COMPETITION RULES

UNIFIED KARATE

Unified Sport® of Special Olympics

Regulatory Convergence of WKF Para Karate and Special Olympics (Article 1)

Version No. 03 — 2026

Update of Version No. 02, with Annexes I to VII in full

Working translation into American English of the Spanish text "Reglamento de Competencia — Karate Unificado, Versión nº 03." It is not a certified translation. In case of discrepancy, the Spanish text prevails.

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Institutional Identity: The Unified Karate Seal

Inclusion as a right, never as charity.



The Unified Karate Competition Model is a sport practice and also a way of understanding integration on the tatami. Its official logo and emblem represent the convergence of two major currents in world sport:

- The World Karate Federation (WKF) Para Karate, which contributes technical rigor, martial excellence, and the official kata criteria for classes K21 and K22.
- The Special Olympics Unified Sports® model, based on Article 1 of its Sport Rules. It encourages joy, courage, camaraderie, and the meaningful involvement of athletes with and without intellectual disability, side by side, in pairs and in teams of two athletes and two Unified Partners.

What the Elements of the Seal Mean

- **Blue and red.** The two-color dynamic draws on the fluid energy of kata. It expresses the balance and synergy of Unified Kata and Unified Team Kata, which compete under criteria of equity and safety.
- **The initials UK (Unified Karate).** They identify the discipline in a modern, solid, and transparent way, and project the professionalism of a structured competitive model.
- **The interlaced white belt (obi).** It is the conceptual heart of the design and crosses the two letters. It represents traditional budo, a path of mutual respect and self-improvement; the universal starting point, a tatami where all people learn and grow on equal terms; and the bond of the team, the firm tie that joins the athlete with the Unified Partner in every performance.

Reach and Commitment

Each time the seal appears on a regulation, a tournament, a functional assessment manual, or an official platform, it expresses a commitment to a demanding, fair, and inclusive sport practice. It builds a space where the autonomy and dignity of each athlete are the true driving force of competition. Official details: Unified Karate · www.UnifiedKarate.net · unifiedkarateorganization@gmail.com. The Unified Karate competition model was founded by Dr. (c) Manuel Argel Argel.

Use of the Seal (Author's Proposal)

- Flat blue and burgundy version: light backgrounds and general use.
- Relief version: covers and large-format pieces.
- Red or blue version: one-ink printing and light backgrounds.
- Do not distort or recolor the seal, and keep a clear margin around it.

Source Verification Note

These Rules were built and cross-checked directly against the text of the following sources, verified in their original version:

- **WKF Para Karate Kata Competition Rules**, version 2026.0, in force since 1.1.2026 (verified in full text).
- **WKF Kata Competition Rules**, version 2026.0 (consulted in the cited articles on team kata, Art. 3.5).
- **International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)**, WHO/PAHO, abridged Spanish version (verified in full text).
- **Special Olympics Sports Rules — Article 1, September 2024 version (Addendum F included). The sections cited in these Rules were checked one by one against the text of that edition; Addendum D (oaths and codes of conduct) was read in full.**

Scope of verification: (a) the Special Olympics sections cited correspond to Sports Rules Article 1 (Sept. 2024); the "General Rules" are referenced generically and not as a textual citation, because their text was not reviewed here. (b) The 15% figure is a guideline, not a rule (SO Art. 1, §10.2.1). (c) This document is aligned to converge with both institutions; formal validation is an institutional decision of the WKF and SOI and cannot be taken for granted. (d) The SOI General Rules were not reviewed, and it was not confirmed whether an edition of Article 1 later than September 2024 exists. The reading of Article 1 applied to the composition of Unified Team Kata, to the exhibition, and to the scope by level (Arts. 1.5, 2.2, and 4.9) is the author's interpretation and must be consulted with SOI and SO Chile before it is presented as an SOI criterion.

> **Framing. Karate, as a martial art, is among the sports that require prior approval from SOI (SO Art. 1, §5.3.1, Sept. 2024); the request must be accompanied by the proposed rules and safety standards (§5.3.4), and no Accredited Program may offer training or competition in those sports without approval from the SOI Sports Department (§5.3.3). These Rules constitute that instrument. Guiding principle: inclusion as a right, never as charity.**

Article 1: General Provisions, Foundations, and Order of Precedence

1.1. Purpose

Special Olympics competitions in the events of Individual Kata, Unified Kata, and Unified Team Kata are governed by these Rules, which apply subject to Article 1 of the Sports Rules and to the General Rules of Special Olympics, and to the prior approval of SOI (Art. 13.3). They adapt the technical foundations of the World Karate Federation (WKF) for Para Karate to the Special Olympics Unified Sports® model, ensuring an inclusive, meaningful, safe, and equitable experience.

1.2. Importance of Unified Karate

The incorporation of Unified Karate promotes social inclusion through the joint sport practice of people with and without intellectual disability. Under the Unified Sports® model, equity is advanced through the adapted functional assessment and through divisioning by similar skills, while respecting the technical foundations of the WKF.

1.3. Order of Precedence

In the event of a conflict between rules, the following hierarchy applies (SO Art. 1, §1 and §2.2):

1. The Special Olympics General Rules prevail over the Sports Rules (§1).
2. The Special Olympics Sports Rules modify the WKF rules where necessary and prevail over them in case of conflict (§2.2.1).
3. However, at Special Olympics International Events (World Games, Regional Games, and international/continental events), the WKF rules apply *(§2.2.2)*. The level of the event determines which body of rules governs each matter.

Declared base rules. Pursuant to §2.2.1, the Accredited Program or the local organizing committee declares as the basis of the competitions under these Rules the WKF Para Karate Kata Competition Rules and the WKF Kata Competition Rules, version 2026.0, with the modifications that these Rules expressly declare. The modifications applicable to each event are announced in the event bulletin or invitation (reference: WKF Para Karate, Art. 10.3).

Principle of alignment with Article 1. These Rules are drafted to conform to Article 1 of the SO Sports Rules at national and international events. When a WKF rule contradicts Article 1, the Program applies Article 1 at the events it organizes and submits it to SOI and the WKF for international events, whose final regulation rests with them (§2.2.2). The SO General Rules prevail over both (§1).

1.4. Triple Technical Basis

The competition structure rests on three instruments with distinct and complementary functions that do not replace one another:

- **ICF (WHO/PAHO):** profiles the athlete's capacities (functional assessment) in order to group the athlete with peers of equivalent ability.
- **Special Olympics — Divisioning (Sport Rules Art. 1, §10):** turns that profile into fair divisions by ability, age, and gender.

- **WKF Para Karate 2026 (Art. 7):** defines the scoring of performance on the tatami (5.0–10.0 scale).

1.5. Scope by Event Level and the Unified Sports Model

1.5.1. Program and National level. These Rules apply to the Program's competitions at the Program and National level. At that level, the unified events are declared under the Unified Sports Player Development model (SO Art. 1, §14.1.3), which combines approximately equal numbers of athletes and partners, allows modification of the official rules, requires similar ages among team members (Art. 9.2), and does not require similar ability among them (§14.1.3.1). Its teams are eligible up to the Program and National level (§14.1.3.3).

1.5.2. Declared modifications. The modifications to the WKF rules that these Rules declare are the composition and execution of Unified Team Kata (Art. 2.2), the exclusion of Bunkai (Art. 6.2.1), the functional adaptations (Art. 5.3), and the Functional Assessment and divisioning by ability (Arts. 4 and 10). They apply at the Program level, in accordance with the note that follows table 14.3 of SO Art. 1.

1.5.3. Exhibition. When a Unified Team Kata division does not reach the minimum number of teams, it is held as an exhibition under the Unified Sports Recreation model (§14.1.4), in accordance with Art. 4.9.

1.5.4. International events. At SO international events, the WKF rules apply (§2.2.2), and a selected team must comply with the current rules of the Competitive model (note following table 14.3). For that reason, the Program will propose an international form of Unified Team Kata (Art. 2.2). Events that the WKF does not regulate are offered at those events only if SOI and the WKF incorporate them. At both levels, the Program conforms to Article 1 (Art. 1.3) and submits the unified events to SOI for approval.

1.5.5. Transition to the Competitive model. If SOI approves karate as a sport and adopts these Rules as its sports rules (Art. 13.3), the unified events move to the Unified Sports Competitive model (§14.1.2), which requires similar ability among team members (§14.1.2.1) and is eligible at all levels (§14.1.2.3). Until that happens, these Rules are not declared under that model.

Article 2: Eligibility and Guiding Principles

2.1. Athlete Eligibility

1. People with intellectual disability may participate from 8 years of age *(SO Art. 1, §9.1.1)*.
2. Girls and boys aged 2 to 7 participate only in the Young Athletes program, not in competition *(§9.1.2)*.
3. No athlete under 15 years of age may participate in a Special Olympics International Event *(§9.1.3)*.
4. No distinction is made on the basis of nationality, gender, ethnicity, or religion.
5. Participation is subject to submission of the Medical Eligibility Form, the Informed Consent, and the Registration Form; eligibility and registration requirements are governed by the SO General Rules (Article 2), as referred to in *SO Art. 1, §3.1 and §7.6*.

2.2. Competition Events and Categories

The Program offers three kata events. Each constitutes a competition category with its own composition, its own form (Annex IV), and its own divisions (Art. 4). The two unified events include a Unified Partner, and neither includes Bunkai (Art. 6.2.1).

Individual Kata (athlete only). An athlete with intellectual disability performs the chosen kata alone, without a Unified Partner. The score is given from 5.0 to 10.0 (Art. 6.4), and the athlete competes in the division that corresponds by gender, age, and functional level (Art. 4.3). It is the event closest to the WKF Para Karate individual competition *(WKF Para Karate 2026, Art. 7)*. The Unified Partner does not participate in this event.

Unified Kata (athlete and Unified Partner). An athlete and a Unified Partner perform the same kata together, in synchrony, as a single competition unit that receives a single score. Both contribute and neither dominates the performance (Art. 2.4). It meets the requirement of approximately equal numbers of athletes and partners (SO Art. 1, §14.1.2.1, §14.1.3.1, and §14.2.2.3); as an analogous reference, table 14.3 includes Judo, Doubles Kata, with one athlete and one partner. Functional-level compatibility is governed by Art. 10.5 and the age gap by Art. 9.2. This event includes a Unified Partner and has no Bunkai (Art. 6.2.1).

Unified Team Kata (two athletes and two Unified Partners). The team consists of two athletes and two Unified Partners, who perform the same kata and receive a single score. That composition meets the requirement of approximately equal numbers of athletes and partners (SO Art. 1, §14.1.2.1, §14.1.3.1, and §14.2.2.3). The team is registered as a roster of four members. At the Program and National level it is performed in the form that follows; for international events, a proposal is indicated, subject to SOI and the WKF. Both are evaluated with the same form (Annex IV). This event includes Unified Partners and has no Bunkai (Art. 6.2.1).

Program and National form. All four members perform the same kata together, in unison, starting in the same direction and facing the panel (WKF Kata Competition Rules 2026, Art. 3.5.2 and 3.5.3, applied to the four members). This is a declared deviation from WKF Art. 3.5.1, which sets three members per round, and it applies at the Program and National level (Art. 1.5).

International form (proposal subject to SOI and the WKF). At international events, the rules of SOI and the WKF apply (SO Art. 1, §2.2.2), and these Rules do not set them. The Program will propose to SOI that the team be registered with a roster of four members and compete with three per round, as permitted by Art. 3.5.1 of the WKF Kata Competition Rules 2026 (when a team has four members, any three may be used in any round). Which three members perform in each round is defined by SOI and the WKF for each event.

2.3. Classification of Athletes and Partners

1. Classification is carried out by age, gender, and functional ability, and must be approved by the Technical Committee in accordance with the ICF criteria in these Rules.
2. Unified Partner: a person without intellectual disability who participates actively and equitably, in accordance with the Special Olympics Unified model.

2.4. Skill Criterion for Unified Partners

At the Program and National level, the Unified Sports Player Development model applies (SO Art. 1, §14.1.3.1): Unified Partners do not need to match the ability of the athletes, and those

with greater ability help those with less to develop their skills and to participate successfully on the team. In all cases, partners may not dominate the performance. Meaningful involvement requires that everyone contribute; no team member may limit the role of another (§14.2.3.3). The functional level among team members is governed by Art. 10.5. When SOI adopts these Rules as sports rules (Art. 1.5.5), the Competitive model (§14.1.2.1) will apply, which requires similar ability among team members.

2.5. Training and Prior Functional Assessment

Every participant must complete the minimum training required by Special Olympics and undergo the Functional Assessment of Skills (Art. 10) before the competition, carried out by trained personnel and recognized by the Technical Committee.

2.6. Use of the DSM-5 and the ICF

1. The DSM-5 is used only to understand the athlete's characteristics; never to exclude or limit participation.
2. The ICF describes functioning (mobility, communication, adaptive behavior, autonomy, motor function, and supports) and identifies the athlete's needs.
3. These tools make it possible to form fair divisions, authorize adaptations without penalty, ensure safety, and explain the level assigned.

2.7. Ethical Use of Information

Information derived from the DSM-5 and the ICF will be used exclusively to promote safety, ensure equity, and guarantee meaningful involvement. It will never be used to exclude or discriminate. Its handling is governed by Art. 11.4 (data protection).

Article 3: Competition Events and Sport Classes

3.1. Official WKF Sport Classes

The classes recognized by the WKF are *(WKF 2026, Art. 2.1 and Appendix 2)*:

- **K10** — Visual Impairment.
- **K21 y K22** — Intellectual Disability (K21: intellectual functioning with limitations in adaptive behavior; K22: in addition, a significant additional condition, e.g., neurological or chromosomal).
- **K30** — Physical Disability (wheelchair users).

3.2. Offering of the Accredited Program

The Program's official Unified Karate competition is offered in the intellectual classes K21 and K22, consistent with the Unified Sports model. Classes K10 and K30 may be offered where the Program has the technical and safety capacity, applying the WKF rules of the respective class in full.

3.3. Exhibition Categories (Program's Own Nomenclature)

The Program may hold, in an exhibition or inclusive festival format without official scoring, categories for people with developmental conditions who do not qualify in the WKF classes

above (for example, people on the autism spectrum who do not meet the intellectual eligibility criteria). These categories are the Program's own nomenclature, not attributable to the WKF; they award no official score; and they require express authorization from the National Program.

> **Technical clarification.** WKF classes K21/K22 require intellectual eligibility criteria; autism, by itself, does not constitute a WKF sport class. People on the spectrum who meet those criteria compete within K21/K22.

Article 4: Functional Classification, Divisioning, and Competitive Equity

4.1. Guiding Principle

Divisioning ensures that each athlete competes with peers of equivalent ability, so that every person has a reasonable opportunity to excel *(SO Art. 1, §10)*. It is the basis of fair and balanced competition.

4.2. Functional Assessment of Skills

All athletes will undergo a prior technical and motor functional assessment, which will determine their Functional Class/Level (Art. 10) in accordance with the principles of equity, safety, and grouping by similar skills.

