

THE KARATEDO FEDERATION OF HONG KONG, CHINA LIMITED

POLICY OF PARA KARATE (ver 1.0)

Chapter 1 Introduction

In 2022-23, The Karatedo Federation of Hong Kong, China Limited (“KFHKCL”) will embark on a breakthrough initiative: the promotion and the organization of segregated Para Karate programmes which are specially designed for persons with disabilities.

To achieve this mission, KFHKCL shall carry on the following activities: -

1. To provide and arrange professional Para Karate training to persons with physical, visual and intellectual impairment.
2. To encourage and maintain proper support and facilities for para karate athletes to foster their development and preparation for local and international competitions.
3. To organise local and international Para Karate competitions.
4. To coordinate and give advice on the selection of Para Karate athletes to represent Hong Kong in the name of “Hong Kong, China” in international competitions including but not limited to, the Paralympic Games, the Asian Paralympic Games, World Para Karate Championship, Asian Para Karate Championship and All China Para Karate Competitions (if being invited).
5. To raise the standard of Karatedo as a sport for persons with physical, visual and intellectual impairment.
6. To ensure that the World Karate Federation (WKF)’s Para-Karate Kata Competition Rules are observed.
7. To proliferate the spirit of sportsmanship to all athletes.

The General Committee of KFHKCL (“GC”) has established a Para Karate Development Council and appointed the Para Karate Development Council to exercise GC’s powers and authorities in the development of Para Karate in Hong Kong.

This Policy of Para Karate (the “Policy”) was approved by GC on **18-Sep-2023** and shall supersede all previous version(s) of the Policy. GC has the authority and the sole discretion to refine and amend this Policy at any time to meet changes in various circumstances.

Chapter 2 Objects of Para Karate Development Council

The objects are to support persons with disabilities in Hong Kong with physical, visual and intellectual impairment by encouraging, motivating and facilitating their participation in Karate activities and events, and assisting in the provision of training, facilities and equipment for such purpose.

The Para Karate Development Council shall plan, organize, develop and promote Karatedo to the physically, visually and intellectually impaired persons, so they could enjoy the fun of Karatedo as a sport and lead a healthy lifestyle.

Chapter 3 Partnership and Collaboration with Non-governmental and Other Like-minded Organisations

KFHKCL will collaborate with specified Non-Governmental Organizations (“NGO”) and designated special schools to equip their trainees/students under KFHKCL’s training scheme to become Para Karate athletes who can participate in KFHKCL’s local tournaments and may represent Hong Kong in international Para Karate competition events. To facilitate such collaboration, KFHKCL may initiate signing memorandum of understanding or any other types of agreements with the collaborated organizations to ensure that KFHKCL and the collaborated parties will be working hand in glove in promoting and developing para karate.

If any NGO or special school is interested in collaborating to organize, develop and promote Karatedo, may apply to become KFHKCL's partner. GC has the sole discretion right whether to accept such applicant or not, and GC's decision shall be final.

Chapter 4 Para Karate Athlete’ KFHKCL Membership and Members’ Rights

Any natural person who has an impairment which are classified as disabled in accordance to WKF’s Para Karate Classification Rules and has recommended by KFHKCL’s partnered NGOs and special schools as well as having an interest in Karatedo may apply to become a “Para Karate Athlete member” of KFHKCL. GC has the sole discretion right whether to accept such application or not, and GC’s decision shall be final.

Once their application is approved by GC and the initial and annual subscription payment is made, they shall be entitled to all members’ rights and privileges, subject to the applicable articles, policies, rules and guidelines of KFHKCL. For the avoidance of doubt, anyone who wish to participate in KFHKCL’s local Para Karate tournaments and international Para Karate competition events in the name of “Hong Kong, China” must have their KFHKCL’s membership in active.

