



KNZCC2

Karate New Zealand Athlete Selection Policy

1. Introduction:

This document is intended to outline the minimum prerequisites for an athlete to be considered for selection to the National Karate New Zealand Team. It applies to *all* selections in which athletes are to represent Karate New Zealand internationally at *WKF ranking events, such as world and continental championships and K1 events, and at the Olympics*. Different criteria may apply at other international events (such as the Commonwealth Karate Championships) and Karate New Zealand will inform athletes prior to selections if this is the case. The criteria in this document are in addition to any other selection criteria that may be imposed by relevant bodies such as WKF and the IOC. These prerequisites currently apply to those athletes wanting to compete in the Junior and Senior age categories; there are no selection prerequisites for cadets and below at this time. All junior and senior athletes from within the Karate New Zealand athlete pool will be checked against these criteria before selectors can consider them to be part of the national team.

Conforming to these minimum requirements does not guarantee selection, but grants access to the selection process supervised by the appointed Karate New Zealand Selectors; failing to conform to these requirements will automatically exclude an athlete from the selection process. Selectors will submit their team lists to the coaching council which will forward it to the Karate New Zealand Executive for approval.

Karate New Zealand aims to instill a professional work ethic within its potential representatives at international tournaments and the Olympics, further raising the standard of Sports Karate in the country. The requirements outlined in this document are in line with the Karate New Zealand High Performance and Operational Plans 2016-2020.

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following definitions will apply:

‘WKF’ means World Karate Federation

‘Junior’ or ‘Juniors’ means athletes eligible for the junior age categories as defined in Appendix 8 of the WKF rules, i.e. 16 to 17 years of age.

‘Senior’ or ‘Seniors’ means athletes eligible for the senior age categories as defined in Appendix 8 of the WKF rules, i.e. 16 years of age and above for kata, 18 years of age and above for kumite.

‘Region’ means one of the following geographical regions of Karate New Zealand: Auckland and Northland; Central North Island; Lower North Island; Canterbury Westland; Otago Southland. For the purposes of this Policy, the Australian Open will be considered a ‘regional tournament’.

‘Own region’ means the Karate New Zealand region in which the athlete is registered.

‘National Tournament’ means the ‘New Zealand National Championships’ or ‘The New Zealand Open Championships’.

‘Overseas based’ means being located in a country other than New Zealand for the purposes of work, study, or relevant other for periods in excess of a month.

3. Athlete Selection Prerequisites:

3.1 Karate New Zealand Membership:

The athlete must be a fully paid up registered member of Karate New Zealand at the time of submitting their application for selection for a tournament, and provide evidence to that extent with their selection application. The membership must be current at the time of the tournament for which the athlete is attempting selection.

3.2 Evidence of Training:

- a. The athlete must provide with their team selection application evidence of regular training, both fitness and technical, for a period no shorter than three months prior to the date of selection. This evidence can be in form of a training log which is signed on a weekly basis by the athlete's personal coaches and sensei.
- b. The athlete must have been present and training at compulsory Karate New Zealand sanctioned regional and national training sessions and/or camps the 12 months immediately preceding the selection:

Juniors

attendance at no less than one out of three Karate New Zealand national camps is required;
attendance at no less than eight Karate New Zealand sanctioned regional training sessions is required.

Seniors

attendance at no less than two out of three Karate New Zealand national camps is required;
attendance at no less than eight Karate New Zealand sanctioned regional training sessions is required.

For the purposes of this paragraph, regions must hold at least one mandatory Karate New Zealand sanctioned session per calendar month; however, each region may choose to organize more than this at its own discretion.

- c. The athlete must be present at any other Karate New Zealand announced compulsory training sessions in the year preceding selection. Karate New Zealand will give due notification of such events to all member dojo no later than four weeks prior to the event through email and its website.
- d. Although Karate New Zealand welcomes athletes' participation at other competition related trainings and seminars, it will not consider events it has not sanctioned towards athlete selection eligibility.

3.3 Evidence of Competition:

- a. Athletes will be required to attend a minimum number of competitions in the premier division to be eligible for national team selection. Karate New Zealand aims to track competition records through external tools such as 'Sportdata' (Sportdata Event Technology), and to develop internal tools to process athlete competition data on a national level. To be considered for selection the following minimum attendance at tournaments (which should be properly registered through Sportdata) in the 12 months preceding the selection is required.

Juniors

Two regional Karate New Zealand sanctioned tournaments, one of which must be from their own region;

One national Karate New Zealand sanctioned tournament.

Seniors

Three regional Karate New Zealand sanctioned tournaments, one of which must be from their own region;

One national Karate New Zealand tournament.

- b. Should dates of a national tournament clash with dates of a regional tournament, the athlete is expected to attend the former.