4.3. Divisioning Criteria and Sequence

Divisions are formed by applying, in this order *(SO Art. 1, §10.3)*:

1. Gender (male / female). A mixed-gender team is one that brings together members of both genders.
2. Age (Individual Kata: Art. 9.1; unified events: Art. 9.3).
3. Ability, determined by the functional level (Art. 10) and/or by preliminary divisioning rounds during the competition, following the procedure for judged events (§10.3.3.1.2 and §10.3.3.1.3) and, for teams, the skills assessment and the divisioning round (§10.4.3).

Mixed-gender teams compete in the male division, unless there are enough mixed teams of similar ability to form a division of their own (SO Art. 1, §10.4.1.1).

4.4. Division Size and the 15% Guideline

1. Each division will have a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 8 competitors or teams *(§10.2.2.2)*.
2. Special Olympics suggests a variation of no more than 15% between the highest and lowest score in a division. It is a guideline, not a rule *(§10.2.1)*. By way of illustration, if the highest score in a division were 32 (the maximum of the functional scale), 15% equals a difference of approximately 4.8 points; with lower scores, the difference is proportionally smaller.

4.5. Division Adjustments

When the minimum of 3 competitors is not reached, the following will be applied in sequence, with safety as a priority *(SO Art. 1, §9.3 and §10.5)*:

1. Widen the age group, renaming it according to the actual range.

2. Widen the ability margin beyond 15% if this does not compromise safety.
3. Combine genders if this does not compromise safety.
4. In the unified events, if there is only one team in its age or ability group, that team may compete against teams from other groups, by analogy with §9.3.1.2 (team sports), with safety as a priority.
5. As a last resort, competition management will resolve the matter with final authority (§10.5.1.3.2). Divisioning decisions may not be protested (§10.5.1.3.2 and §8.3.3.2; see Art. 7.5).

4.6. Restrictions for Ranked Athletes

- Two ranked athletes may not compete together in Unified Kata or in Unified Team Kata.
- A ranked athlete will compete only with non-ranked partners.
- Exceptions must be requested in writing at least 30 business days in advance and will be resolved by email 15 days before the event, solely in case of lack of available places.

4.7. Preliminary Events and Subsequent Participation

- Preliminary events will define the divisions.
- An athlete excluded for a technical reason (not for conduct) may continue in a non-scoring activity if safety is guaranteed and with the authorization of the Technical Delegate.
- Exclusion for unsportsmanlike conduct prevents continuing and receiving recognition.

4.8. Maximum Effort (Divisioning Integrity)

In accordance with the Maximum Effort Violation *(SO Art. 1, §11)*, participants must compete at full performance in all phases, avoiding “holding back” in preliminaries to gain access to a more favorable final division.

1. A maximum admissible percentage of improvement between the divisioning score and the final score will be set and published for each event.
2. Exceeding it may trigger a review by the Jury; if intent to gain an advantage is determined, sanctions include a warning, relocation to another division, adjustment of the final placing, or disqualification.
3. The coach may submit a score that better reflects the athlete's actual ability when the divisioning score is not representative.

4.9. Exhibition Category (Unified Sports Recreation)

Unified Team Kata is always included in the event program. It is held as a competition when a division reaches the minimum of three teams and, when it does not, as an exhibition under the Unified Sports Recreation model (SO Art. 1, §14.1.4), under the rules that follow.

4.9.1. When it applies. When, at the close of registration, a Unified Team Kata division has fewer than three teams and the sequence in Art. 4.5 has already been applied. The event bulletin publishes the registration closing date and the date on which the status of each category is decided.

4.9.2. Who decides and how it is recorded. Competition management decides, together with the Technical Delegate, who leaves a written record of the number of teams registered per division and of the adjustments applied (SO Art. 1, §10.5.1.3.2). The decision may not be protested (§8.3.3.2 and §10.5.1.3.2).

4.9.3. Mixed exhibition. In the exhibition, teams of different gender, age group, or functional level may participate together, always within the age-gap limits of Art. 9.2 and without compromising safety (§9.2.2.5 and §14.1.4.1, which allows rule modifications).

4.9.4. Composition. The event meets the requirement that at least 25% of participants be people with intellectual disability and at least 25% be people without disability (§14.1.4.2). A team of two athletes and two partners alone provides 50% and 50%.

4.9.5. Implementation. The exhibition is implemented by the Accredited Program or is held in direct partnership with it (§14.1.4.1).

4.9.6. Recognition. The exhibition awards no competition medals or ribbons and issues no official score or ranking. Each member, athletes and partners, receives a participation memento distinct from competitive awards (§12.4.1). A special recognition may be presented after the official ceremony (§12.3.1).

4.9.7. Conversion to competition. If, after registration closes, a division reaches the minimum of three teams, it is held as an official competition with the divisioning of Arts. 4.3 to 4.5 and the awards of Art. 6.9. If it does not reach it, it remains an exhibition.

4.9.8. Scope. The exhibition is held at the Program and National level (§14.1.4.3).

Article 5: Technical Staff Requirements and Technical Evaluation

5.1. Coach Requirements

- Special Olympics courses that correspond to the coach role, named in Art. 5.5, with certificate.
- Annual training in technical rules, classification criteria, and functional adaptations.
- Specific training for working with athletes with intellectual disability; updated at least every two years.
- The specific Unified Karate course that corresponds to the coach profile (Art. 5.5 and Annex IX), valid for two years.

5.2. Judge Requirements

- Special Olympics courses that correspond to the judge role, named in Art. 5.5, with certificate.
- Technical training in the WKF rules and in these Rules.
- Annual training in the application of the official forms. The Judges Committee ensures that criteria are kept up to date.
- The specific Unified Karate course that corresponds to the judge profile (Art. 5.5 and Annex IX), valid for two years. A person who acts as a judge does not act as a coach or assistant (Art. 5.7).

5.3. Permitted Functional Adaptations

After the Functional Assessment, adaptations such as the following will be accepted: safe technical aids; brief sensory supports; substitution of non-executable techniques with functional equivalents (e.g., a turn instead of a jump); verbal or gestural support from the partner when appropriate; and modifications of trajectory or amplitude that preserve the technical essence of the kata (consistent with WKF 2026, Art. 7.3.3 and 7.3.4). They are not penalized if they are recorded in the Functional Assessment and on the official forms.

Adaptations are requested in writing at registration and recorded in the Functional Assessment. The Technical Committee approves them before the event. Those that arise on the day of the event for safety reasons are resolved case by case by the Technical Delegate with the Head Judge, and are recorded on the official form.

Adaptations that are neither recorded nor approved are not recognized and may be penalized under Art. 6.11. Every adaptation must be oriented toward the athlete's participation and safety; none may alter the technical essence of the kata or give a competitive advantage (Annex III, 5.5).

5.4. Functional Compensation Method (Program's Own Model)

The Program applies a Functional Compensation Method to recognize, without penalty, the approved adaptations of athletes with intellectual disability. The Head Judge will record each authorized adaptation.

> **Mandatory technical distinction.** This method is the Program's own and is not equivalent to the WKF Compensation Score (Extra Points), which is assigned exclusively to classes K10 and K30; in the intellectual classes K21/K22, the WKF judges solely on technical-athletic performance, with no compensation score *(WKF 2026, Art. 2.1.4, 2.2, and 7.4.2)*. In competition governed by WKF rules (Art. 1.3), no compensation is added in K21/K22; the Method operates as a criterion of non-penalization of adaptations, not as an additional score.

5.5. Mandatory Training: SO Courses and Specific Unified Karate Courses

Every member of the accredited technical staff meets two requirements that add together and do not replace each other. The first is the Special Olympics (SO) courses, open to anyone and with no prerequisites. The second is the four specific Unified Karate (UK) courses, valid for two years: Coaches, Judges, Technical Evaluator, and Clinical Classifier. The Program's regulatory and governance framework is not a separate course: it is the cross-cutting content that all specific courses include and that every staff member must know.

- **SO courses required of coaches and assistants.** According to the Special Olympics standard for international competitions (the document “Coaching Standards at International Competitions,” which gives no date or version): the World Games coach preparation course, the Sports Rules Article 1 course, and the Unified Sports Coaching course. SOI requires the latter of Unified Sports coaches; because Unified Karate is a unified sport, the Program requires it of its entire team of coaches and assistants. They are accredited with the certificate of each course.
- **Recommended SO courses.** Level 3 Coach (online module), Level 2 Coaching Assistant, and Level 1 Sport Assistant. SOI recommends them and does not require them, but the Program strongly recommends completing them before registering: the

team's experience at SO events is that they are requested when traveling and competing, and having them up to date prevents a coach from being left out of an event for lacking them.

- **Safeguarding Operations and scope of the list.** Safeguarding Operations is a Program requirement for all profiles; it is to be confirmed with SO Chile because it does not appear in the standard cited. The list above is taken from the international standard; the one that applies at national events, and the courses each event requires, are confirmed by SO Chile.
- **SO courses for judges, technical evaluators, and clinical classifiers.** Safeguarding Operations as a minimum, because of their contact with athletes, and the SO courses that the event requires for each profile.
- **UK Course for Coaches.** Guidance of athletes with intellectual disability and of partners under the Unified Sports model, ethical use of adaptations and of the support profile, plus the cross-cutting content. Requirement: knowledge of karate. Taken by coaches and also by assistant coaches who are karate instructors or monitors. Not taken by those who act as judges.
- **UK Course for Judges.** Holistic scale from 5.0 to 10.0, Individual Kata, Unified Kata, and Unified Team Kata with approved adaptations, panels, ties, and penalties, plus the cross-cutting content. Not taken by those who act as coaches.
- **UK Course for Technical Evaluators.** Functional assessment protocol (Annex III), eight dimensions, Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced levels, support profile, and validation of the unified events, plus the cross-cutting content. Requirement: knowledge of karate. A coach may take it only if the coach is a karate instructor, and a judge may also take it.
- **UK Course for Clinical Classifiers.** Document review and clinical validation, forms, safety protocols, and protection of sensitive data, plus the cross-cutting content. Taken by psychologists, educational psychologists, occupational therapists, special education teachers, and medical specialists; failing that, special education technicians; and, on an exceptional basis, physical therapists who demonstrate a specialization oriented to disability, as assessed by the Technical Committee. Not taken by coaches.
- **Assistants without karate knowledge.** They are required to take only the SO courses, which have no prerequisites and are open to anyone. Anyone who is a karate instructor or monitor may, in addition, take the UK Course for Coaches.

The full matrix by profile is in Annex IX. The certificate for each course is submitted to the Technical Committee with the registration. Each training must remain tied to the improvement of the Program and of the athlete, and its content is updated whenever the reference rules change.

5.6. Support Levels

Supports are the means that allow the athlete to participate safely and meaningfully. They are recognized as a right and do not label the person. They are derived from the Functional Assessment (Annex III) and do not require a separate scale.

- **Type.** Each of the eight dimensions in Art. 10.4 defines a type of support, coded D1 to D8 (D1 general motor; D2 postural; D3 spatial orientation; D4 rhythm; D5 basic technique; D6 synchronization; D7 sequence; D8 expression and attitude). The cross-cutting supports are added: sensory (TS), communication (TC), and regulation (TR).

- **Intensity.** It is derived from the item score: 4 no support; 3 minimal support (m); 2 frequent guidance (f); 1 constant assistance (c). The athlete's support profile is written as the code and intensity of each dimension scoring below 4, for example D3-f, D7-m.
- **How it is identified.** Through the Functional Assessment: observation by two evaluators, demonstration video, and information from the coach, the family, and the professionals who know the athlete. The athlete or the athlete's legal supporter may request a review by the Technical Committee (Art. 7.5).
- **What is authorized.** Intensity m: brief verbal reminder beforehand and a simple visual cue. Intensity f: reference marks on the tatami, a pictogram or sequence support in the waiting area, an audible count or pulse, and the partner guidance permitted in Annex III, 5.6. Intensity c: expanded preparation beforehand, rehearsal in the competition area, additional entry time, and authorized technical aids. Supports during the performance are always governed by Annex III, 5.6.
- **What is not authorized.** Direct physical assistance, restraint, continuous step-by-step prompting, and total or partial substitution of the athlete (Annex III, 5.6). If the athlete's safety cannot be guaranteed without an unauthorized support, the Technical Committee, together with the athlete, the family, and the coach, defines another event or an adaptation that allows the athlete to participate. That decision is not a sanction.
- **Record and confidentiality.** The profile is recorded on the Functional Assessment record and, only as codes, on the form and the credential. Judges know only the list of approved adaptations, not the scores (Arts. 2.7 and 11.4). It has the validity of Art. 10.7 (12 months) and is reviewed earlier if the athlete's condition or performance changes.

5.7. Incompatibilities and Conflict of Interest

- A person who acts as a judge does not act as a coach or assistant coach. The coach does not take the UK Course for Judges.
- The coach takes the UK Course for Technical Evaluators only if the coach is a karate instructor. The coach does not take the Clinical Classifier course.
- The UK Course for Clinical Classifiers is taken only by the professional profiles in Art. 5.5. A judge may take the Technical Evaluator course.
- No one evaluates, classifies, or judges athletes they coach, who belong to their club, or to whom they are related. The Technical Committee assigns another evaluator and leaves a record.

5.8. Matrix by Profile

Annex IX summarizes which SO courses and which specific UK courses correspond to each profile, their admission requirement, and their incompatibilities.

5.9. Codes of Conduct

Every member of the delegation accepts in writing the code of conduct that corresponds to their role: athletes and Unified Partners, coaches, assistant coaches, and judges, evaluators, and classifiers. The four full texts are in Annex X. They are minimum standards that the Program expands with the travel, lodging, and protection provisions they contain (SO Art. 1, §4.1.1 and Addendum D). The signed acceptance is submitted with registration, together with the

documentation of Art. 11, and is a condition for participating or acting at the event. Failure to comply is handled under Art. 6.11 and the measures of the code itself. Cases of harassment, abuse, or neglect follow the code's reporting route and are not resolved as a sporting offense.

Article 6: Competition Model and Performance Scoring

6.1. General Approach

Kata competition is governed by the principles of inclusion, respect for functional differences, and the athlete's integral development, recognizing technical achievement without penalizing approved functional adaptations.

6.2. Events

The Program offers the three events described in Art. 2.2: Individual Kata, Unified Kata, and Unified Team Kata. Each is evaluated with the official form that corresponds to it (Annex IV).

> **6.2.1. No Bunkai.** Unified Kata and Unified Team Kata include no Bunkai. The WKF requires a demonstration of kata applications (Bunkai) in the medal matches of team kata (WKF Kata Competition Rules 2026, Art. 3.5.4); the Program does not incorporate it in either of the unified events, not even in medal matches. The presentation consists solely of the kata and is evaluated with the form that corresponds to it (Annex IV). This exclusion is an adaptation of the Program's own.

