

UKF

UKF Professional Karate structure



*PROFESSIONAL
KARATE*

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1. Contests division

1.1 In each UKF Professional Karate competition there can be simple ranking contests or/and World Champion title contests.

1.2 Simple ranking contests are fights between competitors classified on ranking no. 2 and below positions.

1.3 World Champion title contests are fights between current World Champion (no. 1 in ranking) and competitor (challenger) classified on no. 2 - 5 position.

1.4 UKF continental governing bodies, as well as UKF national members can also organize their own rankings in their continents/countries, to determine Continental/National Champions.

2. Contracting the match, organizer responsibilities

2.1 What makes a contest professional is the financial prize - not less than €50 for the simple ranking contest, and not less than €200 for the World Champion title fight.

2.2 Fights (kata and/or kumite contests) are contracted by competitors or their managers and the organizer of fighting Gala event.

2.3 Each manager must have written authorization from his competitor, allowing him/her to represent that competitor in the contest managing process. Copy to be recorded with UKF Executive Board.

2.4 Competitors (or their managers allowed to represent them) negotiate the financial prize amount with the organizer of the event .

2.5 Amount of financial prize must be agreed by all (organizer/competitor/management) and show exactly what prize money is there in case of winning and losing the match, as well as the eventual bonuses (for example for winning by Ippon, etc.).

2.6 Each competitor can fight only once at each event.

2.7 To get rights to organize ranking fight, organizer has to apply to UKF Executive Board for it and pay license fee (€50 per each ranking fight).

2.8 To get rights to organize World Champion title fight, organizer has to apply to UKF Executive Board for it and pay license fee (€150 per each World Champion title fight).

2.9 To get rights to organize any UKF Professional Karate event, organizer have to meet following criteria:

a. Each UKF Professional Karate competition should include typical aspects of the show:

- Press conference (with official weight-in included) before the event;
- Special lights; i.e spot lights/ flashing lights display for the occasion
- Artistic performances at the beginning of the Gala or between the rounds;
- Music during competitors presentation, for entry to Tatami Area/arena;

- Tatami mats placed on platforms (optional on the Galas organized on the UKF World Tour events or UKF Champions League event, or special situations considered by UKF Ex. Board);
- LED screen;
- Special promotional movies/video;
- Live internet streaming of event;
- For the events which included World Champions title fights - the World Champion Belt;

b. Each UKF Professional Karate competition should include typical aspects of budo and Karate etiquette:

- bows and Dojo Kun at the press conference;
- bows before, during and after the fight;

c. Each organizer of UKF Professional Karate event should provide free accommodation and meals for referees, UKF Executive Board representative and UKF Professional Karate Commission representative.

2.9.1 It is recommended for the organizer of UKF Professional Karate event to include also other characteristic aspects of the great show and budo (i.e. it can be included in the artistic part of the opening ceremony).

2.10 Selection of the particular competitors for the simple ranking contests is made by the organizer of the UKF Professional Karate event.

2.11 For the World Champion title contests, selection of the competitors is made following this procedure:

a. Organizer of UKF Professional Karate event choose current holder of World Champion title in particular category for the defending title contest (after making necessary arrangements with current World Champion).

b. The Organizer has to ask UKF Executive Board for establishing the challenger to fight for a World Champion title. This has to be done at least 6 months before the event.

c. UKF Executive Board will invite to this contest all competitors classified on the positions no.2 - no.5 in the ranking, checking if there is more than one challenger willing to fight in the World Champion title contest.

c1. If there is only one competitor willing to fight in this contest, he/she will be accepted by UKF Executive Board for this fight.

c2. In case of having several challengers - UKF Executive Board will choose the challenger.

c3. UKF Executive Board can also make special event with the fight between 2 challengers, who are classified on the highest positions in the ranking. The winner will get rights to fight against current World Champion, at the World Champion title contest.

d. For the World Champion vacant title contests UKF Executive Board will choose 2 challengers classified on the highest positions in the ranking.

3. Ranking rules

3.1 First ever UKF Professional Karate ranking is made by members of UKF Executive Board and UKF Professional Karate Commission, based on their opinions about competitors skills, sport value and position hold in the previous Professional Karate ranking (before UKF has been established). At this moment the positions of UKF Professional World Champion (no. 1 in the ranking) in all categories are left empty (vacancy).