3.4 Evidence of Fitness Testing:

Athletes will be required to attend Karate New Zealand Fitness Test sessions. Both junior and senior athletes seeking selection must have attended the two annual fitness sessions organised by their Karate New Zealand Region in the calendar year preceding selection. In addition to the regular two sessions, Karate New Zealand may announce, with due notification of four weeks to all clubs and dojo via email and/or website, additional fitness test as the situation requires. In such cases, athletes called up must have attended in order to be considered for selection.

3.5 Evidence of Medical Screening:

Athletes who have been selected must supply a letter from their General Practitioner no older than one week from the date of selection, declaring that they are generally healthy and fit. Karate New Zealand may appoint Karate New Zealand certified physicians which it will call upon to screen (potential) team members. If an athlete has been called by Karate New Zealand to attend such a screening, again duly notified two weeks prior, the athlete must have presented themselves and must have been cleared by the physician to be eligible for selection.

3.6 Athlete Profile Sheet:

The Coaching Council must be in possession of an Athlete Profile Sheet for each team selection applicant which is no older than three months. Athlete Profile Sheets can be obtained from the Coaching Council or from the Karate New Zealand website. If an athlete is in doubt of when he or she last submitted a profile sheet, they should submit it with their selection application.

3.7 Overseas Based Athletes:

Karate New Zealand accepts that potential members of the National Team may be based and training abroad which makes attending the set compulsory domestic activities difficult. Karate New Zealand will consider these athletes' eligibility for the National Team provided that they are in regular contact with the Coach Council Chair and keep the Chair abreast of all requirements in this document, with the understanding that certain adaptations will apply as below:

- No adaptations to 3.1, 3.2 (a) and 3.6 of this document will be permitted;

- Evidence of attendance to comparable training/squad sessions within their current country of residence as required under 3.2 (b) and (c) of this document must be provided and will be reviewed by the Coaching Council;
- Evidence of competition entries and significant results in their country of residence or elsewhere that Karate New Zealand deems of a standard equivalent or higher to that required in 3.3 of this document must be provided and will be reviewed by the Coaching Council;
- Equivalent evidence from their country of residence required under points 3.4 and 3.5 if unable to attend the domestic sessions must be provided and will be reviewed by the Coaching Council.

3.8 Dispensation:

An athlete may apply for dispensation from attending mandatory sanctioned regional training sessions, national camps, or regional and national competitions under the following categories below. All requests for dispensation, with the exception of dispensation from Karate New Zealand sanctioned regional training sessions, must be submitted to the Coaching Council for their consideration. The Coaching Council will notify the athlete as soon as practicable about its decision. If dispensation is granted for medical reasons, the athlete may still be instructed to be present at the event. Requests for dispensation from Karate New Zealand sanctioned regional training sessions may be submitted directly to the regional coaches for consideration

Medical:

The athlete must submit a certificate signed by a medical professional explaining the reason why the athlete is unable to participate. Certificates will be accepted after the date of the event for which dispensation is required, as long as notification was given in writing no later than the date of the event.

Professional:

The athlete must submit a letter from his or her employer stating their requirement for work for the dates concerned. This letter must be received by the Coaching Council no later than two weeks prior to the event for which dispensation is required.

Academic/Educational:

The athlete must submit a letter from his school, university or institute stating the reason the athlete is not available on the required dates. This letter must be received by the Coaching Council no later than two weeks prior to the event for which dispensation is required.

Participation in other International Competition:

The athlete must submit evidence of their entry, which must be sanctioned by Karate New Zealand, in the tournament concerned. This tournament must be of an international level no lower than K1 or equivalent.

Overseas based athletes are required to apply for dispensation as outlined above if they are unable to fulfil their obligations as stipulated in 3.7.

4 Athlete Selection:

A team of selectors, meeting the criteria outlined in KNZCC1, will oversee the selection of athletes meeting the above prerequisites. The number of athletes selected will depend on:

- 4.1 Entries allowed per category at the upcoming event;
- 4.2 Competitiveness and credibility of the athlete at the required level for the upcoming event;
- 4.3 Motivation for selection: ranking/medaling potential or development/future planning.

The selectors will fill categories for the upcoming event to the extent possible from the eligible athlete pool, which may mean some categories remain unattended by Karate New Zealand at the upcoming event. The selectors will rank team members by result potential/likelihood of success, to facilitate reduction in numbers should this be necessary.

The list of athletes will be submitted to the Coaching Council Chair who will confirm it and forward to the Karate New Zealand Executive Board for endorsement. Should the Board decide that financial and logistical constraints require a reduction in numbers of the team, this may be done through further consultation with both Selectors and Coaching Council.