6.3. Division of Athletes

Gender: male / female. Age (individual groups): 8–11; 12–15; 16–21; 22–29; 30 and over. Ability: by Functional Class/Level or preliminary rounds. Each division: 3 to 8 competitors; failing that, reorganization under Art. 4.5. For Unified Kata and Unified Team Kata, age is governed by Art. 9.3.

6.4. Scale and Score Calculation

1. Performance is scored from 5.0 to 10.0 in increments of 0.1; 5.0 is the minimum accepted and 10.0 the perfect performance; 0.0 indicates disqualification. There are no scores between 0.0 and 5.0 *(WKF 2026, Art. 7.4.1)*.
2. Each judge gives a single holistic score, considering the technical criteria (Art. 6.5) as a whole; criteria are not added up separately *(WKF 2026, Art. 7.4.3 and 7.6)*.
3. With a panel of 7 judges (Accredited Program): the highest and the lowest are dropped and the remaining 5 are added. With a panel of 5 judges (local): the extremes are dropped and the remaining 3 are added.
4. The WKF Compensation Score (Extra Points) (K10/K30 only) is added where applicable, in accordance with Art. 5.4.

6.5. Achievement Levels (Guide per Judge)

10 = Perfect; 9.0–9.9 = Excellent; 8.0–8.9 = Very good; 7.0–7.9 = Good; 6.0–6.9 = Acceptable; 5.0–5.9 = Insufficient; 0.0 = Disqualified *(WKF 2026, Art. 7.5)*.

6.6. Tie-Break

In order *(WKF 2026, Art. 7.7)*: (1) higher score including the lowest (6 of 7 judges); (2) including the lowest and the highest (all 7); (3) higher ranking to date; (4) repeat of the kata.

6.7. Kata Selection and Repetition

The kata is selected from the official WKF list (Annex V). In K21/K22, the same kata may be repeated between rounds; in K10/K30 it must be different in each round, except in a tie-break *(WKF 2026, Art. 7.1 and 7.2)*.

6.8. Competitive Process

1. Each athlete, Unified Kata pair, or Unified Team Kata team states in advance the kata to be performed.
2. The performance opens and closes with a bow and is evaluated from the initial bow to the end *(WKF 2026, Art. 7.3.1)*.
3. The order is defined by draw or by planning of the Technical Committee; the judges record their scores.

6.9. Awards and Recognition

1. Gold, silver, and bronze medals to the top three places in each division *(SO Art. 1, §12.1)*.
2. Ribbons to those who finish 4th through 8th place.
3. Participation ribbon to anyone who does not finish or is disqualified for a non-disciplinary reason (technical withdrawal).
4. A disqualification for unsportsmanlike conduct receives no award (SO Art. 1, §10.7.1 and §12.5.3).
5. Ties: each tied competitor receives the highest award for that place; the award for the next place is not given *(§12.2)*.
6. The Unified Partner receives the same award as the athlete of the pair or team (SO Art. 1, §14.2.3.8).

6.10. Non-Continuation Situations (Mandatory Distinction)

- **SHIKKAKU** — Disciplinary disqualification for misconduct or for failing to obey the Head Judge *(WKF 2026, Art. 7.9.8)*.
- **KIKEN** — Withdrawal or failure to appear: a person who does not appear when called or decides not to continue is withdrawn from the category *(WKF 2026, Art. 5.5 and 8.3)*.
- **Technical Withdrawal (TW)** — A non-disciplinary status of the Program's own: withdrawal for safety or for failure to meet minimum technical conditions. It does not bar future competitions and allows non-scoring symbolic participation if it is safe.

6.11. Penalty Code (Summary)

Type	Description	Penalty
Minor technical fault	Incorrect technique with no risk or unfair advantage	Verbal remark; does not affect participation

Type	Description	Penalty
Repeated serious technical fault	Recurrence that prevents objective evaluation	Technical exclusion from the round, with a record
Minor unsportsmanlike conduct	Disrespectful gestures or minor disobedience	Formal reprimand, record, and notification to the coach
Serious unsportsmanlike conduct	Aggression, refusing to bow, insults, sabotage, or feigning	Disciplinary disqualification (SHIKKAKU); no award; suspension for one event
Falsification of data	Alteration of results or documents	Immediate exclusion and suspension until the next official cycle

Penalties prioritize educational measures and positive behavioral support; exclusion is the last resort. The conduct and measures applicable to each role are in the codes of conduct in Annex X (Art. 5.9).

Article 7: Technical Committee, Technical Delegate, Jury, and Protests

7.1. Technical Delegate

Represents Special Olympics; ensures the correct interpretation and application of the SO and WKF Sports Rules; chairs the Technical Committee and the Jury; has the deciding vote in case of a tie (SO Art. 1, §8.2.1 and §8.2.2). The authority to authorize exceptional adjustments for equity, safety, or functionality belongs to these Rules (Art. 5.3 and 5.6).

7.2. Technical Committee

A minimum of three people: the Technical Delegate, the National Unified Karate Coordinator (or equivalent), and a member with training in adapted sport. It validates registrations and records; oversees classification, attire, and pairing; approves exceptions; and appoints the Sport-Specific Jury and the Jury of Appeals.

7.3. Sport-Specific Jury

A minimum of three members: one from the Accredited Program, one from the Organizing Committee, and the head judge. It resolves protests in accordance with the SO and WKF rules *(SO Art. 1, §8.4)*.

7.4. Jury of Appeals

A minimum of three members: one from the Accredited Program, one from the Organizing Committee, and a designated person with knowledge of the standards and philosophy of Special Olympics. An alternate is named who replaces the designated person when a case involving that person's own team or delegation is examined. It resolves appeals; its decisions are final (SO Art. 1, §8.5).

7.5. Protest and Appeal Procedure

1. Only the head coach or the coach's delegate may file a protest, in writing, citing the article and section allegedly violated and describing how it was violated (SO Art. 1, §8.3.1 and §8.3.4).

2. The following may be protested: misinterpretation of a rule, failure to apply the correct rule, and imposition of an incorrect penalty *(SO Art. 1, §8.3.2)*.
3. The following may not be protested: judgments of fact by judges and referees, nor divisioning and meaningful involvement decisions *(§8.3.3)*.
4. Appeals are filed within 60 minutes after the decision.
5. Protest fee: at events governed by WKF rules, the WKF prepaid fee applies *(Art. 9 and Appendix 3)*; at Program-level or local events governed by SO rules, no fee is required unless the Program sets one.

Article 8: Technical Organization, Competition Area, and Attire

8.1. Competition Area (Tatami)

Square tatami of 8 × 8 m (measured from the outer edge), with a 2 m safety zone on each side, with a uniform, non-slip surface. On a raised platform, the safety zone is enlarged and safe ramps are installed. The entire route must be free of obstacles for athletes with supports or who require guidance *(WKF 2026, Art. 3)*.

8.2. Layout and Judging Panel

The judges are positioned in a straight line facing the performance area, next to the software technician. The panel will be 7 judges at Accredited Program events and 5 judges at local events, with the highest and lowest scores dropped in both cases.

8.3. Official Competitor Attire

Approved white karategi, without personal adornments; jacket covering the hips without exceeding three-quarters of the thigh; sleeves between mid-forearm and the wrist crease; trousers covering at least two-thirds of the shin without passing the ankle; no rolling up; identification on the back *(WKF 2026, Art. 4.2)*.

8.4. Aka (Red) and Ao (Blue) Identification

Competitors are identified by draw with a red (AKA) or blue (AO) belt; in medal matches, AKA performs first (WKF 2026, Art. 4.2 and 8.6). In the unified events, athletes and partners wear the identification of the Unified Kata pair or team. As an adaptation of the Program's own, colored bands or elbow pads may be authorized when the belt is not viable.

8.5. Requirements by Sex

- Men: no shirt under the karategi; hair tied back without metal items; short nails; no jewelry or metal accessories.
- Women: a plain white T-shirt is permitted under the karategi; other requirements are equivalent.

8.6. Attire Adaptations and Irregular Presentation

- Sports glasses with a retaining strap and other supports authorized by the Technical Committee according to the athlete's class and documentation *(WKF 2026, Art. 4.2.4 and 4.4)*.

- In the case of an incorrect uniform, 2 minutes are granted to correct it; repeated failures may lead to technical disqualification.

8.7. Judging Panel Attire

Official white shirt, blue tie, navy blue trousers, and closed black shoes; official credential. The Technical Delegate may authorize adjustments for weather, functional needs, or operational requirements.

8.8. Medical Protocols, Safety, and Anti-Doping

- Medical or paramedical staff present; a medical professional on site or on immediate call; marked and equipped first aid; ambulance available; equipment for seizures and sensory crises; hydration; medication supervision; incident log (SO Art. 1, §7.4: medical staff, first aid, ambulance and equipment for seizures, hydration, and prescribed medication). The handling of sensory crises and the incident log are provisions of the Program's own.
- Self-regulation pause: in the event of a sensory, emotional, or fatigue crisis, the athlete, the coach, or the Head Judge may stop the performance. The Technical Delegate defines at the technical meeting the length of the pause and the conditions for resuming or rescheduling. The pause is not penalized.
- Atlantoaxial instability (e.g., Down syndrome): assessment and consent in accordance with the SO procedure (SO Art. 1, §7.5 and Addendum E).
- Anti-doping: the Program adheres to the SO policy; athletes with legally prescribed medication for daily life are not subject to the testing that applies to athletes outside SO (SO Art. 1, Addendum D). At events governed by WKF rules, the reference to the WADA Code and the IPC Classification Code also applies, according to the level of the event.

Article 9: Age, Grouping, and Age Gap in Unified Events

9.1. Age Groups (Individual Kata)

8–11; 12–15; 16–21; 22–29; 30 and over. A group may be added if there are enough competitors in “30 and over.” Age is determined on the opening day (SO Art. 1, §9.2.1 and §10.3.2.2).

9.2. Age Gap in Unified Events

In Unified Kata and Unified Team Kata, the age gap between the youngest and the oldest member is governed by brackets (SO Art. 1, §14.1.2.2 and §14.1.3.2):

- If any member is 8–13 years old: maximum gap of 3 years.
- If any member is 14–17 years old: maximum gap of 5 years.
- If all are 18 years or older: recommended maximum gap of 20 years.

> This provision replaces the flat 10-year rule of the previous version. Exceptions for maturity or functional classification are evaluated by the Technical Committee with safety as a priority.

9.3. Age Groups for Unified Events

In Unified Kata and Unified Team Kata, the age groups are: 15 years and under; 16 to 21 years; 22 years and over. A group may be added if there are enough teams in “22 and over” (SO Art. 1, §9.2.2 and §10.4.2.1). A team's group is determined by the age of its oldest member on the opening date of the competition (§9.2.2.6 and §10.4.2.3). Forming teams within age ranges is recommended, and flexibility is allowed when the health and safety of all are protected (§9.2.2.5). In forming teams, safety, the opportunity to participate, the quality of competition, meaningful involvement, social inclusion, and age are considered (§9.2.2.7). The age gap in Art. 9.2 applies in addition to these groups.

Article 10: Technical Kata Criteria and Functional Assessment of Skills

10.1. Kata Principles

Performances conform to the official WKF list (Annex V). Approved adaptations (Art. 5) are not a penalty as long as they preserve the technical essence of the kata *(WKF 2026, Art. 7.3.5)*.

10.2. Purpose of the Functional Assessment

To determine the athlete's capacity profile and Functional Class/Level in order to form balanced divisions. It is a classification instrument, distinct from the performance score (Art. 6).

10.3. Functional Class/Level Scale

Eight dimensions, each scored 1 to 4 points (total 8–32): 08–16 Functional Class I (Beginner); 17–24 Functional Class II (Intermediate); 25–32 Functional Class III (Advanced). Scale per item: 4 = full; 3 = moderate (minimal support); 2 = partial (frequent guidance); 1 = minimal (total assistance).

10.4. Dimensions and ICF Codes (Verified)

N.º	Dimension	ICF Code	ICF Label
1	General motor coordination	b760, d455	Control of voluntary movement; Moving around in the environment
2	Postural control and balance	b235, b260, d415	Vestibular function; Proprioceptive function; Maintaining a body position
3	Spatial orientation and movement	b156, d460	Perceptual functions; Moving around in different locations
4	Motor rhythm and timing	b147, d450	Psychomotor functions; Walking
5	Basic karate technique	b760, d920	Control of voluntary movement; Recreation and leisure
6	Synchronization with others	b147, b176	Psychomotor functions; Carrying out complex movements in sequence
7	Sequential motor memory	b144, b176	Memory functions; Carrying out

N.º	Dimension	ICF Code	ICF Label
			complex movements in sequence
8	Expression, attitude, and zanshin	b126, d160, d710	Temperament and personality; Focusing attention; Basic interpersonal interactions

ICF verification note. Codes cross-checked against the ICF (WHO/PAHO, abridged version). Assignments from the previous version that did not name the capacity evaluated were corrected: b125 (absent from the abridged version) was removed, as was the use of d315 “nonverbal communication,” d350 “conversation,” b114 “orientation,” and b715 “stability of joint” in motor dimensions. Any future review will be cross-checked against the full ICF.

10.5. Level Assignment in Unified Kata and in the Team

- Unified Kata: both at the same level or with a maximum of one level of difference.
- Unified Team Kata: the functional score of the four roster members is averaged, with no differences that affect synchronization or meaningful involvement.

10.6. Performance Criteria (Holistic Judgment)

Each judge weighs as a whole: technique and execution; coordination and fluidity; precision of stances and turns; rhythm and control; attitude, zanshin, and respect; functional adaptation; and body expression. Approved adaptations according to the athlete's class are not penalized.

10.7. Record and Validity

The records are signed by the evaluators and the Technical Coordinator; a demonstration video is attached; the documentation is sent to the Organizing Committee before the event. The assessment is valid for 12 months, except for relevant functional changes.

Article 11: Required Documentation, Protocol Validity, and Data Protection

11.1. Validity of the Functional Assessment Protocol

The Official Functional Assessment of Skills Protocol (Annex III) is a binding part of these Rules. It will be reviewed every two years. No athlete or partner may register officially without a prior assessment; the level obtained determines the division and the competitive format.

11.2. Documentation for Athletes with Intellectual Disability

- Current Medical Eligibility Form (valid for 3 years).
- Informed Consent from the athlete or legal representative.
- Official Registration Form; Functional Assessment result; identity document.

11.3. Documentation for the Unified Partner

- Unified Partner Application/Record with medical history and liability release *(SO Art. 1, §14.2.3.1)*.

- Health Declaration; Acceptance of Conduct Standards; result of the partner's individual Functional Assessment (Art. 11.1 and Annex III).

11.4. General Conditions and Data Protection

- All documentation is submitted at least 72 hours before the event. Omission or falsification results in disqualification. The signed acceptance of the code of conduct for the role is included (Art. 5.9 and Annex X).
- Clinical and functional information (ICF, DSM-5, medical records) is sensitive data: access is restricted to authorized personnel, use is in accordance with Art. 2.7, and retention follows Chilean personal data protection law. It will not be disclosed or used for purposes other than safety, equity, and meaningful involvement.