Chapter 5 Operations

A. Local Tournament

- Local Para Karate tournaments aim at promoting Karate for the disabled and enhancing the standard of Para Karate in Hong Kong.
- The Tournament Council of KFHKCL is responsible for organizing local Para Karate tournaments, while the Para Karate Development Council performs the strategic and advisory role.
- To facilitate the promotion of Para Karate in Hong Kong, local Para Karate tournaments may be held in conjunction with any local Karate tournaments organised by KFHKCL. Whenever appropriate, Para Karate Category with sub-categories for various disabilities may be set up and included in local Karate tournament organised by KFHKCL.
- All competitions will adopt as far as possible the latest WKF rules and regulation unless specified in the application form of that particular tournament;
- Para Karate athletes may participate in either Specialized Category (for athletes with physical, visual or intellectual impairment in accordance to WKF’s Para Karate Classification Rules), or Mixed Category (for athletes with disabilities other than those described in the WKF’s Para Karate Classification Rules) in a Para Karate competition.
- Athletes must provide all necessary supporting documents to KFHKCL proving their conformity with WKF’s Para Karate Classification Rules;
- Ranging of local Para Karate tournaments (applicable to winners in Specialized Category in Para Karate competitions organized by KFHKCL) for the purpose of selection of Hong Kong Para Karate Athletes shall be calculated as follow:

| Achievement | Score |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Champion | 5 |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1 st Runner-up | 3 |
| 2 nd Runner-up | 2 |
| 5 th Place | 1 |

B. Selection of Hong Kong Para Karate Athletes

The purpose of selection is to identify and select eligible and the most competitive Para Karate athletes to represent Hong Kong, in the name of “Hong Kong, China”, in participating international Para Karate competitions. Selection shall be based on the Selection Mechanism stipulated below. The Selection Panel shall comprise either three or five members from KFHKCL’s Coaching Council and/or Para Karate Development Council. Members of the Selection Panel must declare their conflict of interest and make such declaration statement to KFHKCL for record and filing before the selection process is taken place. Result of selection will be passed by the Selection Panel to GC for endorsement before the final list of qualified and selected athletes is announced by KFHKCL. Any forthcoming selection with details will be publicized as early as reasonably practicable, usually 4 weeks in advance.

Prerequisite for Selection

- Participants must be the trainees under KFHKCL’s training scheme and recommended by their scheme coach;
- Athletes’ disability must conform to one of the Categories for Individual Kata in Para Karate in accordance to WKF’s Para Karate Classification Rules. As such, athletes must provide all necessary supporting documents to KFHKCL proving their conformance;
- Athletes’ training attendance rate must be at least 50%; and
- Ranging of Local Tournament: Athletes must hold a cumulative total score (obtained from various local Para Karate competitions held by KFHKCL) according to Chapter 5 Section A of this Policy.

Selection Criteria

- Firstly, the athlete (from each category) with the highest cumulative total score (obtained from various local Para Karate competitions held by KFHKCL) will be given priority;
- For the selection of athletes for international Para Kara Competitions, separated and additional selection competition(s) may be arranged if deemed necessary by GC;
- Athletes’ performance and bodily conditions should be appropriate for

- participating in the category classified;
- Athletes' performance is evaluated based on the criteria stated in WKF's Para-Karate Kata Competition Rules;
 - The participation requirements must be fulfilled, including but not limited to the provision of medical support documents for category classification;
 - Number of athletes to be selected shall be based on the athlete quota available for participating in the relevant competition;
 - Athletes' performance must demonstrate the compatibility with the long-term development goals of Karatedo as a sport and the Paralympic movement; and
 - The development strategy of KFHKCL and her availability of resources will also be considered.

C. Appeals Mechanism against Selection Outcome

All appeals shall follow the general Appeal Policy of KFHKCL. Appeals regarding selection are limited to the incorrect application of selection criteria only.

D. Periodical Review of Athlete Selection Mechanism

Para Karate Development Council holds the responsibility to review the Selection Mechanism annually. Details of the Selection Mechanism are subject to revision whenever deemed necessary by either the Para Karate Development Council or GC.

Any recommendations for revision raised by the Para Karate Development Council shall be passed to GC for endorsement prior to KFHKCL's announcement for implementation and execution.

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