

BKF International Open

29th & 30th of August 2026

Ponds Forge International Sports Centre, Ponds Forge, Sheaf Street,
Sheffield, England, S1 2BP



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British Karate Federation www.britishkaratefederation.co.uk

Saturday 29th August 2026

KATA - INDIVIDUAL			
Category	Code	Category	Code
Girls Kata 7-9 years	KA01	Boys Kata 7-9 years	KA04
Girls Kata 10-11 years	KA02	Boys Kata 10-11 years	KA05
Girls Kata 12-13 years	KA03	Boys Kata 12-13 years	KA06
Female Veteran Kata	KA38	Male Veteran Kata	KA32
Female Super Veteran Kata	KA39	Male Super Veteran Kata	KA33
Open Senior Kata (all genders)	KA40		

KATA - PAIRS TEAM			
Category	Code	Category	Code
Girls Kata 7-9 years	KA07	Boys Kata 7-9 years	KA10
Girls Kata 10-11 years	KA08	Boys Kata 10-11 years	KA11
Girls Kata 12-13 years	KA09	Boys Kata 12-13 years	KA12
Female Veteran Pairs Kata	KA50	Male Veteran Pairs Kata	KA54

KATA - TEAM			
Category	Code	Category	Code
Girls Kata 7-9 years	KA13	Boys Kata 7-9 years	KA16
Girls Kata 10-11 years	KA14	Boys Kata 10-11 years	KA17
Girls Kata 12-13 years	KA15	Boys Kata 12-13 years	KA18
Female Veteran Team Kata 35+ years	KA43	Male Veteran Team Kata 35+ years	KA46
International Kata Teams	KA27		

KATA - PARA INDIVIDUAL - ALL AGES			
Category	Code	Para Category Description	
Para Kata intellectually impaired - 14+ years	KA19	Athletes must have an IQ of 75 or lower on standard tests, having originated before the age of 18. Evidence of significant limitations in adaptive behaviour as expressed in conceptual, social, and practical adaptive skills.	
Para Kata intellectually impaired - 14+ years	KA20	Athletes who have an intellectual impairment and Down Syndrome as caused by extra genetic material in chromosome 21'.	
Para Kata intellectually impaired - 14+ years	KS21	Athletes who have Autism or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD): A full-scale score of IQ of above 75, and/or no diagnosis of intellectual impairment (evidence of functioning cognitively at average or above average levels). A formal diagnosis of autism, ASD or Asperger's syndrome, carried out by a qualified practitioner using accepted diagnostic techniques.	
Para Kata intellectually impaired - 7-13 years	KA22		
Category	Code	Category	Code
Blind/visually impaired - U18	KA23	Wheelchair users - all ages	KA25
Blind/visually impaired - 18+	KS24	Standing Class - all ages	KA26

KUMITE - INDIVIDUAL			
Category	Code	Category	Code
Girls Kumite 7-9 years -25kg	KU01	Boys Kumite 7-9 years -25kg	KU07
Girls Kumite 7-9 years +25kg	KU02	Boys Kumite 7-9 years +25kg	KU08
Girls Kumite 10-11 years -35kg	KU03	Boys Kumite 10-11 years -35kg	KU09
Girls Kumite 10-11 years -40kg	KU04	Boys Kumite 10-11 years -40kg	KU10
Girls Kumite 10-11 years +40kg	KU54	Boys Kumite 10-11 years +40kg	KU56
Girls Kumite 12-13 years -40kg	KU05	Boys Kumite 12-13 years -40kg	KU11
Girls Kumite 12-13 years -50kg	KU06	Boys Kumite 12-13 years -50kg	KU12
Girls Kumite 12-13 years +50kg	KU55	Boys Kumite 12-13 years +50kg	KU57

KUMITE - TEAM			
Category	Code	Category	Code
Girls Team Kumite (3) 7-9 years	KT01	Boys Team Kumite (3) 7-9 years	KT04
Girls Team Kumite (3) 10-11 years	KT02	Boys Team Kumite (3) 10-11 years	KT05
Girls Team Kumite (3) 12-13 years	KT03	Boys Team Kumite (3) 12-13 years	KT06