Article 12: Technical Support

Only the accredited coach and, when the athlete's condition requires it, an accredited personal assistant may accompany athletes in technical, warm-up, and competition areas. The maximum ratio in competition is 4 athletes per coach/escort (SO Art. 1, §7.2.1). The personal assistant supports safety, communication, and guidance needs, without giving technical instruction during the performance (WKF 2026, Art. 4.8). Both the coach and the accredited personal assistant must have completed the training that corresponds to their profile (Art. 5.5 and Annex IX).

This measure is based on the principles of autonomy, independence, safety, and dignity, and applies at local, regional, national, and international competitions.

Article 13: Final Provisions

1. These Rules form an integral part of the technical foundations of Unified Karate for Special Olympics and converge with the WKF Para Karate rules and with Article 1 of Special Olympics.
2. In any situation not provided for, the principle of inclusion, equity, and safety will apply, following the spirit of Special Olympics and the order of precedence in Art. 1.3.
3. The official offering of Karate as a Special Olympics sport is subject to the prior approval of SOI (SO Art. 1, §5.3); these Rules are a supporting instrument for that process.
4. The annexes are available in digital version on the official website of the National Program and are updated every two years under the protocol in force.

Annex I — Normative Glossary

- **Functional Class/Level:** category (I/II/III) assigned by the Functional Assessment (8–32) to form divisions; distinct from the performance score.
- **Divisioning:** grouping athletes by ability, age, and gender for fair competition (SO Art. 1, §10).
- **Meaningful involvement:** every member contributes; none dominates or is left as an observer (§14.2.3.3).
- **SHIKKAKU / KIKEN / Technical Withdrawal:** disciplinary disqualification / withdrawal or failure to appear / non-disciplinary withdrawal for safety (the Program's own status).
- **Compensation Score (WKF) / Functional Compensation Method (the Program's own):** additional score for K10/K30 only / criterion of non-penalization of adaptations, with no additional score.
- **Maximum Effort:** requirement of full performance in all phases (SO Art. 1, §11).

Key Terms

1. Competitive Division

The group in which athletes or teams are placed to compete, based on their age, gender, and ability level, with the aim of ensuring sporting equity. As a guideline, not as a rule, a variation of no more than 15% between the highest and lowest scores in the division is sought (SO Art. 1, §10.2.1; see Art. 4.4).

2. Functional Level

A technical category assigned to an athlete or team according to the results obtained in the Functional Assessment. The official functional levels are:

- Beginner Level (08–16 points)
- Intermediate Level (17–24 points)
- Advanced Level (25–32 points)

These levels determine the adapted demand and the adjustment of sequences in competition.

3. Functional Assessment

A systematic and ethical process that determines the technical-motor, adaptive, and expressive capacities of an athlete or Unified Partner. It is carried out under the criteria of the ICF (WHO), the DSM-5 (APA), and the SO principles of equity. It is mandatory for participating in official competitions and makes it possible to define levels and divisions.

4. Unified Partner

A person without intellectual disability who participates alongside an athlete in a competition under the Unified Sports® model. The partner's role is to promote inclusion, technical equity, and meaningful cooperation in Unified Kata and Unified Team Kata. The partner must be assessed and meet eligibility criteria defined by SO.

5. Technical Delegate

The official representative of the Special Olympics program who oversees regulatory compliance during the competition. Chairs the Technical Committee, validates divisions, forms,

and protocols, and resolves technical disputes together with the Sport-Specific Jury. Has the deciding vote in situations of a tie or regulatory conflict.

6. Technical Committee

An organizing body composed of the Technical Delegate, the Unified Karate Coordinator, and a professional from the adapted field. It is responsible for validating registrations, classifications, technical adjustments, and competition structures. It may authorize exceptions when justified by equity or safety.

7. Sport-Specific Jury

An evaluating body that resolves all technical protests submitted during the event. It is made up of at least three members (one from the Accredited Program, one from the Organizing Committee, and the head judge) and is chaired by the Technical Delegate (Art. 7.1 and 7.3), and its decisions are based on the UK Rules, the SO Rules, and the principles of fair play.

8. Jury of Appeals

An impartial body composed of three independent members that reviews appeals against decisions of the Sport-Specific Jury. Its rulings are final and seek to safeguard the rights of athletes and the spirit of Special Olympics.

9. Meaningful Involvement

An essential principle of Special Olympics that ensures that each athlete has a real opportunity to participate actively, contribute to the team's performance, and develop their potential. Every competitive structure must guarantee that participation is neither symbolic nor decorative.

10. Functional Adaptation

A permitted technical modification in the performance of a kata to respect the athlete's capacities. It includes sensory supports, substitution of techniques, and changes in turns or movements according to the participant's functional class. Adaptations must be approved in advance by the Technical Committee.

11. Technical Exclusion

A situation in which an athlete is removed from a round or competition for regulatory reasons unrelated to conduct (e.g., incorrect kata performance, omission of the bow, inappropriate uniform). It does not imply a disciplinary sanction, and it may allow continuation in non-scoring activities if safety is guaranteed.

12. Accredited Program of Special Olympics Chile

An entity recognized by Special Olympics, Inc. for the official organization and regulation of adapted sport in the country. It is responsible for validating rules, training, competitions, and functional assessment processes under the international SO regulations.

13. Functional Compensation

A method of the Program's own (Art. 5.4) that guarantees technical equity without penalizing approved adaptations and without an additional score. Technical exclusion allows continuity in non-scoring events if safety is respected.

14. Bracket

The name karate gives to the round-by-round chart of a division. The division is the group of 3 to 8 competitors or teams formed under Art. 4 by gender, age, and ability (SO Art. 1, §10); the

bracket orders the rounds of that group. The round format of each event is published in its bulletin.

15. Exhibition (Unified Sports Recreation)

A category with no official score or ranking that is held when a division does not reach the minimum number of teams, in accordance with Art. 4.9 and SO Art. 1, §14.1.4.

> **Final note:** this glossary must be read and understood by coaches, judges, organizers, and family members, and is a mandatory part of these Rules. Any ambiguous interpretation will be resolved in accordance with the Special Olympics General Rules and the judgment of the Technical Committee.

Annex II — Simplified Guide for Coaches, Families, and Athletes

Explains in plain language what Unified Karate is, who takes part, how divisions are formed (age, gender, and ability; 3 to 8 per division; 15% guideline), what meaningful involvement is (correct: both perform similar techniques; incorrect: the partner performs the entire kata), and what adaptations are permitted. It does not replace the official rules.

A.1. Purpose of the Annex

This annex explains clearly and simply how Unified Karate works in Special Olympics. It does not replace the official rules, but it helps in understanding their main points so that coaches, families, athletes, and volunteers know what to expect at a competition.

A.2. What Is Unified Karate?

Unified Karate is an event in which people with and without intellectual disability train and compete together, promoting:

- Real inclusion
- Teamwork
- Respect and balanced participation
- Pairs or teams must show collaboration and mutual support, maintaining similar sport skills.

A.3. Who Can Participate?

- People with intellectual disability from age 8.
- Children aged 2 to 7 may participate only as Young Athletes, not in competition.
- Unified Partners (people without intellectual disability) must have skills similar to the athletes.
- **Mandatory requirement:** Current medical form and registration form, according to Special Olympics rules.

A.4. How Are Divisions Formed in Competitions?

Divisions aim to have everyone compete with others of similar ability, age, and gender through 3 criteria:

1. **Age:** 8–11 years | 12–15 years | 16–21 years | 22–29 years | 30 years and over.
2. **Gender:** Male | Female (they may be mixed if there are not enough participants and it does not compromise safety).
3. **Ability level:** determined by prior assessments or preliminary rounds.

Level	Functional score (8–32)	Description
Beginner	8–16	Basic skills, simple performance
Intermediate	17–24	Better coordination and technique
Advanced	25–32	Technical mastery and greater fluidity

Important: each division must have a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 8 competitors, as Special Olympics requires.

A.5. Meaningful Involvement

This is one of the most important principles of Special Olympics. It means that:

- All participants must contribute during the performance.
- No one should be left as an “observer” within the pair or team.
- Partner and athlete must perform balanced roles.
- Large differences in skill are not allowed because they break equity.
  - ✔️ Correct: both members perform similar techniques.
  - ✘ Incorrect: the partner performs the entire kata and the athlete only watches or follows far behind.

A.6. Functional Assessment

Before competing, each athlete takes an assessment that helps determine technical level, coordination, available movements, support needs, and necessary adaptations through simple questions (movement control, turning ability, sensory or verbal supports) to ensure fair and safe competition.

A.7. Permitted Functional Adaptations

Adaptations are changes that allow the athlete to perform the kata in a valid and safe way.

- **Permitted examples:** replacing a jump with a turn; marking a technique instead of making impact; use of visual or sensory supports; brief verbal cue from the Unified Partner; use of sports glasses with a strap; simplified movements in K21 and K22 (prior to assessment). They are not penalized if approved.
- **Examples NOT permitted:** direct physical assistance during the performance; holding the athlete; giving steps continuously or intrusively; use of unapproved objects; supports that give an unfair competitive advantage.

A.8. What Is Evaluated in Each Event?

- **Individual Kata:** technique, control, adaptation, expression, rhythm.
- **Unified Kata (athlete + Unified Partner):** synchronization, mutual support, technical balance, similar participation. No Bunkai (Art. 6.2.1).
- **Unified Team Kata (2 athletes + 2 Unified Partners):** group coherence, spatial distribution, rhythm, equity in participation. No Bunkai (Art. 6.2.1).

A.9. Simple Examples of Divisions

- **Example 1 – Division by age:** ages 8, 10, and 11 → Division 8–11.
- **Example 2 – By ability:** functional scores 12, 14, and 10 → Beginner level division (8–16).
- **Example 3 – Unified Kata:** if the athlete is at the Beginner level, the partner must also have a similar level.

A.10. Awards

- Gold, silver, and bronze medals are awarded.
- Those who finish 4th through 8th place receive a ribbon, and anyone who does not finish because of a technical withdrawal receives a participation ribbon (Art. 6.9).
- If an athlete is withdrawn for technical (non-disciplinary) reasons, the athlete may continue in non-scoring activities.
- Exclusions for unsportsmanlike conduct do NOT receive awards.

A.11. Good Practices for Coaches

Encourage the athlete's autonomy, avoid complex explanations during the competition, respect each participant's own pace, do not overtrain or demand more than is safe, prepare the kata in good time, and practice approved adaptations while cultivating sportsmanship.

A.12. Final Message for Families

Unified Karate promotes inclusion, respect, confidence, autonomy, and teamwork. The most important thing is that the athlete enjoys it, progresses, and participates in a safe environment.

Annex III — Official Functional Assessment Protocol

Sets out the rationale (ICF, WHO/PAHO; the adaptive model of the DSM-5; SO equity), the eight dimensions with the verified ICF codes of Art. 10.4, the 1–4 scale per item, and the determination of level (8–32). It requires a minimum of two evaluators, a demonstration video (1–2 min), and validation by the Organizing Committee 72 hours in advance. It includes the Official Form with the eight dimensions, a score box (1–4), observations, and signatures.

Unified Karate – Special Olympics Chile

Statement of Regulatory Alignment

This protocol complements these Rules, the Special Olympics Sports Rules (Article 1), the Special Olympics General Rules, and the Unified Sports Rules. In case of discrepancy, the Official Rules of Special Olympics International will prevail.

1. Purpose and Rationale

Establishes the official procedure for functionally assessing athletes with intellectual disability and Unified Partners, ensuring competitive equity, meaningful involvement, sport safety, balanced formation of Unified Kata and Unified Team Kata, and correct assignment of divisions under the guidelines of SOI (2020–2025), the ICF (WHO, 2001), and the DSM-5 (APA, 2013).

2. Objectives of the Protocol

1. Standardize functional assessment in Unified Karate.
2. Determine functional levels (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced).
3. Guarantee safety and competitive equity.
4. Facilitate the division and formation of Unified Kata and Unified Team Kata.
5. Provide objective evidence of performance.

3. Persons Responsible for Administration

1. Technical evaluators with the UK Course for Technical Evaluators (karate instructors).
2. Judges or sport officials trained in adapted sport.
3. Clinical professionals with the UK Course for Clinical Classifiers, according to the profiles authorized in Art. 5.5.
4. A minimum of two evaluators per participant, with no conflict of interest (Art. 5.7).
5. The responsible technician must send a demonstration video (1–2 min) to the organizing committee 72 hours in advance.

4. Required Materials

Assessment forms (paper or digital), tatami or safe surface, visual and/or sound cues, stopwatch, and registration and validation form.

5. Structure of the Assessment

5.1. Functional Dimensions

Nº	Dimension Assessed	Description	ICF Code	DSM-5 Domain
1	General motor coordination	Integration of arms and legs in functional movement	b760, d455	Practical
2	Postural control and balance	Maintains center of gravity and stability	b235, b260, d415	Practical
3	Spatial orientation and movement	Understands and carries out simple directions	b156, d460	Conceptual
4	Motor rhythm and timing	Regulates motor timing and sequences	b147, d450	Conceptual
5	Basic karate technique	Recognizable fundamental technical execution	b760, d920	Practical
6	Synchronization with others	Timing coordination with partner/team	b147, b176	Social
7	Sequential motor memory	Retention and execution of motor sequences	b144, b176	Conceptual
8	Expression, attitude, and zanshin	Presence, respect, martial concentration	b126, d160, d710	Social

5.2. Scoring Scale

- **4:** full functioning – total autonomy
- **3:** moderate functioning – minimal support
- **2:** partial functioning – frequent guidance
- **1:** minimal functioning – constant assistance

5.3. Determination of the Functional Level

- **08–16 points:** Beginner Level (participation with supports and basic sequences)
- **17–24 points:** Intermediate Level (moderate demand, structured performance)
- **25–32 points:** Advanced Level (autonomous and technical performance)

5.4. Assignment Criteria by Unified Kata or by Team

- **Unified Kata (1 athlete + 1 Unified Partner):** same level or a maximum of one level of difference, according to the Unified Sports Rules.
- **Unified Team Kata (2 athletes + 2 Unified Partners, 4 members):** the group's total score is averaged (e.g., (18+19+16+17)÷4=17.50 → Intermediate Level).

5.5. Permitted Reasonable Adaptations

Only those that do not alter the technical essence of karate, do not give a competitive advantage, ensure the athlete's safety, and are approved by the Technical Committee.

5.6. Permitted Supports from the Unified Partner by Functional Level

- **Beginner Level (08–16 points):** brief, occasional verbal guidance, simple gestures for spatial orientation, non-intrusive functional reminders.
- **Intermediate Level (17–24 points):** not automatic; only if the Functional Assessment requires it and the Technical Committee approves it.
- **Advanced Level (25–32 points):** autonomous performance; only brief sensory adaptations authorized in advance, without motor guidance.
- **Supports not permitted (all levels):** direct physical assistance, restraint, continuous step-by-step prompting, total/partial substitution, or unfair advantages.
- **Mandatory record:** must appear on the Functional Assessment record, the official form, and the technical record.

