

# EUROPEAN KARATE ORGANIZATION

## General information

- May 22, EKO Referee Course in Valencia, Spain
- May 24-25, EKO European Championship for adult and juniors in Valencia, Spain
- July 2-4, EKO Grading for 1-4 Dan in Varna, Bulgaria
- July 20-21, Karate Dream Festival in Tokyo, Japan
- July 21, Karate Champion of Champions in Tokyo, Japan
- October 25-26, EKO European Championship for Cadet, U21 and Open category in Wroclaw, Poland
- November 23-24, EFKO Selection competition for WKO-WFKO World Championship in Antwerp, Belgium
- May 31-June 1, 2025, WFKO-WKO World Championship in Tokyo, Japan

## News from the Referee Committee



### STARA WIES REFEREE COURSE FOR KATA

In connection to the Black Belt kata seminar in Stara Weies 15- 17 of March the Referee Committee had a kata referee course. It was about 40 participant that could get a deeper incite and practice the practical routine for kata competitions. Through video analyzes we had fruitful discussions on the judgments. Our guest instructors from WKO Shihan Fujihara and Shihan Sotodate gave their advice as a kata referee. World Champion Shihan Watanabe also talked about his preparation before the World Championship. But most important was, as part of the course, that all course participants were able to practically study the kata and learn them themselves.

## **WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SELECTION**

Next World Championship in weight categories will be in Tokyo, Ariake Arena at 31 of May-1 of June. Special circumstance with this world championship is that it is a joint arrangement of World Fullcontact Karate Organization and the World Karate Organization. For Europe it means that the selection of competitors will be from both EKO and EFKO. Europe have three (3) competitors in each weight category. From EKO we will select the winners from the European Championship in Valencia to the World Championship. The other two competitors will be selected at a special European Fullcontact Karate Organization competition.

## **EUROPEAN FULLCONTACT KARATE ORGANIZATION SELECTION COMPETITION**

The EFKO is arranging its selection competition **The European Fullcontact Karate Cup** to the World Championship 23-24 of November 2024 in Antwerp, Belgium. The two finalists will be selected to the World Championship. This competition is open for all countries in Europa, all organizations, and dojos. With that, a competitor in EKO have two chances to be selected.

For your information: <https://app.kumitetechnology.com/en/tournament/12/>

EKO will have six (6) referees at this competition. They will be selected by the EKO Referee Committee before 31 of June.

## **COACH TEST NOW COMPULSORY**

The EKO Online Coach test is now compulsory to be approved/get a badge to enter the competition as a coach during the European Championship. The test can be done several times. As a coach you are requested to pass the test with at least 90% correct answers.

If you have already done the test in 2023 you do not need to do it again. If you did it 2022 or never have done the test you must do it.

Please, study these before you do the test. Requested material to study and prepare can be found on:

EKO's website <https://www.european-kyokushin.org/download/>  
EKOreferee's website. <https://www.ekoreferees.eu/>

- Kumite rules with coach rules in the appendix
- Kata rules
- EKO Medical tournament rules
- EKO Health information
- EKO concussion brochure
- Prohibited WADA List

The test will be open from 1 May and must be done before registration on Thursday 23 May.

Link to the Coach-test:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1M-GT5NKVxZFJxRLMR4wAd-3F7CMyNCyjFYV0Qv4h5XA/edit>

## **REFEREES FOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP IN VALENCIA 24-25 May**

EKO Referee Committee invite A and B licensed referees. We also welcome C-licensed who want to apply for a B-license. This includes those who want to refresh an old license. Application in Kumite Technology and on [ekoreferees.eu](https://www.ekoreferees.eu). Please, apply according to your license if you will be on duty in kumite or kata. Referees who apply to upgrade or refresh their license are expected to attend to the referee course on Wednesday 22 May.

New referees without license and other C-licensed are welcome at European Championship (Cadet, U21 and Open) in Poland on the 25 October.

### **REFEREE COURSE; Hotel Valencia Congress**

Wednesday 22 May 15:00-20:00 EKO Referee Committee will have its annual referee course for those who apply for a new license.

- All documents, rules can be found on EKO Home Page or at [www.ekoreferrees.eu](http://www.ekoreferrees.eu)
- Participation is to be in referee shirt, bow tie and whistle.

### **EC VALENCIA REFEREE BRIEFING/SEMINAR; Hotel Valencia Congress**

Thursday 23 May at 14:00-16:00

- Participation is to be in referee shirt and bow tie.