VETERAN KUMITE			
Category	Code	Category	Code
Female Veteran Kumite Open 35+ years	KU50	Male Veteran Kumite Open 35+ years	KU51
Female Super Veteran Kumite Open 50+ years	KU52	Male Super Veteran Kumite Open 50+ years	KU53

Sunday 30th August 2026

KATA - INDIVIDUAL			
Category	Code	Category	Code
Female Cadet Kata	KA34	Male Cadet Kata	KA28
Female Junior Kata	KA35	Male Junior Kata	KA29
Female U21 Kata	KA36	Male U21 Kata	KA30
Female Senior Kata	KA37	Male Senior Kata	KA31

KATA - PAIRS TEAM			
Female Cadet Pairs Kata	KA47	Male Cadet Pairs Kata	KA51
Female Junior Pairs Kata	KA48	Male Junior Pairs Kata	KA52
Female Senior Pairs Kata	KA49	Male Senior Pairs Kata	KA53

KATA - TEAM			
Female Cadet & Junior Team Kata	KA41	Male Cadet & Junior Team Kata	KA44
Female Senior Team Kata	KA42	Male Senior Team Kata	KA45

CADET KUMITE - INDIVIDUAL			
Category	Code	Category	Code
Female Cadet Kumite -47kg	KU13	Male Cadet Kumite -52kg	KU16
Female Cadet Kumite -54kg	KU14	Male Cadet Kumite -57kg	KU17
Female Cadet Kumite -61kg	KU15	Male Cadet Kumite -63kg	KU18
Female Cadet Kumite +61kg	KU54	Male Cadet Kumite -70kg	KU19
		Male Cadet Kumite +70kg	KU20

JUNIOR KUMITE			
Category	Code	Category	Code
Female Junior Kumite -48kg	KU21	Male Junior Kumite -55kg	KU25
Female Junior Kumite -53kg	KU22	Male Junior Kumite -61kg	KU26
Female Junior Kumite -59kg	KU23	Male Junior Kumite -68kg	KU27
Female Junior Kumite -66kg	KU24	Male Junior Kumite -76kg	KU28
Female Junior Kumite +66kg	KU55	Male Junior Kumite +76kg	KU29

U21 KUMITE - INDIVIDUAL (18-20 years)			
Category	Code	Category	Code
Female U21 Kumite -50kg	KU30	Male U21 Kumite -60kg	KU35
Female U21 Kumite -55kg	KU31	Male U21 Kumite -67kg	KU36
Female U21 Kumite -61kg	KU32	Male U21 Kumite -75kg	KU37
Female U21 Kumite -68kg	KU33	Male U21 Kumite -84kg	KU38
Female U21 Kumite +68kg	KU34	Male U21 Kumite +84kg	KU39

SENIOR KUMITE - INDIVIDUAL (18+ years)			
Category	Code	Category	Code
Female Senior Kumite -50kg	KU40	Male Senior Kumite -60kg	KU45
Female Senior Kumite -55kg	KU41	Male Senior Kumite -67kg	KU46
Female Senior Kumite -61kg	KU42	Male Senior Kumite -75kg	KU47
Female Senior Kumite -68kg	KU43	Male Senior Kumite -84kg	KU48
Female Senior Kumite +68kg	KU44	Male Senior Kumite +84kg	KU49

TEAM KUMITE			
Category	Code	Category	Code
Female Cadet Team Kumite (3)	KT07	Male Cadet Team Kumite (3)	KT10
Female Junior Team Kumite (3)	KT08	Male Junior Team Kumite (3)	KT11
Female Senior Team Kumite (3)	KT09	Male Senior Team Kumite (3)	KT12

HOME NATIONS KATA TEAMS

With a view to affording our national teams an opportunity to stress test their Kata under competition conditions:

- Home Nations Kata Teams (teams need to be from the same country).
- Male or female teams are welcome.
- Any age from 14 years is welcome.
- Bunkai is compulsory for medal bouts.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT – PARA ATHLETE

We have a facility to accommodate carers, who will be assisting Para athletes on the competition areas. Carers will be given free entry to the tournament – to avail yourself of this, please enter on Sportdata (there is a category for this).