5.7. Support profile. With the scores of each dimension, the support profile is recorded (Art. 5.6): the dimension code and the intensity m, f, or c for each item scoring below 4. The profile is transcribed as a code onto the form and the credential and is not communicated to the judges.

6. Recording, Validation, and Confidentiality

Complete individual record, signatures of the evaluators and the Technical Coordinator, demonstration video attached, and strictly confidential handling of the information.

Official Functional Assessment Form – Unified Karate

Athlete / Partner Name:	
Delegation:	
Assessment Date:	____ / ____ / _____

Nº	Dimension Assessed	Description	ICF Code	DSM-5 Domain	Score (1–4)	Notes
1	General motor coordination	Integration of arms and legs	b760, d455	Practical		
2	Postural control and balance	Maintains technical stability	b235, b260, d415	Practical		
3	Spatial orientation and movement	Understands and carries out simple directions	b156, d460	Conceptual		
4	Motor rhythm and timing	Regulates timing and sequences	b147, d450	Conceptual		
5	Basic karate technique	Fundamental technical form	b760, d920	Practical		
6	Synchronization with others	Coordination with partner/team	b147, b176	Social		
7	Sequential motor memory	Carries out motor sequences	b144, b176	Conceptual		
8	Expression, attitude, and zanshin	Presence, respect, martial concentration	b126, d160, d710	Social		

Evaluator 1 signature:	Evaluator 2 signature:
Technical Coordinator signature:	Total score (8–32):

Annex IV — Performance Evaluation Forms

Descriptors per criterion on a 5.0–10.0 scale (Perfect 10; Excellent 9.0–9.9; Very good 8.0–8.9; Good 7.0–7.9; Acceptable 6.0–6.9; Insufficient 5.0–5.9; 0.0 Disqualification), recalling that the judge's score is holistic (Art. 6.4) and that approved adaptations are not penalized. Specific forms for Individual Kata, Unified Kata, and Unified Team Kata.

> **Unified Team Kata (two athletes and two partners).** Meets the requirement of approximately equal numbers of athletes and partners (SO Art. 1, §14.1.2.1, §14.1.3.1, and §14.2.2.3). At the Program and National level, all four members perform, which is a declared deviation from WKF team kata (three members per round, Kata 3.5.1); for international events, a roster of four with three per round is proposed, subject to SOI and the WKF (Art. 2.2). It keeps the requirement of meaningful involvement and includes no Bunkai (Art. 6.2.1). Unified Kata also includes no Bunkai.

(Aligned to WKF Para Karate + Arts. 1, 2, and 3 of Special Olympics International)

1. Purpose of the Annex

Establishes the official forms and technical/functional criteria for Individual Kata, Unified Kata, and Unified Team Kata, combining traditional karate with meaningful involvement, safety, equity, and non-penalization for disability.

2. Official Scoring Scale (5.0 – 10.0)

- **10 (Perfect):** perfect performance, in accordance with Art. 6.5.
- **9.0 – 9.9 (Excellent):** outstanding mastery, precision, fluidity, and impeccable control in line with the athlete's functioning.
- **8.0 – 8.9 (Very Good):** effective performance with minor inaccuracies and good functional adaptation.
- **7.0 – 7.9 (Good):** meets the essential elements with slight errors while maintaining functionality.
- **6.0 – 6.9 (Acceptable):** constant difficulties; may require permitted brief verbal support.
- **5.0 – 5.9 (Insufficient):** incomplete or erratic performance requiring continuous guidance.
- **0.0 (Technical Disqualification):** only for serious infractions (incorrect kata, omission of the bow, belt falling off, evident risk, prohibited physical assistance, or unsportsmanlike conduct).
- **SO considerations:** no athlete may be penalized for their disability; approved adaptations are taken into account and meaningful involvement is verified (the partner must not dominate).

3. Mandatory Fields on All Forms

Athlete's Name, Delegation, Functional Category (K21/K22), Functional Level, Approved Adaptations, Technical Delegate Review (□ Yes □ No), Meaningful Involvement Verified (□ Yes □ No), Medical/Sensory Observations, and Signatures of the Head Judge and the Technical Delegate.

A. Individual Kata Form

Aspects the judge weighs in giving a single holistic score (5.0–10.0, Art. 6.4): technique and execution; coordination and fluidity; precision in stances and turns; rhythm and control; attitude, zanshin, and respect; individual functional adaptation; body expression and presence.

Mandatory fields on all forms

Athlete's Name:	
Delegation:	
Functional Category (K21 / K22 – internal):	
Functional Level (Beginner / Intermediate / Advanced):	
Approved Functional Adaptations (per Annex III):	
Reviewed by the Technical Delegate:	[ ] Yes [ ] No
Meaningful Involvement Verified:	[ ] Yes [ ] No
Medical Observations / Sensory Requirements:	
Head Judge signature:	
Technical Delegate signature:	

Objective: to evaluate the athlete's technical and adaptive performance within the athlete's capacities and authorized functional adaptations.

Aspect to Evaluate	Notes (no score)	Description
Technique and execution		Precision, control, and technical clarity according to functional capacity.
Coordination and fluidity		Natural and harmonious transitions.
Precision in stances and turns		Stability and control adjusted to the functional level.
Rhythm and control		Maintaining tempo, intentional pauses.
Attitude, zanshin, and respect		Concentration, martial spirit, focus, and respect for ritual.
Individual functional adaptation		Correct application of authorized modifications.
Body expression and presence		Projection and strength in line with the athlete's functioning.

JUDGE'S HOLISTIC SCORE (5.0–10.0): _____

B. Unified Kata Form

Aspects the judge weighs in giving a single holistic score (5.0–10.0, Art. 6.4): synchronization and joint rhythm; overall technique of both; balance in technical contribution (neither dominates the performance, Art. 2.4); coordination and harmony; attitude and mutual respect; the athlete's functional adaptation; joint body expression.

Mandatory fields on all forms

Names of the athlete and the Unified Partner:	
Delegation:	
Functional Category (K21 / K22 – internal):	
Functional Level (Beginner / Intermediate / Advanced):	
Approved Functional Adaptations (per Annex III):	
Reviewed by the Technical Delegate:	[ ] Yes [ ] No
Meaningful Involvement Verified:	[ ] Yes [ ] No
Medical Observations / Sensory Requirements:	
Head Judge signature:	
Technical Delegate signature:	

Objective: to evaluate the joint performance of the athlete and the Unified Partner with emphasis on mandatory meaningful involvement. No Bunkai (Art. 6.2.1).

Aspect to Evaluate	Notes (no score)	Description
Synchronization and joint rhythm		Timing correspondence and fluidity of movements.
Overall technique of both		Proportional performance between athlete and partner.
Balance in technical contribution		Real contribution from both; partner dominance prohibited.
Coordination and harmony		Fluidity and joint structure.
Attitude and mutual respect		Respectful nonverbal communication.
Athlete's functional adaptation		Adjustments incorporated without penalty.
Joint body expression		Balanced group projection.

JUDGE'S HOLISTIC SCORE (5.0–10.0): _____

C. Unified Team Kata Form

Aspects the judge weighs in giving a single holistic score (5.0–10.0, Art. 6.4): group synchronization; group technique and precision; spatial distribution; active contribution of each member; harmony and visual structure; collective rhythm and fluidity; attitude, zanshin, and respect.

Mandatory fields on all forms

Names of the two athletes and the two Unified Partners:	
Delegation:	
Functional Category (K21 / K22 – internal):	
Functional Level (Beginner / Intermediate / Advanced):	
Approved Functional Adaptations (per Annex III):	
Reviewed by the Technical Delegate:	[ ] Yes [ ] No
Meaningful Involvement Verified:	[ ] Yes [ ] No
Medical Observations / Sensory Requirements:	
Head Judge signature:	
Technical Delegate signature:	

Objective: to evaluate group harmony and equitable participation of the team members (four in the Program and National form, three per round in the proposed international form). No Bunkai (Art. 6.2.1).

Aspect to Evaluate	Notes (no score)	Description
Group synchronization		Movements at the same time and technical coherence.
Group technique and precision		Adapted technical uniformity.
Spatial distribution		Safe and organized use of the tatami.
Active contribution of each member		Everyone contributes meaningfully.
Harmony and visual structure		Structured presentation of the whole.
Collective rhythm and fluidity		Steady performance without undue interruptions.
Attitude, zanshin, and respect		Martial respect and collective concentration.

JUDGE'S HOLISTIC SCORE (5.0–10.0): _____

Annex V — Official List of WKF Katas (for Unified Karate)

1. Purpose of the Annex

Contains the complete official list of katas recognized by the World Karate Federation (WKF), ordered by style and keeping their original names and numbering without modification, used as a mandatory technical reference.

2. General Table of WKF Katas (Appendix 1 – Official Kata List)

The list comprises the 102 official katas recognized by the WKF, from Anan (1) to Wanshu (102), covering all families of traditional styles.

Nº	Kata	Nº	Kata	Nº	Kata
1	Anan	35	Jiin	69	Passai
2	Anan Dai	36	Jion	70	Pinan Shodan
3	Ananko	37	Jitte	71	Pinan Nidan
4	Aoyagi	38	Juroku	72	Pinan Sandan
5	Bassai	39	Kanchin	73	Pinan Yondan
6	Bassai Dai	40	Kanku Dai	74	Pinan Godan
7	Bassai Sho	41	Kanku Sho	75	Rohai
8	Chatanyara Kusanku	42	Kanshu	76	Saifa
9	Chibana No Kushanku	43	Kishimono No Kushanku	77	Sanchin
10	Chinte	44	Kousoukun	78	Sansai
11	Chinto	45	Kousoukun Dai	79	Sanseiru
12	Enpi	46	Kousoukun Sho	80	Sanseru
13	Fukyugata Ichi	47	Kururunfa	81	Seichin
14	Fukyugata Ni	48	Kusanku	82	Seienchin (Seiyunchin)
15	Gankaku	49	Kyan No Chinto	83	Seipai
16	Garyu	50	Kyan No Wanshu	84	Seiryu
17	Gekisai (Geksai) 1	51	Matsukaze	85	Seishan
18	Gekisai (Geksai) 2	52	Matsumura Bassai	86	Seisan (Sesan)
19	Gojushiho	53	Matsumura Rohai	87	Shiho Kousoukun
20	Gojushiho Dai	54	Meikyo	88	Shinpa
21	Gojushiho Sho	55	Myojo	89	Shinsei
22	Hakusho	56	Naifanchin Shodan	90	Shisochin
23	Hangetsu	57	Naifanchin Nidan	91	Sochin
24	Haufa (Haffa)	58	Naifanchin Sandan	92	Suparinpei
25	Heian Shodan	59	Naihanachi	93	Tekki Shodan

Nº	Kata	Nº	Kata	Nº	Kata
26	Heian Nidan	60	Nijushihho	94	Tekki Nidan
27	Heian Sandan	61	Nipaipo	95	Tekki Sandan
28	Heian Yondan	62	Niseishi	96	Tensho
29	Heian Godan	63	Ohan	97	Tomari Bassai
30	Heiku	64	Ohan Dai	98	Unshu
31	Ishimine Bassai	65	Oyadomari No Passai	99	Unsu
32	Itosu Rohai Shodan	66	Pachu	100	Useishi
33	Itosu Rohai Nidan	67	Paiku	101	Wankan
34	Itosu Rohai Sandan	68	Papuren	102	Wanshu

3. Use of the List in Unified Karate

- **Selection:** competitors choose a kata from this list for the events of Individual Kata, Unified Kata, and Unified Team Kata.
- **Suggested assignment by Functional Level:** the selection is made from the current official WKF list (WKF Para Karate Kata Rules 2026.0, Appendix 1), incorporated by reference and without modification. The following assignment by level is a guide, not mandatory; the athlete may perform other katas from the official list if the functional assessment allows it:

Level	Characteristic	Suggested Katas
Beginner (I)	Simple, symmetrical, linear movements	Heian Shodan, Pinan Shodan, Gekisai (Geksai) 1
Intermediate (II)	Greater coordination and postural control	Bassai Dai, Jion, Saifa
Advanced (III)	High complexity; turns and changes of rhythm	Kanku Dai, Unsu, Kururunfa, Suparinpei

- **Permitted adaptations:** adaptations authorized by prior assessment (without penalty, Art. 5.3): replacing a jump with a turn; reducing the route; a brief audible or gestural cue; a shortened version of the kata. This annex is updated every two years according to the WKF rules in force.

Annex VI — Official Technical Staff for Unified Karate Events

1. Purpose of the Annex

Defines the minimum composition, functions, ethical requirements, and operating protocols (including Safe Sport and universal accessibility) of the technical staff, judges, committee, and medical team.

2. Structure of the General Technical Staff

- **Technical Delegate:** official SO representative, chairs committees, validates classifications, oversees regulations, and has the deciding vote in ties.
- **Technical Committee:** a minimum of three people (Technical Delegate, Karate Coordinator, and adapted-sport professional) in charge of validating registrations, exceptions, and adaptations.
- **Sport-Specific Jury:** at least three members in charge of resolving technical protests in accordance with the SO and WKF rules.
- **Jury of Appeals:** three independent members who review rulings of the Sport-Specific Jury on a final basis.

3. Panel of Judges and Accredited Coaches

- **Judging Panel:** 7 judges (accredited programs) or 5 (local), certified by SO and trained in WKF rules, with a strict prohibition on evaluating athletes from their own delegation.
- **Coaches:** with current certification in SO courses, training in disability, and Safe Sport protocols.
- **Specific Unified Karate courses:** coaches, technicians, assistants, judges, and other members of the technical staff are trained in the four specific courses (Art. 5.5).

4. Medical and Safety Team

Presence of paramedical staff, an ambulance available, a marked first aid area, an emergency action plan (EAP), and specific protocols for seizures, sensory crises, and conditions such as atlantoaxial instability.

Annex VII — Comparative Table of the WKF Para Karate Rules and Special Olympics Unified Karate

1. Purpose of the Annex

Establishes the fundamental similarities between the WKF Para Karate Rules and the Special Olympics Unified Karate Rules, and declares their deviations (composition and execution of Unified Team Kata, Art. 2.2; exclusion of Bunkai, Art. 6.2.1), showing that the technical basis is maintained and incorporates the values of inclusion and meaningful involvement of SO Article 1.

2. Key Comparative Summary

- **Regulatory Framework:** WKF Para Karate uses WKF world standards; Unified Karate complements them with SO Article 1 (dignity, inclusion, equity, and safety).
- **Functional Assessment:** the WKF classifies by disability category; SO implements a mandatory Functional Assessment (ICF and DSM-5) divided into Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced levels.
- **Adaptations and Safety:** both sets of rules allow technical adaptations without altering the essence of the kata and give absolute priority to the athlete's physical safety.
- **Composition of the unified events: Unified Karate expands the model by collaboratively integrating athletes with intellectual disability together with Unified Partners without disability (one in Unified Kata and two in Unified Team Kata), in Unified Kata and in Unified Team Kata, under strict criteria of meaningful involvement (neither dominates the performance, Art. 2.4).**

Annex VIII — Change Log of Version No. 03 Relative to Version No. 02

Version No. 03 keeps intact the 13 articles and Annexes I to VII of Version No. 02. Only the points listed below were modified.