3.2 Next rankings are made monthly, based on rules followed in art. 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.9 and 3.11. All the changes in the ranking are made chronologically.

3.3 In case of victory of the athlete who is already classified higher than opponent in the ranking - winner of the match go up 1 position, loser go down 1 position (ex. if athlete ranked no. 4 win with with athlete ranked no. 9, then no. 4 go up to ranking position no. 3 and no. 9 go down to position no. 10).

3.3.1 If competitor classified on a ranking position no. 2 will fight in a simple ranking contest, then in case of winning such fight, he/she will remain classified on a position no. 2.

3.4 In case of victory of the athlete who is classified lower than opponent in the ranking - winner of the match replace position with loser, but maximum 4 positions up/down (ex. if athlete ranked no. 18 win with athlete ranked no. 7, then no. 18 go up to ranking position no. 14 and no. 7 go down to position no. 11) or (ex. if athlete ranked no. 3 win with athlete ranked no. 2 then they just replace - winner go up to position no. 2 and loser go down to position no.3).

3.5 In case of tie no changes in the ranking are made (either up or down). Competitors keep positions they had before the fight happened.

3.6 When the rank of the fight is vacant World Champion title, the winner of the contest will win the World Championship title (no. 1 in the ranking), and the loser go down 1 position (ex. if athlete ranked no. 2 will win in such contest with athlete ranked no. 5, then no. 2 will become World Champion, and no. 5 will go down to position no. 6).

3.6.1 In case of tie in such contest (when the rank is vacant World Champion title) no changes in the ranking are made (either up or down). Competitors keep positions they had before the fight happened.

3.7 Only competitors classified on the ranking positions no. 1 - 5. are allowed to participate in the World Champion title fights.

3.8 There have to be at least 6 months breaks between World Champion title fights in each category.

3.9 Every World Champion will have to defend his/her title at least once a year.

3.9.1 If a current World Champion cannot meet the criteria mentioned in §3.9, he/she will automatically loose his/her World Championship title, going down to position no.2 in the ranking. In that case World Champion position will be vacant.

3.10 At the end of every month rankings of all categories are published on the UKF Professional Karate webpage.

3.11 In case of changing weight/age category by competitor, UKF Executive Board decide about position of competitor in the ranking, classifying him/her on the position he/she deserve in UKF Ex.

Board opinion, based on his/her professional fights history in previous weight/age categories and all other information UKF Ex. Board have.

3.11.1 UKF Executive Board can't classify such athlete on the positions no. 1-5, as these are positions of World Champion and challengers to World Champion title. Exception are categories with less than 5 competitors.

3.11.2 Competitors are allowed to change weight category only once per every 2 years.

3.12 In any case athletes with empty fight record (no fights done within UKF Professional Karate) can't be classified higher in the ranking than those with at least one fight done within UKF Professional Karate.

4. UKF Professional Karate system - registration procedure

4.1 Competitors register themselves on the UKF Professional Karate system online.

4.2 To compete in the UKF Professional Karate events competitors have to pay the annual license fee €50 euro until 27th February and €100 euro after 27th February.

4.3 After making the registration and payment, competitors will get their position in the ranking:

4.3.1 If the registration is made at the time of first month of the system's exist, competitor position in ranking will be established by UKF Executive Board, based on their opinions about competitors skills, sport value and position hold in the previous Professional Karate ranking (before UKF has been established).

4.3.2 If the registration is made after first month of system's exist, then competitor will get the last position in the ranking of particular division.

5. Insurance responsibility

5.1 Competitors are responsible of their own health during all UKF Professional Karate events.

5.2 Taking a part in every UKF Professional Karate event competitor must have valid personal accident insurance document.

5.3 All competitors competing in UKF Professional Karate events must have doctors clearance of fitness. Copy to UKF Executive Board.

6. Weigh-in

6.1 Competitors shall be weighted wearing karate-gi pants or tracksuit pants and a black UKF Professional Karate t-shirt. A maximum overweight of 500 g. will be tolerated.

6.2 Competitor found overweight can make the fight only with opponent agreement. In such situation, half of basic financial prize of the competitor found overweight is taken from him and given to opponent.