

# **2025 Junior Pan-American Games**

## **CANADIAN KARATE TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA (INTERNAL NOMINATION PROCEDURE)**



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## GENERAL

### Responsibilities

- The High Performance Committee is responsible for developing and approving the selection process and procedures for the team that will be nominated to the COC for the *2025 Games*.
- The Sport Technical Leader is responsible for the implementation of these procedures. All team nominations, including alternates and staff, will be ratified by the High Performance Committee.
- The Sport Technical Leader is responsible for ensuring that the process outlined in this document is properly followed and that the selection process is fair and equitable for all candidates.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Purpose:

The purpose of this document is to outline the qualification process and selection procedures of Karate Canada for determining those athletes who will be selected to represent Canada at the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games as members of the Karate Canada team.

### 1.2. Objectives:

The objective of this selection policy and procedures is to select the maximum number of medal potential athletes for the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games.

### 1.3 Contact:

For any questions or clarifications on the contents of these Internal Nomination Procedures, please contact Karate Canada's Sport Technical Leader, Mr. Rodney Hobson at: [rodney.hobson@karatecanada.org](mailto:rodney.hobson@karatecanada.org) or Karate Canada's Executive Director Mr. Chris Bright, at: [ed@karatecanada.org](mailto:ed@karatecanada.org).

### 1.4. Team Size:

Karate Canada may nominate up to the maximum number permitted by the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games entry regulations and the quota allocation by the COC. If Karate Canada has more qualified athletes than the COC team size allocation, then the reallocation of an unused quota spot will be declined.

## II. DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY:

### 2.1 Development and Approval of the Internal Nomination Procedure (INP)

The Canadian Olympic Committee mandates Karate Canada to determine the Internal Nomination Procedures for the athletes and staff that will be nominated to the COC for the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games.

Karate Canada's High-Performance Committee is responsible for developing (and recommending to Karate Canada's Board of Directors) the selection process and procedures for the team that will be nominated to the COC for the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games.

### 2.2. Implementation of the INP

The Sport Technical Leader, in consultation with the High Performance Committee and Executive Director, are responsible for the implementation of these Board-approved procedures. All team nominations will be ratified by the High-Performance Committee.

### 2.3. On-site Decision-Making Authority during the Games

During the actual competition period onsite at the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games all final decision-making authority will reside with the Team Leader, or with a National Team Staff Coach (or designated substitute) in the absence of the Team Leader (This includes, but is not limited to, decisions around removal of an athlete from the team, management of injuries, etc.).

## III. WORLD KARATE FEDERATION CRITERIA

The qualification system from the Organizing Committee can be viewed here: [https://karatecanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/KTE\\_Qualif\\_25Sep24.pdf](https://karatecanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/KTE_Qualif_25Sep24.pdf)

## IV. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

### 4.1 General

In order to be eligible for nomination to the Canadian Olympic Committee for the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games, an athlete must (at the time of this nomination):

- a) Be a Canadian citizen (as per the Regulations of the Pan American Games);
- b) Have a valid Canadian passport that does not expire for up to 6 months after the Games

(not before February 23, 2026);

- c) Be in compliance with all relevant World Karate Federation (WKF), COC, IF, and Pan Am Sports requirements for eligibility.
- d) To be eligible to participate in the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games, all athletes must be 18-20 years old as of the first day of competition.
- e) Be a registrant in good standing of a Provincial or Territorial Karate Organization which is, in turn, a member Association in good standing with Karate Canada.
- f) Be a member in good standing of the Canadian Junior National Team Roster at the time of selection (see article 4.3 below)
- g) Have paid all outstanding invoices to Karate Canada at least fourteen (14) days prior to departure for the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games.
- h) Sign, submit, and comply with the COC Athlete Agreement and Local Organizing Committee (LOC) Eligibility form no later than COC registration requirement deadline. Where the athlete is under the age of 19 years, the parent or guardian must also sign these agreements.
- i) Compliance with vaccination requirements and policies of the of the NSO, COC, PKF or WKF, and the host country of the event (if applicable)
- j) Comply with the team preparation plans as set forth by Karate Canada's Junior National Team Coaches

#### 4.2 Status as member in good standing of the Canadian Junior National Team Roster:

In order to be eligible for nomination to the Canadian Olympic Committee for the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games Team selection, an athlete must be a member in good standing of the Junior National Team Roster at the time of selection (in accordance with the published Junior National Team Selection Criteria). This includes having signed and abiding by Karate Canada's 2024-25 National Team Roster Athlete Agreement.