- **Annexes I to VII:** incorporated in full with the text of Version No. 02, including Annex VI (Official Technical Staff) and Annex VII (Comparative Table). The section “Use of the Seal (Author's Proposal)” of the institutional identity is restored and a table of contents with page numbering is added.
- **Arts. 2.2 and 6.2:** the competition events are Individual Kata, Unified Kata, and Unified Team Kata. The last two include a Unified Partner.
- **Art. 6.2.1:** Unified Kata and Unified Team Kata include no Bunkai. This is also stated in Art. 2.2, Annex II (A.8), and Annex IV.
- **Art. 5.5 (new):** coaches, technicians, assistants, and other members of the technical staff are trained in the four specific Unified Karate courses. Arts. 5.1, 5.2, and 12 and Annex VI are supplemented accordingly.
- **Terminology: the abbreviation “2+1” and the term “pair” as the name of an event are removed, in the body and in the annexes. The composition does not change. Later correction: the composition of Unified Team Kata becomes two athletes and two Unified Partners (Art. 2.2).**
- **Annex IV:** Excellent changes from 9.0–10.0 to 9.0–9.9 and 10 is added as Perfect, consistent with Art. 6.5.
- **Annex III, 5.4:** the assignments are drafted for Unified Kata and Unified Team Kata.
- **Corrections of form in the annexes:** typographical errors in the Spanish text corrected (“Ajuster econocido” to “Ajuste reconocido” in Annex I, term 13; “concentration” to “concentración” in Annex III); numbering of the sections of Annex III (the structure becomes section 5) and of Annex V; row 8 of the Annex III form is completed with the data from table 5.1.
- **Sources:** the WKF Kata Competition Rules 2026.0 (Art. 3.5) are added.
- **Change log:** previously Annex VI; now Annex VIII so as not to displace the Official Technical Staff.
- **Annex III (5.1 and official form):** the names of the dimensions and the ICF codes are made identical to those in Art. 10.4. In the example in 5.4 the average is 17.67 (previously 17.66).
- **Annex IV:** the forms keep the aspects as a guide to judgment, without partial scores; the judge gives a single holistic score (Art. 6.4.2). The names of the members are added to the Unified Kata and Unified Team Kata forms, the label “adjustment required by SO audit” is removed, and “Regular / Low” becomes “Acceptable” (Art. 6.5). The figure “≥70%” is removed (also in Annex VII), as it does not appear in the articles; Art. 2.4 governs.
- **Annex II (A.4, A.9, and A.10):** levels are expressed with the 8–32 functional score (Art. 10.3); the awards are made identical to Art. 6.9; K23 is removed, as it is not defined in Art. 3.

- **Annex I:** the 15% is drafted as a guideline and not as a rule (Art. 4.4.2); the composition of the Sport-Specific Jury is made identical to Art. 7.3; functional compensation is declared a method of the Program's own (Art. 5.4).
- **Arts. 4.4.2, 6.4.4, 11.3, and others:** illustration of the 15% clarified; “Extra Score” becomes “Compensation Score (Extra Points)”; the partner's functional assessment is individual; “Technical Commission” becomes “Technical Committee.” Institutional identity: “and of combat” is removed. Annex III, statement of alignment: the reference to the SO rules is adjusted. Annex V: “Gekisai Dai Ichi” becomes “Gekisai (Geksai) 1,” the name in the list.
- **Arts. 5.1, 5.2, 5.5 (rewritten), 5.6, 5.7, and 5.8; Art. 12; Annex IX:** training is organized into SO courses and four specific UK courses valid for two years; the framework and governance is cross-cutting content of all of them and not a separate course. The SO courses are named; assistants without karate knowledge take only the SO courses; admission requirements by profile and incompatibilities are defined. Art. 5.5 keeps its number. Later correction: the required SO courses (SOI standard for international competitions) are separated from the recommended ones (Levels 1 to 3).
- **Arts. 5.3 and 5.6:** adaptations are developed (request at registration and approval by the Technical Committee) and the support levels derived from the 1-to-4 scale of Annex III are incorporated.
- **Annex III:** those responsible for the assessment are made identical to Art. 5.5 and point 5.7, support profile, is added.
- **Art. 8.8:** the self-regulation pause is added.
- **Verification Note, Framing, and Art. 13.3:** the Note declares the edition of SO Art. 1 reviewed (September 2024) and the prior-approval framing is clarified (§5.3.1 to §5.3.4).
- **Art. 5.9 (new), 6.11, and 11.4; Annex X (new):** the codes of conduct are incorporated in full into the Rules as Annex X (athletes and Unified Partners, coaches, assistant coaches, and judges, evaluators, and classifiers) and their signed acceptance is a registration requirement. The code for judges, evaluators, and classifiers is added, modeled on the SOI Sports Official code. The citations of SOI Art. 1 are checked against the September 2024 edition: the Jury of Appeals (Art. 7.4) is formed according to §8.5, age is determined according to §10.3.2.2, and the note on handling sensory crises and the incident log (Art. 8.8) is declared the Program's own.
- **Art. 1.3 (corrected) and 1.5 (new):** the order of precedence is cited at SO Art. 1, §1 and §2.2.1; the base rules (WKF 2026.0) are declared and the scope by event level is added (Program and National, international, and transition to the Competitive model).
- **Initials, emblem, and Art. 1.3:** the official initials become UK (Unified Karate) and the official UK emblem and the website www.UnifiedKarate.net and the official email are incorporated; Art. 1.3 adds the principle of alignment with Article 1 at national and international events and 1.5.4 refers it to SOI approval.
- **Arts. 2.2 and 2.4:** Unified Team Kata changes from two athletes and one partner to two athletes and two Unified Partners, with a Program and National form (all four perform) and a proposed international form, subject to SOI and the WKF (three per round, WKF Kata 3.5.1). Art. 2.4 no longer declares the Competitive model and the Player Development model applies until SOI adopts the Rules.

- **Arts. 4.3, 4.5 (corrected), and 4.9 (new):** citations to SO Art. 1, §10.4.1.1, §10.4.3, §10.5.1.3.2, and §8.3.3.2; mixed-gender teams; exhibition category under Recreation (§14.1.4) and its conversion to competition.
- **Arts. 6.3, 6.9, 8.4, 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 (new), and 10.5:** age groups for teams (15 and under, 16 to 21, 22 and over) with the oldest-member rule, award for the Unified Partner, and functional average of four members.
- **Art. 5.3:** WKF Para Karate 7.3.3 and 7.3.4 are cited.
- **Annexes I, II, III, IV, and VII:** composition of four members, the terms “Bracket” and “Exhibition,” average example, team form, and declaration of deviations in the comparative table.
- **Verification Note:** scope (d) is added on the SOI General Rules and the interpretation of Article 1.
- **Arts. 1.1 and 2.2:** the Rules are declared subject to Article 1, the SOI General Rules, and SOI approval; the international form of Unified Team Kata becomes a non-binding proposal.

Annex IX — Training Pathway by Profile

Summarizes Art. 5.5. The specific UK courses belong to this Program and last two years. The SO courses are those required and recommended by Special Olympics, open to anyone and with no prerequisites; the current list is confirmed with SO Chile for each event.

Profile	SO Courses	Specific UK Course (valid 2 years)	Admission and Incompatibilities
Coach	Those required in Art. 5.5, Safeguarding, and, recommended, Levels 1 to 3	Coaches; Technical Evaluator only if a karate instructor	Knowledge of karate. Does not take Judges or Clinical Classifier. Does not act as a judge.
Assistant coach, with karate knowledge	Those required in Art. 5.5, Safeguarding, and, recommended, Levels 1 and 2	Coaches	Karate instructor or monitor. Does not act as a judge.
Assistant coach, without karate knowledge	The applicable SO courses, with no prerequisites	Not applicable	Open to anyone. Does not act as a judge.
Judge	Safeguarding Operations and those the event requires	Judges; Technical Evaluator optional	Does not act as a coach or assistant.
Technical Evaluator	Safeguarding Operations and those the event requires	Technical Evaluator	Karate instructor. No conflict of interest.
Clinical Classifier	Safeguarding Operations and those the event requires	Clinical Classifier	Psychologist, educational psychologist, occupational therapist, special education teacher, or medical specialist; failing that, special education technician; exceptionally, a physical therapist with a specialization in disability.
Accredited personal assistant	Safeguarding Operations and those the event requires	Coaches only if a karate instructor or monitor	No technical instruction during the performance (Art. 12).

Annex X — Codes of Conduct

This annex incorporates in full the four Unified Karate codes of conduct. Each person accepts in writing the one that corresponds to their role (Art. 5.9): athletes and Unified Partners, coaches, assistant coaches, and judges, evaluators, and classifiers. They are minimum standards that the Program expands with the travel, lodging, and protection provisions they contain (SO Art. 1, §4.1.1).

X.1. Code of Conduct for Athletes and Unified Partners

1. Purpose

This code sets out how we, athletes and Unified Partners, behave during competition and during the Unified Karate trip and stay. It starts from one principle: inclusion is a right. Everyone has the right to compete, to travel, and to live together in a safe, respectful, and dignified environment, and everyone has the responsibility to build it.

The Rules require the Unified Partner's Acceptance of Conduct Standards (Art. 11.3), and this code extends it to all roles. It is aligned with the codes of conduct in Addendum D of the Special Olympics Sports Rules, which are minimum standards that the Program may expand (section 4.1.1), and with the WKF ethics and protection policy.

This code applies to athletes and Unified Partners, like the Special Olympics athlete code, which covers athletes and Unified Partners. Section 7 is an easy-read version to be read aloud with each athlete.

2. Conduct in Competition

- I practice good sportsmanship and treat my teammates, rivals, coaches, judges, volunteers, and staff with respect.
- I do not hit, push, fight, insult, or use foul language. If I get angry, I tell my coach and ask for a break.
- I learn and follow the rules of karate and of the Rules. I listen to my coaches and to the officials, and I ask when I do not understand.
- I give my best effort throughout the competition. I do not hold back in the divisioning rounds to land in an easier division (Rules Art. 4.8; Special Olympics Athlete Code).
- I obey the instructions of the Head Judge. Disobeying or acting in an unsportsmanlike or offensive way can lead to disqualification (Sports Rules Article 1, section 4.3.1; Rules Art. 6.10).
- I wear the complete uniform and the corresponding Aka or Ao identification (Rules Art. 8).
- I do not take drugs to improve my performance, nor do I use alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs while I represent the Program (Art. 8.8; Sports Rules Article 1, Addendum D).
- I accept the result and respect those who win and those who lose. If I have a complaint, my head coach makes it in writing (Art. 7.5).

In addition, if I am a Unified Partner

- I compete with the athlete and at the athlete's pace. My ability must be close to the athlete's, and I must not dominate the performance or replace the athlete (Art. 2.4).
- I support the athlete without doing things for the athlete. I do not give physical help that the Rules prohibit.
- I respect the athlete's decisions and time. I treat the athlete as a teammate and not as someone to be looked after.
- I keep the athlete's health or functional information confidential (Arts. 2.7 and 11.4).

3. Conduct During Travel and Stay

These standards are the Program's own. They aim to make travel and living together safe and calm for everyone.

- The schedules for departure, meals, rest, and activities are set by the organizing team and are communicated in writing before the trip: [schedules to be defined].
- No one leaves the lodging without notifying the responsible coach.
- Rooms are assigned by team and by sex, with safety as the criterion and with respect for privacy. No one enters another person's room without authorization.
- No alcohol, tobacco, or illicit drugs are consumed during the competition or during the delegation's stay (Sports Rules Article 1, Addendum D).
- Each person takes care of the place and of shared property. Damage is reported to the head of the delegation.
- Photos or videos of other people are not taken or published without their authorization.
- During transfers, everyone travels seated and wearing a seat belt, and a roll call is taken at departure and arrival.
- Medications are kept and handed out by an authorized adult, according to the instructions on the health record. No one shares their medications.
- If I feel unwell, miss home, or something worries me, I tell a trusted adult in my delegation.

4. Respect, Body, and Protection

- No one touches me if I do not want it, and I do not touch anyone who does not want it. I make no inappropriate or unwanted physical, verbal, or sexual advances (Special Olympics Athlete Code).
- I do not make jokes, taunts, nicknames, or comments about another person's body, disability, gender, origin, or orientation.
- I do not exclude or isolate anyone. I do not repeatedly bother another person, in person or through messages or social media (harassment and cyberbullying, WKF Safe Sport Policy, section II).
- No adult should ask me to keep secrets, touch me, send me private messages, or be alone with me in a closed place. If it happens, I tell a trusted adult or the protection contact person.
- I have the right to say no, to ask for help, and to be listened to without being punished.

5. What Happens If This Code Is Not Followed

The Rules prioritize educational measures and positive behavioral support, and leave exclusion as the last resort (Art. 6.11). The measures are graduated and proportionate to the seriousness, the repetition, and the age of the people involved:

1. Conversation and agreement. A person from the organizing team talks with the person involved, listens to that person's account, and they agree on how to correct the conduct. This is the first response to minor faults.
2. Verbal or written warning, with support to change the conduct.

3. Temporary removal from the activity, accompanied by a responsible adult, until the situation calms down.
4. Disqualification from the competition for unsportsmanlike conduct (SHIKKAKU, Rules Art. 6.10). The disqualified person receives no award. If an athlete is withdrawn for a technical reason and not for conduct, this measure does not apply and the athlete may continue in non-scoring activities if safety is guaranteed (Art. 4.7).
5. No participation in subsequent Program events and, in the case of coaches and assistants, withdrawal of accreditation or a ban on coaching in Special Olympics, as determined by the Technical Committee.

Who decides. Faults that occur during the competition are resolved by the Technical Delegate together with the Sport-Specific Jury (Arts. 7.1 and 7.3), following the scheme of the Special Olympics International Sports Rules (Sports Rules Article 1, section 4.3). Faults that occur during travel or stay are resolved by the Technical Committee (Art. 7.2), which designates the Jury of Appeals. The decision may be appealed within the following 60 minutes before the Jury of Appeals, whose decisions are final (Arts. 7.4 and 7.5).

What this code does not resolve. Cases of harassment, abuse, neglect, or any act that may be a crime are not treated as a sporting fault or resolved informally. They follow the route in section 6.

