

**2023 PAN AMERICAN GAMES
CANADIAN KARATE TEAM
SELECTION CRITERIA
(INTERNAL NOMINATION PROCEDURE)**

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I. 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 Santiago 2023 Pan American Games (PAG) as members of the Karate Canada team. Canadian representation may occur in the individual kumite and individual kata divisions (no team kata divisions).

1.2. Objectives:

The objective of this selection policy and procedures is to select the maximum number of medal potential athletes for the Santiago 2023 PAGs .

1.3 Contact:

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

1.4. Team Size:

Karate Canada may nominate to the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) up to the maximum number permitted by the Santiago 2023 PAGs entry regulations. The size of the team is subject to the restrictions of the COC and financial considerations.

Karate Canada will be selecting a maximum of 12 athletes, in the following Pan American Games karate divisions, maximum 1 athlete per individual division.

Male	Female
-60kg individual kumite	-50kg individual kumite
-67 individual kumite	-55kg individual kumite
-75 individual kumite	-61kg individual kumite
-84 individual kumite	-68kg individual kumite
+84 individual kumite	+68kg individual kumite
Individual Kata	Individual Kata

*For categories which contain athletes who are pre-qualified from the most recent Junior PAG, Karate Canada can qualify an additional athlete in that division. In all other divisions, once an athlete is qualified, no additional athletes are eligible for selection to that division.

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 Santiago 2023 PAGs.

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 Santiago 2023 PAG.

2.2. Implementation of the INP

The Senior National Team Kumite Head Coach and Head Kata Coach, in consultation with the Sport Technical Leader 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 Santiago 2023 PAG all final decision-making authority will reside with the Team Leader, or with a discipline-specific Senior National Team Head 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.). Given that KC's National Team coaching structure utilizes discipline-specific Head Coaches, on-site decision-making authority, in the absence of the Team Leader, relating to a discipline-specific issues will lie with the Head Coach overseeing that discipline.

III. Pan American Sports Organization (PANAM SPORTS) CRITERIA

The Pan American Sports Organization (PANAM SPORTS) Qualification System for the Santiago 2023 PAG can be found at and, in the event of a discrepancy, the original PANAM SPORTS version will prevail. In the event of changes by PANAM SPORTS to the Qualification System or the selection and eligibility criteria, Karate Canada is bound by these changes and will inform the membership as soon as possible.

These Internal Nomination Procedures are based on PANAM SPORTS rules and regulations as presently known and understood and on the latest information available to Karate Canada. Any changes in the selection criteria and procedures necessitated by a change in PANAM SPORTS rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes as soon as reasonably possible. Should such a circumstance occur, Karate Canada will review and amend these INP to comply with the new regulations or conditions. Amendments to this document will be communicated directly to the affected athletes, as well as being posted on Karate Canada's website.

All athletes who take part in the Santiago 2023 PAG must achieve the minimum eligibility standards set forth by PANAM SPORTS, as well as meet Karate Canada's eligibility requirements

(see section IV below).

IV. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

4.1 General

In order to be eligible for nomination to the Canadian Olympic Committee for the Santiago 2023 PAG Team selection, 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 on or before May 8, 2024 (passports must be valid for up to 6 months after the Games);
- c) Be in compliance with all relevant PANAM SPORTS, Pan American Karate Federation (PKF) and IOC requirements for eligibility, which includes meeting the age eligibility requirements established by the WKF for participation in Senior kumite and kata events (see article 4.2 below);
- d) Have signed, submitted and committed to comply with the COC Athlete Agreement and Organizing Committee Conditions of Participation Form no later than September 15th, 2023 (where the athlete is under the age of 19 years, the parent or guardian must also sign these agreements).
- 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 Senior 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 2023 PAG.
- h) 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)

4.2. Age Eligibility Requirements:

As per PANAM SPORTS's Santiago 2023 PAG Karate Qualification System document, in order to be eligible for selection onto the Canadian Santiago 2023 PAG National Team, athletes must be either a minimum of 16 years old for kata or a minimum of 18 years old for kumite on the closing day of the first qualifying event in each case. For Canadian athletes, the first qualifying event will be the North American Cup and Regional Qualifying Event.

4.3 Status as member in good standing of the Canadian Senior National Team Roster:

In order to be eligible for nomination to the Canadian Olympic Committee for the Santiago

2023 PAG Team selection, an athlete must be a member in good standing of the Senior National Team Roster at the time of selection (in accordance with the published 2022-2023 Senior National Team Selection Criteria). This includes having signed and abiding by Karate Canada's 2022-2023 National Team Roster Athlete Agreement.