Even after nomination, selected athletes will also be required to maintain status as members in good standing of the Junior National Team Roster from the time of selection up until and including participation in the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games.

Please note: As part of the Junior National Team Roster requirements, athletes must participate in the 2025 Karate Canada National Championships (unless they benefit from an approved exemption request).

## V. SELECTION CRITERIA

## 5.1 Athlete Selection Process & Criteria

### 5.1.1 Qualification System:

The athlete “Qualification System” for the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan-American Games is determined by the Pan-American Karate Federation, and can be found at:

[https://karatecanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/KTE\\_Qualif\\_25Sep24.pdf](https://karatecanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/KTE_Qualif_25Sep24.pdf)

Quotas are allocated “by-name”, and therefore the athletes have already been selected as per the qualification system. (Karate Canada’s Team Selection Criteria for participation in the August 2025 qualifying event mentioned in the PANAM SPORTS Qualification System document, can be found published on Karate Canada’s website.) Karate Canada Junior National Team Roster athletes who meet the eligibility requirements stated in Section IV above and who will qualify for participation in the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games through the Qualification System published by PANAM SPORTS will be nominated by Karate Canada to the Canadian Olympic Committee for selection onto the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games Canadian Team. Please note: In accordance with PANAM SPORTS’s Qualification System for the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games, athlete selection for participation in the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games is an entirely objective process. It leaves no room for any possible ties.

## 5.2 Alternates

As per the PANAM SPORTS karate event qualification system, individual athletes qualify for the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games through defined qualifying events sanctioned by the PKF. Consequently, Karate Canada may not select or name alternates onto its team for participation in the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games.

## 5.3 Performance Readiness

All athletes selected by Karate Canada for participation in the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games will be required to comply with all requirements and rules regarding exemptions and appeals listed and described in Karate Canada’s Junior National Team Criteria, at the time of their selection and from the moment of that selection until their participation in the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games, inclusively. This includes mandatory participation in the national inter-regional and regional training camps for identified athletes.

Athletes selected for participation in the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games must comply with the team preparation plans as set forth by Karate Canada’s Junior National Team Coaches.

### 5.3.1 Injury or Illness

In the case of injury or illness, the Sport Technical Leader will consider medical recommendations in making a final decision related to performance readiness. Injured or ill athletes will be subject to a proof of readiness test to be determined by the Staff Coaches. This test will consist of a controlled performance such as a competition or an observed trial or test. This trial will have predetermined expected outcomes and take place in Canada. Injured or ill

athletes will not travel with the team until this requirement has been satisfied. If it is determined that an athlete is not competition-ready once on-site at the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games, or has not disclosed an injury or illness, he/she may be asked to return home immediately.

#### 5.4 Removal of an Athlete Once Selected

Eligibility of qualified athletes to represent Canada at the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games will remain conditional upon said athletes meeting all Junior National Team Roster requirements from the moment of their qualification / selection and until the conclusion of the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games.

Should any qualified athlete fail to meet such requirements, they may be removed from the Canadian karate team for the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games.

Additionally, prior to Team Nomination to the COC, Karate Canada will have the final authority over dismissal of any athlete from the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games Team. Following nomination to the COC, any such removals are subject to the approval of the COC Team Selection Committee. Reasons for dismissal include, but are not limited to:

- Inability to perform due to injury, illness or for other medical reasons as determined by Karate Canada's medical staff;
- Violation of team rules and / or failure by the athlete to fulfill his / her duties as identified in the 2025-2026 Karate Canada Athlete Agreement;
- Violation of the Karate Canada's Code of Conduct and Ethics
- Conduct detrimental to the Team and/or the image of Karate Canada and / or its National Team program;
- Failure to adhere to all WADA, CCES, and COC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures including participation in out-of-competition testing as required by WADA, CCES, and COC Rules;

The decision-making authority for removal of an athlete is at the discretion of the Sport Technical Leader, but such decision-making must be made in consultation with the Executive Director, and be approved by Karate Canada's High-Performance Committee.