Please register on Sportdata under the category of **Personal Assistant – Para athlete** and write to the Tournament Organiser (tournaments@britishkaratefederation.com) to confirm which Para athlete you are assisting. A badge will be waiting for you on Reception along with the warmest of welcomes.

IMPORTANT NOTES

Photography and Recording

The BKF plan to engage a photographer who will take action shots of the competitors. Video and photographs will be taken at the event for promotional purposes, however should anyone have a concern please contact the event organiser prior to the event.

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR COACHES:

For BKF members, only NGB accredited coaches are permitted in the Tatami area and must display their in-date accreditation badges upon entry. If the badge is not shown, a spectator fee will apply. Anyone wishing to coach at the Tatami must have NGB accreditation to verify that they are aware of the required rules, responsibilities and expected conduct. **Without this accreditation a coach pass will not be issued by the event organiser to BKF members.**

Coach: Dress code:

Coaches must be in association tracksuits and clearly display their coaching ID badge. Inappropriate dress, as deemed by the Chief Referee, will be refused access to the competition area. Only coaches adhering to the correct dress code and in possession of a coaching pass will be allowed on the competition area. To be clear, no hats, shorts, bare feet, sandals, jeans.

Coach: Medical

We record every injury that gives us the slightest concern, however symptoms often occur after the incident and we would ask that the coach or representative informs the medical team of any concerns he or she has at the time of the incident, or any time after, no matter how trivial it may seem.

We fully intend to have Repechage for CADETS, JUNIORS and SENIORS Individual Kumite and Kata.

However, the Chief Referee has the authority to withdraw repechage if the time frame becomes critical. WKF categories will have repechage only to quarter final bouts, with a maximum two bronze finals. *Competitors can only compete in their own categories and cannot move up to compete in another category. In the unlikely event of low category entries the organisers reserve the right to amalgamate categories.*

Insurance: It is the responsibility of each individual, or parent / guardian of a competitor if under 18 years of age, to have their own insurance cover for the event. Please advise your competitors accordingly regarding insurance cover. It is the responsibility of the clubs/coaches to ensure that all competitors are aware of this and have been advised of adequate cover. Association/club parental consent to compete is also required. This is the responsibility of the association.

Health and Safety issues have been discussed and we try to plan for every eventuality. However, this is a busy tournament and due care and attention is required in all areas. Would all coaches/parents ensure that their children are properly chaperoned. Karate matches are performed in bare feet; please ensure proper footwear is used in the arena and surrounding areas, especially approaching the mats.

Disclaimer: Karate is a martial art and contact sport. People can and do get injured and we cannot accept responsibility for any such injury, loss or accident arising from your participation in our training, competitions or associated activities and ask that you are aware, agree and accept this by entering or giving permission to enter this event. We should also be notified, in writing, of any medical condition that may have relevance to their participation in Karate.

If you require any further information or assistance, then please contact the Tournament Organiser Raj Bhardwaj via tournaments@britishkaratefederation.com



All Competitor & Coach Registration is via Sportdata

All entries are online only via Sportdata. For registration please visit: www.Sportdata.org

It is the responsibility of coaches to ensure that all competitors are registered and are in the correct categories. Competitors are only allowed to compete in their own age/weight category and are not allowed to move up a category. Entries will only be accepted via your coach/association and not from individuals.

Coach Registration: All coaches must register on-line via Sportdata before the closing date. Coach passes will only be issued to coaches who are NGB accredited (for BKF members) and registered via Sportdata (for international and non-WKF coaches).

Volunteers can also register via Sportdata. Volunteers will be provided with: a BKF Official polo shirt; lunch; tea / coffee and an excellent vantage point to watch the Championships.

Entry fees

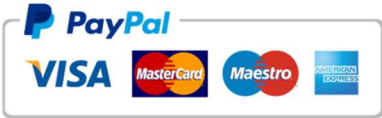
Competitor	
Individual events	£30
Team events (2-3 person)	£40

Spectator entry fees	
Family pass – weekend (2 adults and 2 children)	£50
Adult - 2 day pass	£15
Adult - 1 day pass	£11
Children - 16 yrs / concession - 2 day pass	£10
Children - 16 yrs / concession - 1 day pass	£6

The closing date for entries and payment of entry fees is Thursday 20th August 2026

No late entries permitted. Payment should be made at the time of entry. However, if entry fees are not received by the closing date entries will be removed from the draw.