### **ONLINE REFEREE APPLICATION**

1. Registration in Kumite Technology and at [www.ekoreferrees.eu](http://www.ekoreferrees.eu)
2. All referees must check in online before the Championship. After registration in Kumite Technology and at [www.ekoreferrees.eu](http://www.ekoreferrees.eu) you will receive a link on the 22 of May to make the check-in. You may also come before the referee course on the 22 May at 14:00-15:00 or before the referee briefing on the 23 May at 14:30-15:00 to do the personal check in with EKO passport.

### **KARATE CHAMPION of CHAMPIONS**

In connection with the Karate Dream Festival in Tokyo, Japan it will be a special invitation competition; Karate Champion of Champions 21 July. It is WKO who have invited 8 men and 8 women to a special competition. These are the invited competitors:

#### **Contestants**

##### Male

- Mr. Eventas Guzauskas (Lithuania)
- Mr. Maciej Mazur (Poland)
- Mr. Anton Zimarev (Kazakhstan)
- Mr. Anjey Kinzersky (Kazakhstan)
- Mr. Yusaku Watanabe (Japan)
- Mr. Yuki Okada (Japan)
- Mr. Marek Wolny (Poland)
- Male Champion of the JFKO Championship (TBD)

##### Female

- Ms. Brigita Gustaityte (Lithuania)
- Ms. Ivanka Popova (Bulgaria)
- Ms. Suzuki Mihiro (Japan)
- Ms. Ramu Amikawa (Japan)
- Ms. Mirjam Bjorklund (Sweden)
- Ms. Alina Ossipenko (Kazakhstan)
- Female Champion of the JFKO Ch. (TBD)
- Female Competitor from Japan (TBD)

WKO will also select five referees from EKO. They will be announced later. It will be some expired referee but this time also some new names, mostly previous fighters.

### **EKO REFEREE HOMPAGE**

EKO Referees do now have its own homepage. There you will get the latest information; find the rules and all EKO Referees can upload your referee profile by yourself.



<https://www.ekoreferrees.eu/>

### **EKO REFEREE COMMITTEE**

Michael Söderkvist  
Chairman

## News from the Technical and Grading Committee



### **EKO DAN GRADING 2024**

The EKO Black Belt grading for Shodan and up to Yondan will take place in Bulgaria at a very nice sport resort in [Varna](#). The schedule for the EKO Grading will be as follows:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> July arrival and registration.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> July training and preparation.
- 4<sup>th</sup> July technical grading and Kumite test.

Application for the EKO Dan grading is open and can be applied via [this link](#). Just fill in all needed information's and upload latest WKO dan certificate and recommendation signed letter from your Branch Chief.

Please be aware, that you in the application form also will need to make the Hotel reservation at Varna-Bulgaria and the total payments as well as Airport transport.

If you wish to stay at the Bulgarian Summer Camp after the grading, you will have the possibility to book and do the payment for this in the Form.

Deadline for applying the EKO Dan grading is 15<sup>th</sup>. May. You will get final approval for the application not later than 25<sup>th</sup>. May.

### **EKO BLACK BELT SEMINAR STARA WIES 2024**

More than 255 participants from 19 different countries took part at the EKO Black Belt seminar 2024 in [Stara Wiess Dojo](#) Poland.

This year we had guest instructors from WKO and the Japanese region, Shihan Yasuharu Fujihara 8th. Dan, Shihan Shinichi Sotodate 6th. Dan and the World Kata Champion Sensei Taishi Watanabe 4th. Dan.

The purpose of our guests from WKO and the Japanese Region was to align the kata. We had the opportunity to spend some days before the camp in Warzaw and at Stara Wies Dojo to share emotions and experiences from the 13<sup>th</sup>. World Kata Championship October 2023. We went through the WKO Kata video to discuss all the kata. Based on the conclusions of these meetings instructors from the Japanese region and EKO teaches the Kata the following days at the EKO Black Belt seminar.

After the seminar we made a minute from all the discussions and decisions about the Kata alignment. Now we will continue the corporation in between EKO and the Japanese region and to the knowledge and experiences in develop our Kata further and refereeing.

### **KARATE DREAM FESTIVAL 2024, JAPAN**

EKO region would like to support WKO and inform you that The Karate Dream Festival 2024 International Championship will be held on July 20 (Sat.) & 21 (Sun.) at the Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium. Overseas competitors are invited to this year's tournament, and we expect many competitors from various countries to visit Japan for the event.

You will find more information about the Dream Festival 2024 at this link [WKO homepage](#)

### **EKO GRADING & TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

Jan Bülow  
Chairman

## **News from the Anti-Doping Committee**



It is important for EKO and WKO that we continuously contribute to fulfill the WADA protocol. This is a part and a duty to operate a professional organization as EKO and WKO.

At EC2024 in Valencia 10 Anti-Doping Samples test will be fulfilled all together.

### **EKO ANTI-DOPING COMMITTEE**

Jan Bülow & Romas Vitkauskas