Even after nomination, selected athletes will also be required to maintain status as members in good standing of the Senior National Team Roster from the time of selection up until and including participation in the Santiago 2023 PAG.

Please note: As part of the Senior National Team Roster requirements, athletes must participate in the 2023 Karate Canada's National Championships (unless they benefit from an approved exemption request).

4.4. Dress Code & Equipment

Athletes named to compete in the Santiago 2023 PAG will be required to comply with dress code regulations of Karate Canada Team and the Canadian Olympic Committee.

Athletes named to the Santiago 2023 PAG will only be allowed to use competition protective equipment that meets with the rules and regulations of the WKF.

V. SELECTION CRITERIA

5.1 Athlete Selection Process & Criteria

5.1.1 Qualification System:

The athlete "Qualification System" for the Santiago 2023 PAG is determined by PANAM SPORTS, and can be found at: https://karatecanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/KTE_Qualif_4Aug2022.pdf

(Karate Canada's Team Selection Criteria for participation in the April 2023 North American Region qualifying event and the May 2023 Pan American Championships mentioned in the PANAM SPORTS Qualification System document, can be found published on Karate Canada's website.)

Karate Canada Senior National Team Roster athletes who meet the eligibility requirements stated in Section IV above and who will qualify for participation in the Santiago 2023 PAG through the Qualification System published by PANAM SPORTS will be nominated by Karate Canada to the Canadian Olympic Committee for selection onto the Santiago 2023PAG Canadian Team.

Please note: In accordance with PANAM SPORTS's Qualification System for the Santiago 2023 PAG, athlete selection for participation in the Santiago 2023 PAG 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 Santiago 2023 PAG through defined qualifying events sanctioned by the PKF. Consequently,

Karate Canada may not select or name alternates onto its team for participation in the Santiago 2023 PAG.

5.3 Performance Readiness

All athletes selected by Karate Canada for participation in the Santiago 2023 PAG will be required to comply with all requirements and rules regarding exemptions and appeals listed and described in Karate Canada's Senior National Team Criteria, at the time of their selection and from the moment of that selection until their participation in the Santiago 2023 PAG, inclusively. This includes mandatory participation in the national inter-regional and regional training camps for identified athletes.

Athletes selected for participation in the Santiago 2023 PAG must comply with the team preparation plans as set forth by Karate Canada's Senior National Team Head Coaches.

5.3.1 Maintaining Weight

Athletes selected by Karate Canada for participation in the Santiago 2023 PAG will be expected to remain within a reasonable range from the upper weight limit for their PAG division. Karate Canada may weigh selected athletes between the dates of team selection and of departure for the Santiago 2023 PAG. Athletes must not exceed their weight division's upper limit by more than 5% of that weight. Athletes who fail to remain within 5% of their PAG weight division's upper limit will be subject to possible removal from the Team, at Karate Canada's discretion.

5.3.2 Injury or Illness

In the case of injury or illness, the discipline Head Coach 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 discipline Head Coach. 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 Santiago 2023 PAG, 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 Santiago 2023 PAG will remain conditional upon said athletes meeting all Senior National Team Roster requirements from the moment of their qualification / selection and until the conclusion of the Santiago 2023 PAG.

Should any qualified athlete fail to meet such requirements, they may be removed from the Canadian karate team for the Santiago 2023 PAG.

Additionally, prior to Team Nomination to the COC, Karate Canada will have the final authority over dismissal of any athlete from the Santiago 2023 PAG 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 2022-2023 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;
- Failure by the athlete to maintain his/her weight within an acceptable range (see article 5.3.1 above

The decision-making authority for removal of an athlete is at the discretion of the Senior National Team Head Coach, but such decision-making must be made in consultation with the Sport Technical Leader, 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 Santiago 2023 PAG all final decision-making authority will reside with the Team Leader, or with Senior discipline-specific National Team Head 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 PANAM SPORTS Confirmation of Quota Places to the COC and Karate Canada

PANAM SPORTS will confirm in writing to Karate Canada and the COC the quota places (selected / qualified athletes) achieved by Canada on July 10th, 2023. With the support of Karate Canada, the COC will confirm acceptance of earned quotas to PANAM SPORTS no later than July 14th, 2023.

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 Santiago 2023 PAG by (no later than) July 14th, 2023.