Please ensure that if paying by BACS you have an identifying reference against your payment i.e. club / association name. Please also provide a receipt or confirmation of your BACS payment to the organiser via tournaments@britishkaratefederation.com

<p>All payments should be made using the PayPal link via Sportdata. This is the preferred method of payment.</p> 	<p>Or by BACS payment direct to:</p> <p>Bank: Santander Name: British Karate Federation Account number: 15891790 Sort code: 09-01-29</p>
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Publication of the draw and timeline

A first draft of the draw will be published on Friday 21st August 2026 via Sportdata. Coaches will be invited to check for any errors (these usually involve a change in weight category). A new draw will follow any addition / subtraction of an athlete in a given category.

The timeline for the Championships weekend will be published on Sunday 23rd August 2026 on Sportdata.

Finals and Medals

Each category will run straight through to the final and medals will be announced and awarded on the mats immediately after each category.

Rules of the day

The doors will open at 8:00am and the event will start 8.30am prompt. Later in the day, (i.e. for categories starting from 10am onward), athletes should aim to arrive at least two hours before they are scheduled to compete.

Should the event run ahead of schedule category start times may be brought forward. Competitor check-in will be carried out prior to each category starting.

Kata - there will be no Kata Bunkai required (with the exception of the medal bouts in International Kata Teams).

With a view to smooth and timely running of this championships, Kata will be judged using the flags system.

Intellectually impaired – single Kata required; repeating a Kata is accepted.

Competitors are asked to enter EITHER a Para category or a non-Para category.

11 years and under - alternate Katas; for individuals, pairs and teams.

11 years and under - AKA and AO will perform their Kata simultaneously i.e. on an area at the same time.

12-13 years – different Kata for each round, to a maximum of four Kata; can then repeat. For individuals, pairs and teams.

12-13 years and under - AKA and AO will perform their Kata simultaneously i.e. on an area at the same time.

Sunday – Kata will be performed one competitor at a time.

Saturday – all individual Kata will be performed two competitors at time, including the final. However, Para and Team / Pairs categories (aged 12 and above) will be performed on separate basis.

Kata and Kumite for 14 years and above will be held under WKF rules, which will be strictly applied (other than the flags system for Kata being deployed and Kumite team categories will have 3 athletes, with a minimum of two permissible).

Kumite match duration will vary as follows, although we may need to adjust these times if the event is running behind schedule:

- Under 10 years, 1.5 minute.
- 10-11 years, 1.5 minutes.
- 12-13 years, 1.5 minutes.
- Cadets, 2 minutes.
- Juniors, 2 minutes.
- Seniors and U21, 3 minutes.
- Veterans and Super Veterans, 2 minutes.

Kumite weigh in: There will be a weigh in for all athletes. Any Competitor found not to be the correct weight for the category they have entered will not be allowed to compete. We cannot move competitors to another weight category if they fail the weight checks. Athletes competing on the Sunday may volunteer to weigh in on the Saturday.

- a) Place: The weight control will take place always in the room set aside at the Sports Centre.
- b) Scales: BKF will provide an electronic scale (and back-up) showing only one decimal place, e.g. 51.9 kg, 104.6 kg. The scale does not need to be calibrated.

The scale should be placed on a solid floor that is not carpeted.

Time: Weigh-in will take place on both Saturday and Sunday morning from 9am to midday for Official weigh-in.

A Competitor that does not turn up for the weigh in period or fails to weigh within the prescribed limits for the category in which the Competitor is registered, will be disqualified (KIKEN).

Tolerance: The tolerances admitted are 1.0 kg for all male categories and 1.3 kg for all female categories. The same tolerance applies to both the upper and lower limits of a weight class.

Procedure: A minimum of two BKF officials are required at the weigh-in for both genders.

The accreditation/passport of the Competitor will be checked and the exact weight recorded on the official weigh-in list.