##### 5.4.1 On-site decision-making authority to remove an athlete from the Team:

As stated in section II, during the actual competition period onsite at the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games all final decision-making authority will reside with the Team Leader, or with Junior Staff Coach in the absence of the Team Leader (This includes, but is not limited to, decisions around removal of an athlete from the team, management of injuries, etc.).



## VI. TEAM NOMINATION AND CONFIRMATION OF ENTRIES

### 6.1 WKF Confirmation of Quota Places to the COC and Karate Canada

WKF already confirmed that Karate Canada has earned 1 Male and 4 Female spots for the Junior Pan American Games. These quotas have already been accepted by the COC with the support of Karate Canada. No other spots will be available.

### 6.2 Nominations to the COC & Team Announcement

Upon receiving the confirmation of quota places from PANAM SPORTS and COC, Karate Canada will verify eligibility of all selected / qualified athletes.

Eligible and selected / qualified athletes will be notified by Karate Canada and will be asked to confirm their intent to participate in the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games.

Karate Canada shall submit its list of eligible and qualified athletes (having confirmed their intent to participate) to the COC and shall nominate such athletes for positions on the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games Canadian Team no later than July 15, 2025.

Karate Canada will make a public announcement of its athlete nominations.

### 6.3 Reallocation of Unused Quota Places

If necessary, the PKF will reallocate unused places following the procedure outlined in the qualification document.

## VII. AMENDMENTS & UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

Karate Canada's Board of Directors reserves the right to review and modify any criteria or decision related to this selection process in the case of rule or policy changes from the WKF, PKF or the International Olympic Committee (IOC) that affect the selection criteria set out in this document. In the event that the selection criteria / INP is modified, Karate Canada will promptly post an announcement on its website announcing the changes.

- Any changes to this document shall be communicated directly to long-list athletes and PTSO Presidents. This clause shall not be used to justify changes after a competition or trials which formed part of these Internal Nomination Procedures unless it is related to an unforeseen circumstance. This is to allow for changes to this document that may become necessary due to a typographical error or a lack of clarity in a definition or wording before it has an impact on athletes. In the event of a change to this document,

Karate Canada shall inform the COC of the changes and the reasons for those changes as soon as possible.

- In the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Karate Canada that prevents the Executive Director and High-Performance Committee from fairly implementing these Internal Nomination Procedures as written, the Executive Director shall have the full discretion to resolve the matter as they see fit, taking into account factors and circumstances that they deem relevant.
- In situations where unforeseen circumstances do not allow the selection process to be fairly and objectively applied, the Sport Technical Leader in consultation with the Executive Director, reserves the right to rule on an appropriate course of action.
- The Executive Committee of Karate Canada reserves the right to review and modify any selection criteria or decision related to the selection process in the case of rule or policy changes from the PKF or the International Olympic Committee that affect the selection criteria set out in this document. In the event that the selection criteria is modified, Karate Canada will promptly post an announcement on its website announcing the changes.

Further, situations may arise that do not allow this Internal Nomination Procedure to be modified or applied as written due to time constraints or other exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. In such situations, any decision, including nomination decisions, will be made by the individual(s) with decision-making authority, as stated in this Internal Nomination Procedure, in consultation with the relevant individual(s) or committee(s) (as applicable), and in accordance with the stated performance objectives and selection philosophy and approach as stated herein. Should it be necessary to make any decision in this manner, Karate Canada will communicate with all affected individuals as soon as possible.

#### Cancelled or Postponed Events

- Should it be necessary to cancel or postpone any event specified in this INP that is conducted under the authority of Karate Canada, such decision shall be made by the relevant person(s) or body within Karate Canada under whose authority the event was originally to be held, which in the case of Karate Canada, is the Executive Director as applicable.
- Decisions to cancel or postpone any event specified in this INP shall be made: a) only when absolutely necessary, such as when it has become impossible or unreasonably difficult to hold the event at all or on the originally scheduled date (for example, due to public health restrictions or other circumstances beyond the control of Karate Canada); and b) as soon as reasonably possible after Karate Canada has become aware that the event cannot be held.
- If any event specified in this INP is canceled, Karate Canada shall determine whether it is feasible to reschedule the event in a different location and on a different date than previously scheduled and shall communicate any such decisions to reschedule the event to all impacted individuals as soon as reasonably possible, taking into account the time needed for athletes to prepare for the rescheduled event and for any logistical matters in relation to the event to be addressed, including, but not limited to, any matters related