Karate Canada shall submit its list of eligible and qualified athletes (having confirmed their intent to participate) to the COC no later than July 14th 2023 and shall nominate such athletes for positions on the Santiago 2023 PAG Canadian Team.

Karate Canada will make a public announcement of its athlete nominations sometime between July 14th and August 1st, 2023.

6.3 Reallocation of Unused Quota Places

If necessary, the PKF will reallocate unused places to the next highest ranked NOC at the 2023 Pan American Games Qualifier. In the case that the COC qualifies for the reallocation of an unused quota place, athlete notification will occur on or before July 17th, 2023.

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, PANAM SPORTS 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.

COVID-19 Clause:

Karate Canada is carefully following the evolution of the coronavirus on the global and domestic level and how it may impact obtaining quota spots for the PAG and/or domestic nomination of athletes for the PAG. Unless otherwise required by exceptional and unforeseen circumstances related to the impact of the coronavirus, Karate Canada will respect these published Internal Nomination Procedures as written.

However, situations related to the coronavirus pandemic may arise that require this Internal Nomination Procedure to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly impact the Internal Nomination Procedure. In such circumstances, any modifications will be communicated to all affected individuals as soon as possible.

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 Santiago PAG 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.

Event Participation

- As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Karate Canada may be required, in the best interests of athlete, athlete entourage and staff safety, to not travel to and participate in events indicated in this INP that will be used for nomination to the Santiago PAG Team, even in circumstances when the event may proceed as planned. Any such decisions will be made in consultation with relevant experts, including medical and public health safety experts, and will be communicated to all impacted individuals as soon as possible.

In such circumstances, Karate Canada will determine if alternate events may be attended as a substitute for the event that Karate Canada has decided not to participate in and, if so, will modify this INP accordingly, and inform all impacted individuals as soon as possible.

When making decisions regarding Karate Canada's travel to and participation in events for safety reasons, Karate Canada will endeavor to minimize any impact of such decisions on Olympic qualification, obtaining Olympic quota spots and domestic nomination to the Santiago PAG Team. However, depending on the circumstances, athlete, athlete entourage and staff safety may be prioritized based on the advice of medical and public health safety experts.

- Karate Canada recognizes that athletes, athlete entourage and staff may, for safety reasons related to the COVID-19 pandemic, also decide not to travel to and participate in events indicated in this INP that will be used for nomination to the Santiago PAG Team, even in circumstances when the event may proceed as planned, and even when Karate Canada has decided that it will travel to and participate in the event because it has decided, following consultation with medical and public health safety experts, that it is safe to do so.

VIII. APPEALS

Karate Canada nominations to the COC for the Santiago 2023 PAG 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 Santiago 2023 PAG 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 [link here](#).

IX. PUBLICATION

Karate Canada's Internal Nomination Procedures for the Santiago 2023 PAG will be posted on Karate Canada's website and distributed by email to all members in good standing of the Senior National Team Roster no later than August 15th, 2022.

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 Santiago 2023 PAG. 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. All staff must 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 Santiago 2023 PAG 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

By default, Karate Canada's Senior National Team Kumite Head Coach and Head Kata Coach will, at the time of nomination to the COC, have first priority towards Coach selection for the Santiago 2023 PAG if athletes from the respective karate disciplines that they oversee have qualified as part of the Canadian Team.

XI. TIMELINES SUMMARY

SANTIAGO 2023	
KC to publish Santiago 2023 PAG INP	Nov 25, 2022
INP published deadline	Nov 25, 2022

Long list deadline	Feb 6, 2023 (Monday)
Bridge launch to long list	Feb 15, 2023
North American Cup – USA/CAN/MEX, Las Vegas, USA	April 5 & 6, 2023
Accreditation information deadline	April 20, 2023
2023 Pan American Championship, San Jose, Costa Rica	May 26-28, 2023
The PKF will confirm to Panam Sports and to NOCs the places that they have qualified	July 10, 2023
NOC will confirm to Panam Sports and to the PKF the places they will use	July 14, 2023
Registration requirements due date	Sept 15, 2023
Team nomination deadline	Sept 26, 2023
Aa substitution pending COC Team Selection Committee	Sept 26-28, 2023
Late Athlete Replacement Policy (LARP) is in effect	Sept 29, 2023 onward
PAG event	Oct 20-Nov 5, 2023
****Passport must be valid at least until May 8, 2024****	

XII. FUNDING

Athletes will be responsible for all costs associated with the qualification process towards selection onto the Santiago 2023 PAG Team.