Additional staff members (official/volunteers) should also be available to control the flow of Competitors.

To protect the privacy of the Competitors, all Competitors are NOT allowed to present themselves in under-garments.

Male competitors are NOT allowed to remove the Karate uniform (do-gi), although the belt may be removed. Female competitors may re-present themselves in Karate do-gi trousers and a plain white T-shirt if necessary to achieve target weight.

1. The official weigh-in may be done category by category and / or Competitor by Competitor.
2. All Coaches and other Team delegates must leave the weigh-in room before the start of the official weigh-in.
3. The Competitor is allowed to stand on the scales once during the official weigh-in period. If they fail to meet the target weight with allowed tolerance, they must leave and take appropriate action they deem fit. They may then re-weigh rejoining at the rear of the queue.
4. Each Competitor shall bring to the weigh-in their accreditation card issued for the event and shall present it to the officials, who will verify the identity of the Competitor.
5. The Competitor shall weigh-in wearing the karate uniform (do-gi) with or without belt. Jacket ties must be fastened. Female competitors should wear a plain white T-shirt under the jacket. Any socks or additional complements must be removed.
6. The official then invites the Competitor to stand on the scales.
7. The official supervising the weigh-in shall note and record the Competitor's weight in kilograms (accurate to one decimal point of a kilogram).
8. The Competitor steps off the scales and leaves the room.
9. If the competitor fails to meet the weight plus allowed tolerance, then they may come back later during the official weigh-in time to repeat the Weigh-in. It is the competitor's responsibility to meet the weight for the relevant category. No advice on rapid weight-loss will be given by the officials.

NOTE: Photography or filming is not permitted in the weigh-in area. This includes the use of mobile phones and all other devices.

Pairs & Teams: All members of team must be from the same club/association.

Compulsory protective wear:

WKF approved or similar groin guards compulsory for all males 12 years of age and over.

Correctly fitting red/blue foot protection and hand mitts, as well as gum shields are compulsory.

Body protectors should be worn under the Gi for athletes aged 14 years and above.

14 years and above – all females must wear chest and body protectors (a combined protector or two separate protectors).

Body protectors should be worn over the Gi by athletes aged under 14 years.

14 years and below - WKF approved head guards (or similar with face masks) are now compulsory.

Whilst competitors are expected to bring their own protective equipment, the BKF will make head guards available to borrow on this occasion.

All body protectors must be white.

Anyone with braces on the lower teeth MUST have a full upper and lower gum shield.

BKF Chief Referee, Peter Bibby

SATURDAY – referees’ briefing 8:00am

SUNDAY - referees’ briefing 8.00am

Housekeeping

Bags and equipment should not be left where they potentially present a trip hazard. Nor should they be left at the side of the Tatami whilst competing.

Spectators in the seating area should remain seated. Spectators should not stand by the barriers adjacent to the Tatami as this blocks the view of seated spectators and causes a potential health and safety hazard.

Official Hotel

The BKF recommends the following hotel, which is very close to the competition venue:
Travelodge Sheffield Central, 1 Broad St W, Sheffield City Centre, Sheffield. S1 2BQ.

N.B. A discount ticket for the Q-Park adjacent to the official hotel and across the road from the arena is available at Ponds Forge’s Reception. The Travel Lodge Reception will also facilitate a Q-Park discount for hotel customers.

Athlete Operating Procedure

Each category (or pool of a category) is scheduled to run on a specific Tatami. The category will be clearly announced over the public address system and the athletes in that category should then make their way to the corresponding area.

A Tatami Official will then take a register of competitors on the draw sheet for that category, one by one for each match. The first visit for any category (or pool) will select competitors for the current bout plus next bout. Bout competitors will then take a seat in the allocated area awaiting their bout.

Coaches should consult the available draw sheets to determine the competitor position in the draw. (This is available via Sportdata and is also displayed within the arena area).

Please note that once called, competitors should remain adjacent to the nominated Tatami to ensure that they do not miss their bout. It is the coaches' responsibility to have competitors available for the bout as it is called.

Compliance with the above procedure will help to maintain a constant flow and avoid competitors missing their bouts. Your support in this procedure is appreciated.