- to Karate Canada's organization of the event, as well as athlete and athlete entourage travel to the location of the rescheduled event.
- Karate Canada may also determine, at its sole discretion, following consultation with the relevant and necessary individuals and/or committees within Karate Canada's structure, to hold alternative replacement events or assessments for the purpose of nomination to the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games Team including virtual events, but only where feasible and where the nomination procedure indicated in this INP, including the stated performance objectives, are not prejudiced.
  - Should any event specified in this INP be canceled, postponed, rescheduled or replaced, Karate Canada shall update the nomination procedures indicated in this INP, as applicable, as soon as reasonably possible and shall communicate any modifications to all impacted individuals, as well as publish the modified INP on its website, prior to the postponed, rescheduled or replacement event.
  - Decisions made pursuant to this clause shall not be subject to appeal and do not apply to the cancellation of events that are conducted under the authority of organizations other than Karate Canada.

## VIII. APPEALS

Karate Canada nominations to the COC for the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set out in Karate Canada's Appeal Policy. Any dispute relating to Karate Canada's Internal Nomination Procedures for the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games must be brought according to said policy or may be brought directly to the SDRCC with the consent of all parties. Karate Canada's appeal policy:

[https://karatecanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/KC\\_Appeal-Policy\\_Final\\_BOD\\_28Mar2021\\_EN.pdf](https://karatecanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/KC_Appeal-Policy_Final_BOD_28Mar2021_EN.pdf)

## IX. PUBLICATION

Karate Canada's Internal Nomination Procedures for the 2025 JPAG will be posted on Karate Canada's website and distributed by email to all members in good standing of the Junior National Team Roster no later than December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

## X. STAFF SELECTION

Karate Canada's Sport Technical Leader and Executive Director will select the support staff, including Team Leader and/or Coach(es), for the 2025 JPAG. The support staff will be selected based on the principle of sending a team of specialists that is best capable of assisting athletes in achieving podium performances at the Games. All selections are subject to COC approval. Staff selected must adhere to the following eligibility criteria:

- Be in compliance with all relevant IF, COC, and IOC requirements for eligibility.
- Sign, submit, and comply with the COC Support Staff Agreement and PASO Eligibility Conditions Form (EC) no later than June 26, 2025.
- Be 18 years of age or older.
- Be a member in good standing of Karate Canada
- If a coach, be in good standing with the Professional Coaching Program of the Coaching Association of Canada
- Have a valid passport that does not expire until 6 months after the Games have ended (not before February 23, 2026).
- Be in compliance with vaccination requirements and policies of the of the NSO, COC, PKF or WKF, Pan Am Sports and the host country of the event (if applicable).

### 10.1 Team Leader(s):

Karate Canada-nominated Team Leaders must satisfy the expectations and requirements of the Canadian Olympic Committee's Team Leader Position Description, available in the COC Team Leader Manual.

### 10.2 Coach(es):

To be recognized as (an) official Coach(es) for the 2025 Junior Pan-American Games, Karate Canada-nominated Coach(es) must be in good standing with the Professional Coaching Program of the Coaching Association of Canada as per the COC Coach Recognition Policy.

By default, Karate Canada's Junior Staff Coaches will, at the time of nomination to the COC, have first priority towards Coach selection for the 2025 JPAG if athletes from the respective karate disciplines that they oversee have qualified as part of the Canadian Team.

## XI. TIMELINES SUMMARY

<b>Asuncion 2025</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
INP published	Dec 1, 2024
Qualification Period	Aug 2024
COC Accreditation Information Deadline	April 8, 2025
COC Registration Requirement Deadline	June 26, 2025
NSO Nomination Deadline	July 15, 2025
NSO Appeal Deadline	July 23, 2025
COC Team Nomination Deadline	July 15, 2025
A25 Entry by Name Deadline	July 19, 2025
Asuncion 2025 Games Opening Ceremonies	August 9, 2025

## XII. FUNDING

Athletes may be responsible for the team member costs not covered by COC or Karate Canada.