6. How to Report a Concern

1. Anyone may report: athletes, partners, families, coaches, assistants, judges, and volunteers. An athlete may tell any trusted adult, with words, with pictograms, or through another person.
2. The person who receives the account listens calmly, writes down what was said in the same words, does not promise absolute secrecy, does not question or confront the person named, and immediately notifies the protection contact person.
3. Event protection contact person: [name, position, telephone, and email, to be designated by the Organizing Committee before the event].
4. The contact person informs the Technical Delegate if it concerns sporting conduct, and the INR management and the Accredited Program if it concerns protection. If the affected person is under 18, the person's mother, father, or legal representative is informed, unless doing so would put the person's safety at risk.
5. Acts that may be crimes are reported to the competent authorities. Sexual harassment or abuse is never resolved informally.
6. The identity of the people involved is protected. No one suffers retaliation for reporting in good faith. A report known to be false is also a fault.

7. My Commitment in Easy Read

To be read aloud, sentence by sentence, checking that the person understands. It may be accompanied by pictograms.

1	I want all of us to have a good time in karate.
2	I treat everyone well.
3	I do not hit, push, or insult.
4	I do not use bad words.

5	I listen to my coach and the judges. If I do not understand, I ask.
6	I do my best throughout the competition.
7	I do not hold back so that I land in an easier division.
8	I wear my complete uniform.
9	No one touches me if I do not want it. I do not touch anyone who does not want it.
10	If something makes me feel bad, I tell a trusted adult.
11	I do not drink alcohol, I do not smoke, and I do not use drugs.
12	On the trip and where we sleep, I follow the schedules and take care of my things and other people's.
13	If I do not follow this, my coach and the team talk with me and help me improve.

I understood this code: Yes ☐ I need it explained again ☐

Commitment and Signature

I declare that I read this code, that it was explained to me in a way I could understand, and that I commit to follow it as an athlete or Unified Partner of Unified Karate. I understand that compliance is a condition for participating and that the measures for a breach are those described in section 5.

Full name	
Identity document	
Role	Athlete or Unified Partner
Date	
Signature	
If under 18: name of the legal representative Relationship	
Legal representative's signature	

Handed over and explained by: _____ Date: _____

Normative Basis and Note on Sources

- Unified Karate Competition Rules, version 03 (Arts. 2.4, 2.7, 4.7, 4.8, 5.1, 6.10, 6.11, 7.1 to 7.5, 8.8, 11.3, and 11.4).
- Special Olympics, Sports Rules Article 1: sections 4.1 (codes of conduct), 4.3 (unsportsmanlike conduct), 7.3.1 (athlete safety), and Addendum D (oaths and codes for athlete and Unified Partner, coach, and official). Checked against the September 2024 edition, in English.

- WKF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, October 2023 (Art. 5 on ethical principles, Arts. 7 to 14 on infractions and sanctions).
- WKF Safe Sport Policy, June 2019 (definitions of abuse, obligations of athletes and coaches, reporting and sanctions).

Verification note. Addendum D of the Special Olympics Sports Rules (September 2024, in English) was read in full; its text is identical to that of the October 2022 edition. Sections 4.1, 4.3, and 7.3.1 match the numbering cited in the Rules. The WKF references were taken from its official documents, consulted on November 10, 2026, and must be checked against the text in force. The Safe Sport Policy dates from 2019 and a more recent version may exist. The provisions on travel and stay are the Program's own: neither Special Olympics nor the WKF regulates them in the documents reviewed.

X.2. Code of Conduct for Coaches

1. Purpose

This code sets out how we, coaches, behave during competition and during the Unified Karate trip and stay. It starts from one principle: inclusion is a right. Everyone has the right to compete, to travel, and to live together in a safe, respectful, and dignified environment, and everyone has the responsibility to build it.

The Rules require the Unified Partner's Acceptance of Conduct Standards (Art. 11.3), and this code extends it to all roles. It is aligned with the codes of conduct in Addendum D of the Special Olympics Sports Rules, which are minimum standards that the Program may expand (section 4.1.1), and with the WKF ethics and protection policy.

2. Conduct in Competition

Safety and Well-Being

- My first priority is the health and safety of the athletes, above the result (Sports Rules Article 1, section 7.3.1).
- I know and apply the UK Rules, the Special Olympics Sports Rules, and the applicable WKF rules, and I complete the courses required of the coach (Arts. 5.1 and 5.5).
- I do not demand loads, repetitions, or exposure to competition that exceed the athlete's capacity or condition. Inappropriate training load is a form of physical abuse (WKF Safe Sport Policy, section II.2).
- I withdraw an athlete when the athlete's safety requires it. Technical withdrawal is not a sanction (Art. 6.10).

Sporting Integrity

- I submit complete and truthful documentation at least 72 hours before the event. Omission or falsification results in disqualification (Art. 11.4).
- The divisioning score I submit reflects the athlete's actual ability (Sports Rules Article 1, Addendum D, Coach Code; Rules Art. 4.8).
- I do not instruct or allow an athlete to hold back in the divisioning rounds (Art. 4.8).
- I do not bet, manipulate results, or offer or accept gifts or favors to influence decisions (WKF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, Art. 5).
- I do not use or allow performance-enhancing substances, and I respect anti-doping control (Art. 8.8).

Respect in the Competition Area

- I treat judges, officials, volunteers, families, and rivals with respect. I do not shout at or berate judges or athletes, and I do not enter the tatami without authorization.
- I file protests only as head coach or delegate, in writing, citing the article violated, and within the deadlines. Judgments of fact by judges and divisioning decisions may not be protested (Art. 7.5).
- In Unified Kata, I make sure that the partner does not dominate or replace the athlete, and that neither receives prohibited physical help (Art. 2.4).
- I do not consume alcohol, tobacco, or illicit drugs during the competition (Sports Rules Article 1, Addendum D).

Information and Image

- I treat the clinical and functional information of the athletes as sensitive data. I use it only for safety, equity, and meaningful involvement, and I do not disclose it (Arts. 2.7 and 11.4).
- I do not take or publish photos or videos of athletes without specific authorization from the athlete or legal representative.

3. Conduct During Travel and Stay

These standards are the Program's own. As a coach, I am responsible for supervising the athletes in my care.

- The schedules for departure, meals, rest, and activities are set by the organizing team and are communicated in writing before the trip: [schedules to be defined].
- No one leaves the lodging without notifying the responsible coach.
- Rooms are assigned by team and by sex, with safety as the criterion and with respect for privacy. No one enters another person's room without authorization.
- No alcohol, tobacco, or illicit drugs are consumed during the competition or during the delegation's stay (Sports Rules Article 1, Addendum D).
- Each person takes care of the place and of shared property. Damage is reported to the head of the delegation.
- Photos or videos of other people are not taken or published without their authorization.
- During transfers, everyone travels seated and wearing a seat belt, and a roll call is taken at departure and arrival.
- I keep the athlete list up to date, verify the athletes' presence at every transfer, meal, and change of activity, and know each athlete's support needs.
- No adult sleeps alone in a room with an athlete, or stays alone with one in a closed or private space. The presence of other adults or the agreement of the parents or guardians is required (WKF Safe Sport Policy, section IV.3).
- When the delegation includes people of both sexes, I try to ensure that the support team does as well (WKF Safe Sport Policy, section IV.3).
- I administer medication only according to the signed health record and keep a record of each dose. I do not change instructions on my own.
- I record any incident, injury, or conflict and report it the same day to the head of the delegation and to the family.

4. Dignified Treatment and Protection

- I treat each athlete as an adult or developing person with rights, and not as someone who needs to be corrected. I speak clearly, with patience, and without infantilizing.
- I do not engage in psychological, physical, or sexual abuse, or neglect. I do not humiliate, threaten, isolate, or deliberately ignore an athlete, and I do not use physical punishment (WKF Safe Sport Policy, section II; Sports Rules Article 1, Addendum D).
- I make no sexual comments or negative comments about anyone's gender, orientation, disability, or origin (WKF Safe Sport Policy, section IV.3).

- I make no unwanted physical contact. To correct a posture, I give notice and ask permission, and I use demonstration or verbal guidance first.
- I do not maintain romantic or sexual relationships with athletes in my care, because of the power asymmetry inherent in the coach-athlete relationship. This point is stricter than the WKF, which asks that any such relationship be openly disclosed.
- I do not ask an athlete to keep secrets, nor do I communicate with an athlete through private messages outside the group with the families or the team.
- I am alert to any form of abuse toward athletes, from whoever it comes, and I report it (Addendum D). See section 6.

5. What Happens If This Code Is Not Followed

The Rules prioritize educational measures and positive behavioral support, and leave exclusion as the last resort (Art. 6.11). The measures are graduated and proportionate to the seriousness, the repetition, and the age of the people involved:

1. Conversation and agreement. A person from the organizing team talks with the person involved, listens to that person's account, and they agree on how to correct the conduct. This is the first response to minor faults.
2. Verbal or written warning, with support to change the conduct.
3. Temporary removal from the activity, accompanied by a responsible adult, until the situation calms down.
4. Disqualification from the competition for unsportsmanlike conduct (SHIKKAKU, Rules Art. 6.10). The disqualified person receives no award. If an athlete is withdrawn for a technical reason and not for conduct, this measure does not apply and the athlete may continue in non-scoring activities if safety is guaranteed (Art. 4.7).
5. No participation in subsequent Program events and, in the case of coaches and assistants, withdrawal of accreditation or a ban on coaching in Special Olympics, as determined by the Technical Committee.

Who decides. Faults that occur during the competition are resolved by the Technical Delegate together with the Sport-Specific Jury (Arts. 7.1 and 7.3), following the scheme of the Special Olympics International Sports Rules (Sports Rules Article 1, section 4.3). Faults that occur during travel or stay are resolved by the Technical Committee (Art. 7.2), which designates the Jury of Appeals. The decision may be appealed within the following 60 minutes before the Jury of Appeals, whose decisions are final (Arts. 7.4 and 7.5).

What this code does not resolve. Cases of harassment, abuse, neglect, or any act that may be a crime are not treated as a sporting fault or resolved informally. They follow the route in section 6.

6. How to Report a Concern

1. Anyone may report: athletes, partners, families, coaches, assistants, judges, and volunteers. An athlete may tell any trusted adult, with words, with pictograms, or through another person.
2. The person who receives the account listens calmly, writes down what was said in the same words, does not promise absolute secrecy, does not question or confront the person named, and immediately notifies the protection contact person.

3. Event protection contact person: [name, position, telephone, and email, to be designated by the Organizing Committee before the event].
4. The contact person informs the Technical Delegate if it concerns sporting conduct, and the INR management and the Accredited Program if it concerns protection. If the affected person is under 18, the person's mother, father, or legal representative is informed, unless doing so would put the person's safety at risk.
5. Acts that may be crimes are reported to the competent authorities. Sexual harassment or abuse is never resolved informally.
6. The identity of the people involved is protected. No one suffers retaliation for reporting in good faith. A report known to be false is also a fault.

Commitment and Signature

I declare that I read this code, that it was explained to me in a way I could understand, and that I commit to follow it as a coach of Unified Karate. I understand that compliance is a condition for participating and that the measures for a breach are those described in section 5.

Full name	
Identity document	
Role	Coach
Date	
Signature	

Handed over and explained by: _____ Date: _____

Normative Basis and Note on Sources

- Unified Karate Competition Rules, version 03 (Arts. 2.4, 2.7, 4.7, 4.8, 5.1, 6.10, 6.11, 7.1 to 7.5, 8.8, 11.3, and 11.4).
- Special Olympics, Sports Rules Article 1: sections 4.1 (codes of conduct), 4.3 (unsportsmanlike conduct), 7.3.1 (athlete safety), and Addendum D (oaths and codes for athlete and Unified Partner, coach, and official). Checked against the September 2024 edition, in English.
- WKF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, October 2023 (Art. 5 on ethical principles, Arts. 7 to 14 on infractions and sanctions).
- WKF Safe Sport Policy, June 2019 (definitions of abuse, obligations of athletes and coaches, reporting and sanctions).

Verification note. Addendum D of the Special Olympics Sports Rules (September 2024, in English) was read in full; its text is identical to that of the October 2022 edition. Sections 4.1, 4.3, and 7.3.1 match the numbering cited in the Rules. The WKF references were taken from its official documents, consulted on November 10, 2026, and must be checked against the text in force. The Safe Sport Policy dates from 2019 and a more recent version may exist. The provisions on travel and stay are the Program's own: neither Special Olympics nor the WKF regulates them in the documents reviewed.

X.3. Code of Conduct for Assistant Coaches

1. Purpose

This code sets out how we, assistant coaches, behave during competition and during the Unified Karate trip and stay. It starts from one principle: inclusion is a right. Everyone has the right to compete, to travel, and to live together in a safe, respectful, and dignified environment, and everyone has the responsibility to build it.

The Rules require the Unified Partner's Acceptance of Conduct Standards (Art. 11.3), and this code extends it to all roles. It is aligned with the codes of conduct in Addendum D of the Special Olympics Sports Rules, which are minimum standards that the Program may expand (section 4.1.1), and with the WKF ethics and protection policy.

The assistant supports the head coach and acts under the head coach's direction. The assistant does not replace the head coach in technical or safety decisions or in protests. The Rules recognize the assistant as an accredited personal assistant (Art. 12), and WKF Para Karate defines the role as support for the athlete's daily needs, safety, and communication, without technical instruction during the performance (Art. 4.8.4).

2. Conduct in Competition

- I follow the instructions of the head coach and the officials, and I consult before making decisions about an athlete. I completed the specific Unified Karate courses that the Rules require (Arts. 5.5 and 12).
- My priority is the health and safety of the athletes. If I see a risk, I notify the head coach immediately and, if it is urgent, the medical team.
- I do not file protests or argue decisions with judges and officials. If I have a doubt, I raise it with the head coach, who is the one who may protest (Art. 7.5).
- I treat athletes, partners, rivals, judges, volunteers, and families with respect. I do not shout, insult, or use foul language.
- I give functional support only within the permitted and approved adaptations. I do not perform for the athlete or give prohibited physical help (Arts. 2.4 and 5.3).
- I do not tell an athlete to hold back effort, and I take no part in the manipulation of scores or results (Art. 4.8).
- I do not consume alcohol, tobacco, or illicit drugs during the competition, nor performance-enhancing substances (Sports Rules Article 1, Addendum D; Rules Art. 8.8).
- I keep the athletes' clinical and functional information confidential (Arts. 2.7 and 11.4). I do not take or publish photos or videos without specific authorization.

3. Conduct During Travel and Stay

These standards are the Program's own.

- The schedules for departure, meals, rest, and activities are set by the organizing team and are communicated in writing before the trip: [schedules to be defined].
- No one leaves the lodging without notifying the responsible coach.
- Rooms are assigned by team and by sex, with safety as the criterion and with respect for privacy. No one enters another person's room without authorization.

