Norwegian Martial Arts Federation, irrespective of the above-mentioned grounds (article 5.16 of the WKF Statutes).

Please also be informed that your federation will, as of today, no longer be entitled to the rights reserved only to WKF members, including but not limited to participate in WKF events, use the WKF logo and name and represent the WKF in Norway.

Yours sincerely,



Antonio Espinós
WKF President