- No alcohol, tobacco, or illicit drugs are consumed during the competition or during the delegation's stay (Sports Rules Article 1, Addendum D).
- Each person takes care of the place and of shared property. Damage is reported to the head of the delegation.
- Photos or videos of other people are not taken or published without their authorization.
- During transfers, everyone travels seated and wearing a seat belt, and a roll call is taken at departure and arrival.
- I help with the roll call, group control, and the care of the athletes, as assigned by the head coach.
- I never stay alone with an athlete in a room, a stopped vehicle, or another closed or private space. Another adult is always present, or the parents or guardians have agreed in advance (WKF Safe Sport Policy, section IV.3).
- I do not administer medication on my own. I do so only if the head coach assigns it to me, according to the signed health record, and I keep a record.
- I report any incident, injury, or conflict to the head coach the same day.

4. Dignified Treatment and Protection

- I treat each athlete with respect and patience, without infantilizing. I speak clearly and listen to the athlete's decisions.
- I do not engage in psychological, physical, or sexual abuse or neglect. I do not humiliate, threaten, isolate, or deliberately ignore anyone (WKF Safe Sport Policy, section II).
- I make no unwanted physical contact. Before helping an athlete with their body, clothing, or belt, I give notice and ask permission.
- I make no sexual comments or negative comments about anyone's gender, orientation, disability, or origin.
- I do not maintain romantic or sexual relationships with athletes at the event.
- I do not ask an athlete to keep secrets, nor do I communicate with an athlete through private messages outside the team's channels.
- If I see or suspect a situation of abuse, harassment, or mistreatment, I report it under section 6. Reporting is an obligation of the role.

5. What Happens If This Code Is Not Followed

The Rules prioritize educational measures and positive behavioral support, and leave exclusion as the last resort (Art. 6.11). The measures are graduated and proportionate to the seriousness, the repetition, and the age of the people involved:

1. Conversation and agreement. A person from the organizing team talks with the person involved, listens to that person's account, and they agree on how to correct the conduct. This is the first response to minor faults.
2. Verbal or written warning, with support to change the conduct.
3. Temporary removal from the activity, accompanied by a responsible adult, until the situation calms down.

4. Disqualification from the competition for unsportsmanlike conduct (SHIKKAKU, Rules Art. 6.10). The disqualified person receives no award. If an athlete is withdrawn for a technical reason and not for conduct, this measure does not apply and the athlete may continue in non-scoring activities if safety is guaranteed (Art. 4.7).
5. No participation in subsequent Program events and, in the case of coaches and assistants, withdrawal of accreditation or a ban on coaching in Special Olympics, as determined by the Technical Committee.

Who decides. Faults that occur during the competition are resolved by the Technical Delegate together with the Sport-Specific Jury (Arts. 7.1 and 7.3), following the scheme of the Special Olympics International Sports Rules (Sports Rules Article 1, section 4.3). Faults that occur during travel or stay are resolved by the Technical Committee (Art. 7.2), which designates the Jury of Appeals. The decision may be appealed within the following 60 minutes before the Jury of Appeals, whose decisions are final (Arts. 7.4 and 7.5).

What this code does not resolve. Cases of harassment, abuse, neglect, or any act that may be a crime are not treated as a sporting fault or resolved informally. They follow the route in section 6.

6. How to Report a Concern

1. Anyone may report: athletes, partners, families, coaches, assistants, judges, and volunteers. An athlete may tell any trusted adult, with words, with pictograms, or through another person.
2. The person who receives the account listens calmly, writes down what was said in the same words, does not promise absolute secrecy, does not question or confront the person named, and immediately notifies the protection contact person.
3. Event protection contact person: [name, position, telephone, and email, to be designated by the Organizing Committee before the event].
4. The contact person informs the Technical Delegate if it concerns sporting conduct, and the INR management and the Accredited Program if it concerns protection. If the affected person is under 18, the person's mother, father, or legal representative is informed, unless doing so would put the person's safety at risk.
5. Acts that may be crimes are reported to the competent authorities. Sexual harassment or abuse is never resolved informally.
6. The identity of the people involved is protected. No one suffers retaliation for reporting in good faith. A report known to be false is also a fault.

Commitment and Signature

I declare that I read this code, that it was explained to me in a way I could understand, and that I commit to follow it as an assistant coach of Unified Karate. I understand that compliance is a condition for participating and that the measures for a breach are those described in section 5.

Full name	
Identity document	
Role	Assistant coach
Date	
Signature	

Handed over and explained by: _____ Date: _____

Normative Basis and Note on Sources

- Unified Karate Competition Rules, version 03 (Arts. 2.4, 2.7, 4.7, 4.8, 5.1, 6.10, 6.11, 7.1 to 7.5, 8.8, 11.3, and 11.4).
- Special Olympics, Sports Rules Article 1: sections 4.1 (codes of conduct), 4.3 (unsportsmanlike conduct), 7.3.1 (athlete safety), and Addendum D (oaths and codes for athlete and Unified Partner, coach, and official). Checked against the September 2024 edition, in English.
- WKF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, October 2023 (Art. 5 on ethical principles, Arts. 7 to 14 on infractions and sanctions).
- WKF Safe Sport Policy, June 2019 (definitions of abuse, obligations of athletes and coaches, reporting and sanctions).

Verification note. Addendum D of the Special Olympics Sports Rules (September 2024, in English) was read in full; its text is identical to that of the October 2022 edition. Sections 4.1, 4.3, and 7.3.1 match the numbering cited in the Rules. The WKF references were taken from its official documents, consulted on November 10, 2026, and must be checked against the text in force. The Safe Sport Policy dates from 2019 and a more recent version may exist. The provisions on travel and stay are the Program's own: neither Special Olympics nor the WKF regulates them in the documents reviewed.

Before the event, the Organizing Committee will define which background documents are requested from coaches and assistants who work with athletes under 18.

X.4. Code of Conduct for Judges, Evaluators, and Classifiers

1. Purpose

This code sets out how we, the judges, technical evaluators, and clinical classifiers of Unified Karate, act before, during, and after the competition. It starts from one principle: inclusion is a right. Those of us who decide results, levels, and divisions have the responsibility to do so with impartiality, precision, and respect for each athlete.

It is based on the Sports Official Code of Conduct and the Official's Oath in Addendum D of the Special Olympics Sports Rules, which are minimum standards that the Program may expand (section 4.1.1), and adds what these Rules require of those who handle athletes' functional and clinical information (Arts. 2.7, 5.5 to 5.7, 11.4, and Annex III).

This code brings together three functions. The judge scores performance in the competition (Art. 6.4). The technical evaluator applies the Functional Assessment Protocol (Annex III). The clinical classifier reviews and validates the athlete's clinical documentation (Art. 5.5). Each person complies with the sections that correspond to their function and with sections 1 to 6 in all cases.

2. Official's Oath

All persons who perform official functions in Unified Karate take the Special Olympics Officials' Oath: “In the name of all judges and officials, I promise that we shall officiate in these Special Olympics Games with complete impartiality, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, in the spirit of sportsmanship.”

3. Conduct of Every Official

- I know thoroughly the Rules, the Special Olympics Sports Rules, and the WKF rules that apply at the event. I perform my function with seriousness, fairness, diligence, and precision.
- I am upright, disciplined, and impartial, and faithful to my principles.
- I present myself in appropriate attire and with personal care (Art. 8.7). I do not smoke at the competition venue or consume alcohol during the event.
- I ensure that all athletes have equal opportunities to develop their physical fitness, experience joy, and promote friendship through their participation.
- I do not discriminate against any athlete because of disability. I protect their privacy and respect their rights and worth.
- I encourage athletes during their competition, look after their safety, and am responsible for making my conduct consistent with the spirit of the event.
- I respect coaches, assistants, staff, spectators, and families.
- I declare any conflict of interest and abstain from judging, evaluating, or classifying athletes I coach, who belong to my club, or to whom I am related. The Technical Committee assigns another person and leaves a record (Art. 5.7).
- I do not work as a coach or assistant coach (Art. 5.7). I completed the Special Olympics courses and the specific Unified Karate course that correspond to my function (Art. 5.5 and Annex IX).
- I do not accept gifts, favors, or pressure that could compromise my impartiality, and I do not offer them.

4. Conduct of the Judge

- I score the athlete's performance with the holistic scale and the criteria of the Rules (Arts. 6.4, 6.5, and 10.6). I give a single score per performance.
- I do not penalize approved and recorded adaptations (Arts. 5.3 and 5.4). I do not judge by the athlete's diagnosis, appearance, level of support, or club.
- I know only the list of approved adaptations, not the athlete's scores or clinical data (Art. 5.6).
- In Unified Kata and Unified Team Kata, I observe that no member dominates the performance or is left as an observer (Arts. 2.4 and 6.4). I apply the consequences the Rules establish and report them to the Head Judge.
- I do not comment on or compare scores with coaches, families, or other judges outside the official procedure. Doubts about a decision are resolved through the protest procedure (Art. 7.5).
- I follow the instructions of the Technical Delegate and the Sport-Specific Jury (Arts. 7.1 and 7.3).

5. Conduct of the Technical Evaluator and the Clinical Classifier

- I apply the Functional Assessment Protocol in Annex III. The assessment is carried out by at least two evaluators per participant, with no conflict of interest.
- I measure functional capacity for competition. I do not diagnose or label the person, and I record supports as a right, not as a rating of the person's worth (Art. 5.6).
- I explain to the athlete and the athlete's family, in words they can understand, what is being assessed and why, and I verify that consent exists (Art. 11.2). I respect the person's decision not to continue the assessment at that time.
- I record what I observe accurately. I do not alter, or induce anyone to alter, a score in order to place an athlete in a particular division or level (Arts. 4.8 and 10.5).
- As a clinical classifier, I act only within my professional competence. I review the documentation and validate what is appropriate, and I ask for more background when it is not sufficient.
- Clinical and functional information is sensitive data. I use it only for safety, equity, and meaningful involvement, with access restricted to authorized personnel and retention in accordance with Chilean personal data protection law (Arts. 2.7 and 11.4).
- I do not disclose diagnoses, scores, or clinical documents. I do not take or publish photos or videos of athletes without specific authorization.
- I submit records and videos within the period set by the Rules, 72 hours before the event (Art. 11.4).
- I accept that the athlete or the athlete's legal supporter may ask the Technical Committee to review a level or support decision (Art. 5.6).

6. Dignified Treatment and Protection

- I treat each athlete with respect and patience, without infantilizing. I speak clearly and listen to the athlete's decisions.

- I do not engage in psychological, physical, or sexual abuse or neglect. I do not humiliate, threaten, isolate, or deliberately ignore anyone (WKF Safe Sport Policy, section II).
- I make no unwanted physical contact. Before touching an athlete for an assessment, I give notice and ask permission.
- I make no sexual comments or negative comments about anyone's gender, orientation, disability, or origin.
- I do not maintain romantic or sexual relationships with athletes at the event.
- I never stay alone with an athlete in a closed or private space. Assessments are carried out in an open space or with another adult present, or with the prior agreement of the parents or guardians (WKF Safe Sport Policy, section IV.3).
- If I see or suspect a situation of abuse, harassment, or mistreatment, I report it under section 8. Reporting is an obligation of the role.

7. What Happens If This Code Is Not Followed

The Rules prioritize educational measures and positive behavioral support, and leave exclusion as the last resort (Art. 6.11). The measures are graduated and proportionate to the seriousness and the repetition:

1. Conversation and agreement. A person from the organizing team talks with the person involved, listens to that person's account, and they agree on how to correct the conduct. This is the first response to minor faults.
2. Verbal or written warning.
3. Replacement on the panel or at the evaluation table during the event, by decision of the Technical Delegate.
4. No appointment to subsequent Program events.
5. Suspension or withdrawal of the judge, evaluator, or classifier accreditation, as determined by the Technical Committee. The scheme follows that of the Special Olympics Sports Rules, which provide for verbal or written warnings, suspension, and loss of certification (section 4.1.2).

Who decides. Faults that occur during the competition are resolved by the Technical Delegate (Art. 7.1). When the person involved is a member of the Sport-Specific Jury, the Technical Committee (Art. 7.2) resolves it and designates the Jury of Appeals. The decision may be appealed within the following 60 minutes before the Jury of Appeals, whose decisions are final (Arts. 7.4 and 7.5).

What this code does not resolve. Cases of harassment, abuse, neglect, or any act that may be a crime are not treated as a sporting fault or resolved informally. They follow the route in section 8.

8. How to Report a Concern

1. Anyone may report: athletes, partners, families, coaches, assistants, judges, evaluators, and volunteers. An athlete may tell any trusted adult, with words, with pictograms, or through another person.
2. The person who receives the account listens calmly, writes down what was said in the same words, does not promise absolute secrecy, does not question or confront the person named, and immediately notifies the protection contact person.

3. Event protection contact person: [name, position, telephone, and email, to be designated by the Organizing Committee before the event].
4. The contact person informs the Technical Delegate if it concerns sporting conduct, and the INR management and the Accredited Program if it concerns protection. If the affected person is under 18, the person's mother, father, or legal representative is informed, unless doing so would put the person's safety at risk.
5. Acts that may be crimes are reported to the competent authorities. Sexual harassment or abuse is never resolved informally.
6. The identity of the people involved is protected. No one suffers retaliation for reporting in good faith. A report known to be false is also a fault.

Commitment and Signature

I declare that I read this code, that it was explained to me in a way I could understand, and that I commit to follow it as a judge, technical evaluator, or clinical classifier of Unified Karate (mark the function or functions): ☐ Judge ☐ Technical Evaluator ☐ Clinical Classifier. I understand that compliance is a condition for acting at the event and that the measures for a breach are those described in section 7.

Full name	
Identity document	
Function	Judge / Technical Evaluator / Clinical Classifier
Date	
Signature	

Handed over and explained by: _____ Date: _____

Normative Basis and Note on Sources

- Unified Karate Competition Rules, version 03 (Arts. 2.4, 2.7, 4.8, 5.3 to 5.7, 6.4 to 6.11, 7.1 to 7.5, 8.7, 10.5, 10.6, 11.2, 11.4, and Annexes III and IX).
- Special Olympics, Sports Rules Article 1, September 2024: sections 4.1 (codes of conduct) and 4.3 (unsportsmanlike conduct) and Addendum D (Officials' Oath and Sports Official Code of Conduct).
- WKF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, October 2023 (Art. 5 on ethical principles, Arts. 7 to 14 on infractions and sanctions).
- WKF Safe Sport Policy, June 2019 (definitions of abuse, obligations, reporting and sanctions).

Verification note. The Oath and the Sports Official Code of Conduct were taken from Addendum D of the Special Olympics Sports Rules (September 2024, in English; text identical to that of the October 2022 edition). The Spanish version of these Rules follows the official 2016 Spanish translation; this English version draws on the English original. Sections 4.1 and 4.3 match the numbering cited in the Rules. The WKF references were taken from its official documents, consulted on November 10, 2026, and must be checked against the text in force; the Safe Sport

Policy dates from 2019 and a more recent version may exist. Special Olympics has no specific code for technical evaluators or clinical classifiers: sections 5 and 7 are the Program's own and must be validated with the Technical Committee. Before the event, the Organizing Committee will define which background documents are requested from those who work with athletes under 18.

Inclusion as a right, never as charity.